

## **Research Forum 15/11/2002: Seminar Series**

Present: DKC (Chair), AJP, JBI, PAJ, GSPT, JFB, RCh, RPG

Apologies: APM, JAD, APM

### **Summary:**

AJP presented the current status of the studentship web pages. Six outlines have been received to date. The overall structure was accepted, with RCh recommending that quick access should be considered. Staff were encouraged to submit additional outlines at their earliest convenience.

DKC chaired a discussion on a future Formal Seminar Series. It was agreed that the series should be open to senior undergraduate students in addition to postgraduates and staff and, as such, should be built around the second semester third and second year courses. A theme of Pleistocene and/or Holocene Environmental Change was adopted. It was agreed that these would take place between 3-6pm on either a Tuesday or a Thursday (at the convenience of the speaker), and would be preceded by a glass of wine and followed by dinner for the guest speaker, his or her host and a maximum of two colleagues. The venue would be a lecture theatre, possibly room 8 in the Rendall Building. The seminar series would commence in semester two, and would take place in early Feb, early March and early April. It was agreed that DKC would co-ordinate the invitation of speakers, and that staff would each submit two names (one preferred, one reserve). The colleague whose nominated speaker was presenting on that day would then act as host and chair.

AJP raised the possibility of submitting a proposal for an ESRC Transdisciplinary Research Seminar Series (funded up to the value of £20,000). Colleagues identified that potential themes from the list of proposed topics included:

Land and Natural Resource Use  
Water and Environmental Management  
Risk and Uncertainty.

It was agreed that further discussion of this issue would take place at the next Research Forum (22<sup>nd</sup> November) – to which selected Human Geography colleagues and staff from other Departments would be invited.