

Deputy President (Education) report to Union Council

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Highlights:

- Regular meetings with Pres/DPs/ reps (& various College staff) discussing and tackling issues around teaching, research, and student experience concerns/challenges (and opportunities) for both now and the upcoming year. (Also thinking about the Union's approach and activities.)
- **Student Choice Awards - 18 June, 2pm!**

College Meetings & Prep	Student + Union Meetings & Prep	Education/personal project work (major goals)	Other matters
~40%	~40%	~15%	~5%

Updates:

- In light of NSS results and the Union's response an **Assessment & Feedback Task and Finish Group** has been established and has met 4 out of 5 times. The agreed focus areas are **timeliness, effectiveness, fairness and consistency**, with the goal of producing a list of ca. **10-20** concrete, short-/ medium-term actions to be implemented during AY 20/21. (These actions to be discussed at next ERB (3 June))
- **PGR:** In response to ICU PRES 2019 Recommendations, final report (from the Task and Finish Group) approved by PRQC (in May) details a comprehensive list of targeted actions, organised around the major themes identified:
 - Creating Effective Student-Supervisor Partnerships
 - Supervisor Support and Development
 - Doctoral Student Wellbeing and Poor Supervision
 - Research Culture and Environment

This has been a really encouraging piece of work which I am confident will lead to positive changes for the entire PGR community. Further details can be found here: <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/study/pg/graduate-school/pres-2019/>

- **Student Choice Awards** – panels in process of shortlisting and selecting winners, **online ceremony planned for 18 June, 2pm!**
- **PTES** survey underway
- **NSS 2020** - response rate ~72% (reached required threshold, 2% more than 2019)
- Improving informal study & social spaces – *on hold*

Upcoming:

Continuing work with college & reps regarding assessments, teaching and research for now and upcoming year

Improving Assessment & Feedback – *final meeting and report (more details below)*

Student evaluation for 1st year curriculum review - *if you can help, get in touch!*

Rep workload evaluation by end of year

Key goals:

Goal 1: NSS & PRES Response – **NSS complete, PRES complete**

- Consult and collaborate with appropriate reps
 - Write response (& recommendations) to NSS and PRES surveys in order to send to relevant committees on time
 - Send, present, discuss at appropriate (senior) College committees
- Tracking of implementation of NSS recs now in progress; will be an influential tool but currently needs more focused efforts from myself and the rep network

Goal 2: Improve Assessment & Feedback – **In progress**

- Ensure clear assessment criteria and quality, timely feedback
- Met with Assessment & Feedback champions - there are toolkits to help lecturers
- NSS recommendations regarding Assessment and Feedback will be discussed and worked out through a *Task and Finish Group* (see next bullet)
- **Assessment & Feedback Task and Finish Group** has been established, to meet between March and June; has met **4 out of 5** times
- Agreed focus areas: **timeliness, effectiveness, fairness and consistency**
- Agreed matrix approach: use NSS questions in this category, and consider each from the angles of: **staff, students & process**; and **exams, coursework & practicals**
- Has received useful **input** from the **Education and Representation Board**; follow up consultation and review/input at ERB on 3 June

Goal 3: Ensure Student Engagement in Curriculum Review – **In progress**

- College rolling out new curricula across many (most) UG programmes (degrees) — and some PGT programmes, particularly in Faculty of Medicine — and will require ongoing input and review from student reps
- College undertaking PGT curriculum review, and will require student consultation – period extended by college so will be something for DPE next year!
- Student-led evaluation planned for 1st year curriculum review with rep network; plan to find out what college evaluation has taken place (if any) and complement this.
- Will require **input** from **ERB**, and many year/dep reps, (**especially 1st years**)

Goal 4: Enrich the Postgraduate Research Student Experience – **Near completion**

- Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) Response 2019 completed and presented to the PRQC on 23 Oct
- Recommendations taken to a sub-working group of PRQC, to include DPE, Grad School, GSU and academic (on the staff side) representatives – now established
- Ensure services/communications/activities (both from the College and the Union) are targeted specifically at PGR students to increase sense of belonging and wellbeing
- Final report went to PRQC detailing the Task and Finish Group's response to ICU PRES 2019 Recommendations; a comprehensive list of targeted actions have been organised around the major themes of supervision, research culture and wellbeing
- We have drawn up **Union recommendations** in addition to College ones to increase PGR activity & engagement from the Union; these are being looked at, too

Thanks for reading and I welcome any feedback (in person or email or phone)!

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