

Staff Student Liaison Committee Meeting

15th November 2016 – Minutes

Apologies: Guy Conroy-Smith, Ibraheem Mir, Christiana Addo & Cedric Hung

In attendance: Professor Marcus Chambers, Katarzyna Hadala, Mark Hamitski and Hannah Tagg (minutes)

Minutes from last meeting: no comments

UG Concerns:

Max Rule

KH & MH advised that students are in favour of the max rule for a variety of reasons:

- Helpful for first years 'new to studying at degree level' can help them get good marks in the first year. This is important for those considering a placement or year abroad as simply passing the year is not enough.
- There is a sense that students can obtain higher marks because of the max rule. Particularly when students have lots of coursework deadlines close together and can't spend the time they would like preparing for their mid-terms or assignments.
- The above applies to exams as well i.e. it is easier to revise well for two exams than for four.
- KH advised that the students studying some of the maths based modules such as Econometrics thought the max rule was less favourable but would like to be given the option.
- MC advised that the department has been trying to keep the max rule but the University do not want us to keep it. The minutes will be forwarded to Professor Kate Rockett (HOD) so that she has a record of these comments.

Exams

KH & MH advised that during the exam period some students have exams on consecutive days, sometimes four days in a row, and this does not leave them enough time to revise and prepare for each exam. MC advised that the exam timetable is not prepared by the department but by the exams office and timetabling so the department has little say in when exams are held due to the number of exams that take place during the four week period. HT to liaise with the Departmental Administrator, Debbie Hall, so that she is aware of the situation.

Lecture times

MH advised that on occasion the timetable is a little inconvenient for students. In the case of EC371 where there is a 9:00am lecture for one hour and then a further one hour lecture at 12:00pm on the same day. MC advised that once again timetabling arrange all the room bookings and given the scale of classes and lectures it is very difficult for them to schedule in a way that accommodates everyone. HT to liaise with the Departmental Administrator, Debbie Hall, so that she is aware of the situation.

Degree Networking

KH suggested a degree networking event where students can meet with others studying the same degree programme but in another year. It could be a good opportunity to share experiences and recommendations between years. It was agreed that this was a good idea.

AOB: No comments

Date of next meeting: TBC