

STUDENT COUNCIL REPORT, 5 APRIL 2017

JAMIE JORDON, VICE PRESIDENT EDUCATION

COURSE COSTS AND RESOURCES

Following from last Student Council, I took a paper to Academic Board highlighting issues that have been raised. The paper was received positively, with the Vice Chancellor endorsing work to be carried out in partnership with the University surrounding feedback raised from students. Building on the positive work already carried out, I want to challenge the University to delve deeper into their practices and address concerns from students in a range of areas including, but not exclusively:

- The University's definition of "mandatory" and "highly recommended activity" and how this impacts students' study
- Investigating the possibility and impacts of removing the £15 printing credit to invest in free black and white printing for everyone

Continued work from feedback raised in November's Student Rep Committee (SRC) has been progressing in a positive direction. Working with IT Services, we have established for there to be more provision of computers and study space.

- Following the return of F Block to the University, Red Bar and Escape Bar have plans to be used as space specifically for students – the final design plans are yet to be confirmed.
- Once the majority of the Faculty of Business and Law (FBL) have vacated into their new building, the rooms and corridor between Cribs B Café and the two lecture theatres (2B020 & 2B025) will be converted into an open access study space with computers – similar to that of The Hive.

STUDENT REPS

Working with Academic Services and Team Representation, we have developed a document "UWE Bristol Principles of Academic Representation". This document proposes a new and updated approach to academic representation. The proposal is a more nuanced and principled approach, which promotes and supports innovative practices to deliver effective academic representation in a local context. The document outlines clear expectations to all those involved in academic representation, giving more clarity of responsibility. I feel this allows for there to be more flexibility within academic

representation, rather than expecting one strict model to work in an institution as broad as UWE Bristol. This document was taken to each faculty's Academic Standards and Quality Committee (ASQC), where feedback was taken on board to make some amendments. This document was then taken to the Learning, Teaching, and Student Experience Committee (LTSEC), where it was positively received. We will be taking this document to Academic Board for final endorsement, where, if passed, we can begin working with Departments to build effective student representation at their local level.

UWE STUDENT CONFERENCE

This year, I have been part of the creation and introduction of UWE's first Student Conference, which celebrates research, enquiry, and evidence-based practice from both undergraduate and postgraduate taught students. This will see over 80 students across all levels of study and disciplines expanding across our four faculties. This conference will see students presenting their work either as a poster or as a verbal presentation. This event will welcome employers, which offers students opportunities for networking and learning. It will also open the possibility for students to seek potential placements or graduate jobs. This will be beneficial for students to learn about the difference aspects of research and prepare many for their dissertations in later years. This is set to be a positive event, allowing students to showcase their work with the opportunity to win one of several prizes. I hope to see this conference expand next academic year and into the future.

OTHER INFORMATION

Total hours worked to date (as of writing): 1520.25/1443

Range of meetings attended since last Student Council:

- Access Agreement Planning
- Athena SWAN SAT Meetings
- Blackboard Development
- Collaborative Provision Committee
- Education Catch-up
- Enhanced Year Discussion
- Learning Environments Advisory Board
- Learning, Teaching, and Student Experience Committee
- Marketing Meeting
- Meeting with Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Pro Vice-Chancellor Student Experience
- Mental Health Working Group
- Race Equality Catch-up
- Readinglists.uwe.ac.uk Stakeholder Group
- Representation Principles Update
- Retail Meeting

- Strategy Support Presentations
- Student Experience Awards Planning
- Various Catch-ups (SU Staff, HoD's etc.)
- Weekly Team Meeting
- Student Rep Committee

Range of other appointments since last Student Council:

- Leadership Race
- NUS LGBT+ Conference
- RAG Jailbreak
- Student Experience Awards
- Unconscious Bias Training
- University Mental Health Day

If you have any questions, feel free to drop me an email on vpeducation@uwe.ac.uk