



Minutes of Academic Council

Held at 1:15pm on Thursday 13 November 2014 at University House, Asylum

Date of meeting	13/11/14
Attendance	92 Attendees 66 Apologies

1 Apologies

Please ask ERC for apologies

2 Welcome

Welcome from VPE

3 Approval of minutes

Minutes approved

4 Approval of actions

No actions to approve

5 Election of Academic Council Representative

Three candidates for the positions of Academic Council Representative

Niall Devine

Vanessa

Elizabeth Barraclough

Questions to all three candidates:

“How will you ensure opinions of others are taken to Education Zone?”

“Can you speak to University and Union official with confidence?”

“How will you prioritise our opinions?”

Frank Longdon – Returning Officer for the elections

Steve Ralph – Assistant Returning Officer for the elections

Niall Devine and Elizabeth Barraclough elected as Academic Council Reps.

Steve Ralph
Secretary
01482466242
Steve.ralph@hull.ac.uk

6 Course Reps Investigate

VPE gave a short introduction to the priority for the year and it being feedback. VPE noted that there can be one approach to feedback; either a focused effort for Exam feedback or Assignment feedback being the focus and improvement being made.

Firstly a discussion about Exam feedback

- Lecturers should go through exam feedback in class
- Psychology Rep noted that there was no exam feedback at all, students had to request feedback. The process of requesting feedback was also noted as being difficult
- More online feedback was required

Secondly, a discussion about improving assignment feedback

- Reps experienced the same question marked differently
- Consistency in marking, some get more detail
- Reps noted that feedback should either be standardised or personalised, not inconsistent
- Relevant time scales were also noted
- Clear expectation of what feedback looks likes*
- Formative and summative feedback
- The opportunity to hand in drafts
- More ability to submit proposals first, before even drafting

*VPE asked Course Reps if they had encountered the feedback charter.

A vote was held as to which direction the feedback campaign is to be given; exam or assignment.

48 Reps voted for Exam feedback

23 Reps voted for improving Assignment feedback

Exam feedback is the chosen direction for the feedback campaign.

7 Course Rep Issues

PhD English Course Rep raised the issue that the PGTS is changing, needed to know more as there was limited communication about these changes.

Action: VPE to find more information and report back to Academic Council

A Course Rep from Social Work/Social Sciences noted that Health Visitor students are only on University campus for two days a week and the library loan system is causing a lot of these students to have high fines already.

VPE noted that the borrowing times have been standardised, however will look into this.

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A further issue was raised with the library borrowing system – the Scarborough-to-Hull transporting system.

Postgraduate students raised the naming of the PhD room within the library. It is now called the Postgraduate room, but is only available for PhD students. The Postgraduate Course Rep would like the room to go back to its original name.

VPE noted that a review of postgraduate numbers is taking place before allowing all postgraduates use of the room.

Library Reading Room was also raised – the concern that books cannot be moved to quiet areas. It is confirmed that books can be moved, however said books have to be taken out by an individual.

PGCHE Course Rep asked that timetabling be put on the agenda for the next Academic Council.
Action: ERC to add timetabling to next agenda.

Question about library opening times, VPE mentioned that once works are completed the library will trial a 24 hour service. This was also confirmed by Faculty Co-ordinator FHSc.

ERC noted that due to high volume of questions regarding Library and Learning Innovation (LLI), potential for an LLI Representative to attend the next Academic Council.
Action: ERC and VPE to invite LLI Representative to the next council.

Student encountered problems with parking when registering. VPE noted that estates are a concern of HUU President. So will forward onto HUU President.
Action: VPE to raise with President

8 Any other business

No any other business

9 Next meeting will be Tuesday 9 December – 11:15am – 12:15pm – venue to be confirmed

ERC apologises for any print errors of the next council in emails, eBridge or handbook. This will serve as confirmation of the next council and any further communications will include the amendment.