Inter-departmental coordination on shared modules
Union Council
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- Ben Ford (Computational Bioengineering Stream Representative)
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Union notes:

1. Imperial students have the option to choose elective modules outside of their home departments.
2. For example:
    a. Third, fourth year and MSc Bioengineering students have the option to enrol in elective modules offered by the Department of Computing, EEE and Mechanical Engineering.
    b. Third and fourth year MEng Chemical, Materials, Mechanical Engineering have the option to transfer to a Nuclear stream, which is comprised of shared modules between these departments.
    c. Similarly, EEE and EIE students have the option to take modules from the Department of Computing.
3. This process is traditionally co-handled by administrative staff of the departments involved.
4. There are frequent delays in releasing information and timetables for these modules, alongside clashes with other core modules.
    a. These delays are also reflected in the exam timetables for shared modules, which in turn halt the release of exam timetables for internal departmental modules.

5. Banner has caused issues with synchronising which modules are available and who they are taught by.
6. There are inconsistencies in the times when students expect to receive information depending on which department is hosting the module.
7. It is unclear whether the host or home department should handle individual student issues that arise.

Union believes:

1. There are no college-wide established procedures to handle interdepartmental modules.
2. The timetable delays and clashes result in frustration amongst students and take a massive toll on the administrative staff.
3. The departments involved would appreciate some tools and guidance to facilitate the process.

Union resolves:

1. To handle such an interconnected issue, the Faculty of Engineering should provide tools and/or guidance for the departments via an external body with the aim of facilitating:
   a. A timelier release of the timetable and information pertaining modules, which adheres to shared deadlines between departments
   b. Avoiding clashes of shared modules with internal modules
   c. Having a centralised system that handles students' queries and complaints
2. Mandate the Deputy President of Education and Faculty of Engineering representatives to lobby for the above system to be put in place