

# Education Board

5<sup>th</sup> October, 6-7:30pm, MS Teams

## Attendance

Present:

- Matthew Beach, Postgraduate Research Representative (HSS) (joint ticket) – [MB]
- Hussain Ali Abid, Postgraduate Research Representative (S&E) – [HAA]
- Aisha Qadi, School of Biological and Chemical Sciences Representative – [AQ]
- Diya Singh, School of Business and Management Representative – [DS]
- Azmain Iftexhar, School of Economics & Finance Representative – [AI]
- Antonita Nimalan, School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Sciences Representative (joint ticket) – [AN]
- Yugesh Shanmugha Sundharam, School of Engineering and Materials Science Representative (joint ticket) – [YSS]
- Darcey Blackman, School of Engineering and Materials Science Representative (joint ticket) – [DB]
- Katie Butler, School of English & Drama Representative – [KB]
- Rosanna Matthews, School of History Representative (joint ticket) – [RM]
- George Boulton, School of Languages, Linguistics & Film Representative – [GB]
- Gunjit Dinesh Madra, School of Law Representative (joint ticket) – [GDM]
- Alina Liebholz, School of Law Representative (joint ticket) – [AL]
- Hemanth Paneer Selvam, School of Mathematical Sciences Representative – [HPS]
- Sharafina Binti Razin, School of Physics & Astronomy Representative – [SBR]
- Louis Gouget, School of Politics and International Relations Rep – [LG]
- Polen Bareke, Allied Courses Representative – [PB]
- Rob Tucker, Vice President Barts and The London – [RT]
- Saynab Sharif, Vice President Humanities and Social Sciences – [SSh]
- Bilge Kacmaz, Vice President Science and Engineering – [BK]

Apologies:

- Vikki Barry Brown, Postgraduate Research Representative (HSS) (joint ticket) – [VBB]
- Samira Rahman, School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Sciences Representative (joint ticket) – [SR]
- James Tavner, School of Medical and Dental Sciences Clinical (Medicine) Representative – [JT]

- Rahma Hegy, School of Medical and Dental Sciences Pre-Clinical (Medicine) Representative – [RH]

In attendance:

- Jonathan Otter, Education Coordinator (Students' Union) – [JO]
- Saleha Siddiqah, Education & Course Reps Intern (Students' Union) – [SSi]

**Agenda Items 1-4 are Chaired by SSh.**

### **Agenda item 1 - Welcome and introductions**

- SS Opens meeting and introduces everyone to give their name and their role.
- All present introduce themselves and their role.

### **Agenda item 2 - Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising**

- Minutes from the previous meeting received no comments.

### **Agenda item 3 - Review of the 'Terms of Reference for Education Board' (ToR)**

- The Board **approved** the 'Terms of Reference for Education Board'.
- MB asked if the Students' Union Bye-laws are available to students.

**Action: JO to check with Students' Union team if they are available on the website or if a link to all of the bye-laws can be shared.**

### **Agenda item 4 – General Updates from Education Board**

- SSh updated on Black History Month, Postgraduate funding campaign and Working with the QM Academy two different work streams (Inclusive Curriculum and Assessment and Feedback).
- BK updated on the Postgraduate funding project with SS, other board members have highlighted interest are interested in getting involved. BK also updated on the plan for the Internship project, and on a project across levels of study to connect PGT, PGR and UG student.
- RT has been working on feedback about the NSS Survey within the School. RT also updated reviewing changes to assessments that took place last year and reviewing face to face teaching provision considering increased student intake.
- DB is going to be collaborating with YSS, and is working on a project to connect the wider faculty and foundation year students. DB is currently doing research into the number of students. Currently DB is preparing a presentation for Foundation year students.
- AQ has been working on 2 major projects: the SBBS newsletter, and a mental health workshop group with other part time Officers. AQ is also looking to collaborate with Library Services on support for 1<sup>st</sup> years and hoping to lobby the school to create an SBBS Instagram account.
- SBR is also interested in starting a newsletter, and is currently is awaiting a mailing list from the SSO. SBR is also hoping to do a documentary film screening of relevant films and hoping to run a collaborative art/science competition.

- RM has set up an Instagram for the School of History Rep role, and in advance has been creating posts that can be shared. RM will also be continuing work on accessibility support for Disabled and SLD students and DDS support. RM has received the SEED award for work completed to date!
- AI is a returning officer and is continuing major projects from last year, AI is hoping to continue and improve on the SEF Podcast and work with additional services and Reps. Hoping to continue communications between UG and PG and between different schools to help cross-school collaboration. This year AI is also supporting Course Rep elections and AI has also supported the HSS Student Experience project and is planning to work on supporting resources for international students.
- MB has been working with the Doctoral College to review PGR course representation system. Some renaming and restructuring will take place as part of the PGR Rep Review. Doctoral College Postgraduate Board has also been created. PGR HSS newsletter will be continuing. Working on creating specific lists that target only PhD students.
- MB asks how many PGR Rep for BL nominations have been submitted. Chair confirms that the first time they will know of nominees is once nominees are confirmed.
- AQ highlights interest in supporting RM on the campaign around DDS support.
- HAA continues to support PGR Review in with PGR HSS reps. Is also supporting the PG funding project. HAA is currently working with the Careers and School Managers about a PhD alumni student event and is also working on inter disciplinary project between S&E Schools for Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning.

**Chair invites all further officers to updates via the Chat function.**

**Agenda Items 5-8 are chaired by BK.**

### **Agenda item 5 – Expectations for Semester 1**

- BK opens discussion on expectations and experiences so far in Semester 1.
  - DB has experienced a mixed start to the course and there has been lower interest in on campus activity than expected. There are still concerns about the technical issues with the delivery of online teaching.
  - Other officers have also experienced technical issues with online teaching, highlighted by AQ, and problems with QM+ being overloaded, as raised by KB, SBR and GB.
  - AI has experienced some on campus lectures being broadcast online. AI raises that having IT staff attendance in lectures has helped resolve technical issues. AI also raises technical issues with QM+ and would welcome more regular opportunities to feedback about QM+ and the benefit of the previous 'IT Forum'. HAA raises the opportunity for IT services to attend labs and lectures.
  - PB asks about whether on campus lectures are compulsory following the email from the Principal. Attendance on the Neuroscience course has been low and PB highlights students' anxiety around the return to campus. Chairs respond that this has been up to module conveners.
  - HAA and GB highlight the importance of improving awareness about services and making students aware of the services that could help. DS highlights that it would be beneficial for schools to use social media and newsletters to this end.
- MB suggests that there could be a motion submitted to council to lobby schools for better support/resource for professional services.

- YS has highlighted concerns from students about timetabling and students are unaware if they need to be on campus or not, as flagged by DS. This issue is also raised by MB and DS as a problem within their Schools. GB also points out the particular issue for Joint Honours students and will also raise the issue within the School.

**Action: Faculty VPs to escalate this issue and highlight it in their meetings with academic staff. Alternatively to raise this issue via email to email ARCS.**

- SBR highlights concerns about exam time limits being too short, and 24 hour exams being reduced to 4 hours.

**Action: SSh to invite GB to meeting with Agnieszka Jankowska about IT services and student experience in HSS. KB and DS also share interest in attending.**

- AQ highlights concerns from students about poor communication about SLLF for students to schedule language centre classes. GB highlights where further information can be found.
- AI suggests having a forum between students and IT services, as last year there was an HSS and IT forum.

**Action: SSh to ask Agnieszka Jankowska if there could be another open forum.**

## Agenda item 6 – Substantive Business (Policy)

- No motions or items submitted

## Agenda item 7 – Any Other Business

- AL suggests an idea to set up with the Students' Union to connect students selling textbooks with newer students. This is supported by DS, BK and DS. SSh and AL point out existing social media platforms for individual schools.
- AQ has suggested having an opportunity for an in person PTO meeting. BK and SS suggest this would be a good thing to organise. SSh also points out the plan to run drop ins for Reps.
- AI suggests creating a PTO WhatsApp group to help people to communicate.

**Action: SSh to set up a WhatsApp link.**

## Agenda item 8

- JO points out the dates for the upcoming meetings:
  - 8<sup>th</sup> December 2021 – Meeting 2
  - 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022 – Meeting 3

## Voting record:

<b>Member</b>	<b>Vote 1: To approve the Education Board Terms of Reference for 2021-22</b>
Bilge Kacmaz – VP Science and Engineering	For
George Boulton – SLLF Rep	For
Hussain Ali Abid – PGR SE Rep	For
Louis Gouget – SPIR Rep	For
Matthew Beach – Co PGR HSS Rep	For
Diya Singh – SBM Rep	For
Darcey Blackman – Co SEMS Rep Yugesh Shanmugha Sundharam – Co SEMS Rep	For
Alina Liebholz – Co Law Rep Gunjit Dinesh Madra – Co Law Rep	For
Azmain Iftekhar – SEF Rep	For
Sharafina Binti Razin – SPA Rep	For
Katie Butler – SED Rep	For
Rosie Matthews – Co History Rep	For
Aisha Qadi – SBCS Rep	For
Polen Bareke – Allied Courses Rep	For
Robert Tucker – VP Barts and The London	For
Antonita Nimalan – Co EECS Rep	For
Saynab Sharif – VP Humanities and Social Sciences	For
Hemanth Paneer Selvam – SMS Rep	For
<b>Total votes:</b>	<b>18 For – 0 Against – 0 Abstain</b>