**UL Student Life**

#  STUDENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

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| **Role / Position** | **:** | Academic Officer  |
| **Author** | **:** | Alice Hynes  |
| **Date** | **:** | 21/10/2021 |
| **Audience**  | **:** | **UL Student Council** |
| **Action** | **:** | **Approve** |
| ***Goals*** |
| **Main Goals** | **Progress (what have you achieved since the last Council meeting)** |
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| Exam Period  | * Provisions during exam season

Questions raised over the last two weeks at CAMPG over provisions for high-risk students and those who contract covid during the exam period. There is a need to offer online exams in place of on campus exams for high-risk students. If we have supported them to complete the semester with resources available online they also need to be supported through the exam period. I am also looking at introducing a bookable exam seating space for students who have online exams but need to take them on campus. This should help students who have wifi issues at home and need a pre-determined, socially distanced place to undertake an exam. There appears to be a lot of work and cost involved in this type of booking system. * Awareness campaign

From my meeting with the Academic Advocates we identified a number of areas which could be the focus of campaigns around the exam season. I will run an exam campaign in weeks 12/13. Ideas include, stress management, time management, making best use of Reading Week, booking off Saturday exam time, info on I-grades, what you can and can’t bring into an exam centre. * Study spaces

The library has increased its occupancy level from 40% to above 70% in the coming weeks and removing the booking function. This should provide students with a lot more flexibility for using the library. Room timetables were promised to be posted on classroom doors. I queried why this hadn’t happened yet at CAMPG and was told there had been a misunderstanding. Nige was to take this to Space Management committee so hopefully I’ll have an update next week.  |
|  Academic Advocates  |  I met with the Department Reps at late notice on Tuesday evening. We will continue to meet online every other Tuesday for the remainder of the semester. We discussed ideas around campaigns and the exam season and major annoyances in UL. We have identified some possible areas for long term projects and short-term ideas. The reps are going to ask the class reps in their departments for any feedback on this also.  |
| Module Review  | Myself and Alan met with Gillian and Siobhan last week to review the current class rep structure and identify some problems. An on-going project with no simple answers but potential for a really brilliant result. I am going to meet an AHSS lecturer next Wednesday to discuss the breakdown of reps in his department as he identified some flaws. Met with Robert Ford about representation in KBS. Really positive meeting with lots of energy for the student voice.  |
| ***Other Achievements since last Council*** |
| Student meeting | Students had an issue with a lecturer working from Ghana. I liased with the CD and he seems to have the module back on track. I met with a student from the class to explain what had been done and asked him to keep me in the loop if things got better or worse. I will assist the class with a complaint if they wish to make one.  |
| PVA email  | I provided text and a graphic to the PVA so they could promote the Student Rep roles and they put it in an email on Tuesday.  |
| Contacted AHSS staff to push recruitment  | I reached out to a number of the AHSS staff that were identified at Exec meeting to ask them to further push recruitment of department reps in AHSS.  |
| ***Attendance at events/meetings and actions taken or agreed*** |
| CAMPG  | Study spaces and exam season provisions were the main discussions over the past two weeks, as mentioned above.  |
| Joint Faculty Board / KBS Faculty Board  |   |
| Student Forum – Dept. Nursing & Midwifery  |  |
| Local Joint Working Group  |  |
| ***Plans before the next meeting*** |
| **Action/work area** | **What I hope to achieve** |
| Campaign  | I will take the ideas offered by the department reps and my own and develop a plan for the week 12/13 campaign week.  |
| Develop a doc reviewing the Student Status Committee and Advocates – ongoing  | There was an issue with the timeline for the SSC – students did not have enough time between waiting for the result of their grade appeal and applying to the SSC before the deadline. Also want to clarify what are the grounds on which a grade can be changed by the SSC. Issue over the summer with the behaviour of the advocates.  |
| Student Representation Newsletter  | Gillian shared the idea with me about creating a bi-weekly newsletter for student reps. It could feature an update from myself or one of the Officers, good news stories from class reps about work they have done or achievements and any other interesting pieces that reps would like to share.  |
| **Student Engagement** |
| **Type of Engagement (Meeting, event etc)** | **Purpose and anything to report on** |
| Social Media  | Instagram stories asking for student input into the format of the Student Forum. Majority of students voted to have it online and in the evening.  |
| Email  | Supported a number of students with queries this week including pre-registration, issues with lecturers or modules, covid concerns.  |
| Department Reps  |  |
| **Media engagement and external relations** |
| **Engagement (Press, other organisations etc)** | **Purpose and anything to report on** |
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