

Senate Report

Professor Edmund Burke: Faculty of Science & Engineering

February 2018

After six years in post, Professor Julia Shelton's term in office as Dean for Taught Programmes ends in April 2018. During her period in office, she has led a number of significant changes within the Faculty and the University as a whole. In all her activities, she has remained a champion for both teaching staff and the student body. We wish her every success and hope that she will continue to contribute her insight, vigour and infectious positivity to the Faculty in the future.

Dr Tony Michael has accepted the role of Dean for Education and the challenge of taking up the mantle from Julia. In this capacity, Tony will lead the Faculty's strategy to deliver excellence in our taught programmes portfolio and provide an excellent student experience. Tony has been the Director of Taught Programmes in SBCS, the largest school in the Faculty, since September 2013, and he brings a wealth of experience from that role. He has also been a strong advocate for sharing best practice. For example, he proposed and oversaw the establishment of the SBCS Teaching Innovation Group and Educational Research (TIGER) as a vehicle to promulgate best practice and innovative teaching methods.

Professor Wen Wang has accepted the role of Deputy Vice Principal and, in this capacity, will take a lead role in developing and leading Faculty plans. He will deputise for me where competing demands require such cover. Wen has used his significant experience to lead our international strategy as Dean (International) and, as Deputy Vice-Principal, we have agreed this will be subsumed into his new remit. He will hold this position concurrently with the post of Head of SEMS.

In the past few weeks, the Faculty Executive has overseen the internal selection process for the EPSRC CDT call: a £492 million call for Centres for Doctoral Training. EPSRC hopes to support 90-120 of these CDTs, which provide cohort training in specific areas for c.50 PhD candidates. QMUL has one CDT currently (the successful Media, Arts and Technology CDT in EECS), and hopes to increase this number in the 2018 round. QMUL is allowed to submit four applications as a lead institution, and is also allowed to submit an unlimited number of applications into the parallel call for Artificial Intelligence CDTs across the UKRI remit. Currently, QMUL is working on seven QMUL-led applications, and at least eight where QMUL is a significant partner in a consortium.