

# Education Committee Meeting

Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2024 | 18:00 | Large Rehearsal Room

Meeting called by	Education Executive Committee	Attendees: Emily, Calum, Hitanshi, Cam, Chase, Chloe, Harry, Rebeka, Sydney, Ben, James, Harriet, Harry, Ana, Michael, Sadie, Rohin, Federica Online: Anna, Serena, Christy, Tom Shreya, Krish, Gemma, Shreya Apologies: Olivia, David, Sairaa Absences: Daria, Ruchi, Kiera Guests:
Type of meeting	Education Committee Meeting	
Chair	Faculty Presidents	
Note taker(s)	Emily Bannister	

## Agenda Item

Topic	Presenter	Time Allotted
<p><b>Approval of the Minutes</b></p> <p><b>New appointments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcome to Ben as your new CS President.</li> </ul> <p><b>Union updates:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will update on Palestine forum when formal communications are released.</li> <li><b>Academic Calander 2024/25:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>can either lose two days of revision week OR have consecutive exams (would affect 184 students).</li> <li>Philosophy SP: suggests schools should not set assignments too late (ie. Week 8 deadlines at the latest).</li> <li>MFL SP: could schools publish exam dates at start of semester- as an international student this would improve quality of life.</li> <li>Physics SP: surely some people (students) would be willing to be hired to help during exam/graduation period. Could 601/alternate room be used as exam hall. Exams after Christmas would have negative student reaction.</li> <li>Vote: Shorter revision week took majority of votes.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Sci/Med FP, DoEd	5 Minutes
<p><b><u>First Agenda Item: Integrated Master's Compulsory Placement and Fees</u></b></p> <p><b>Overview:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Biology SP: Compulsory part of biology degree to take year in industry. 70% students were not receiving salary whilst still having to pay university fees. Out of 24 Russell Group unis 18 have reduced fees for integrated masters- St Andrews students force to pay full price. Brought up at SSCC and staff claimed should still have to pay full fees because they are marking work worth 120</li> </ul>	Sci/Med FP	10 minutes

<p>credits- unusual since placement students are not using any university resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• French LC: For MFL similar but they are paying reduced fees. Unusual since when abroad have very dislocated university experience and little contact with tutors. Student load reduced when on year abroad but not when on year in industry</li> <li>• Chemistry SP: optional to complete a year in industry but have to find placement yourself. 90 credit course and then large exam at end of year. Starting up in brand new place stressful especially when still paying university fees. Currently 18 students on year in industry for School of Chemistry.</li> <li>• MFL LC: school should advertise cost more when applying. When applying for Russian pricing was not advertised enough.</li> <li>• DoEd: everyone at previous University had to take unpaid work experience and fees remained the same because fees allocated based on modules.</li> </ul> <p><b>What would help?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More marketing and transparency of hidden costs</li> <li>• Scholarships.</li> <li>• <b>DoEd to follow up hidden fees with Sharon.</b></li> </ul>		
<p><b>Second Agenda Item: Publishing exam dates sooner.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Overview</b> Philosophy SP: schools do not give exam dates early enough, but SPs could push dates to be released earlier.</li> <li>• Sci/Med FP: some lecturers do not know how exam will look until a few weeks into semester.</li> <li>• SD/Geog SP: often have to cancel modules last minute. Staff would probably have to be instructed from higher staff member as they have a position of authority.</li> <li>• Chemistry SP: often course is still being developed as it is taught.</li> <li>• Psyche/Neuro SP: will definitely push for exam dates to be released earlier. Could it be case whereby date is released and then a few weeks later content of exam is released?</li> <li>• Italian LC: lecturer only had to turn exam paper in this week.</li> <li>• MFL SP: feasible but could be issues with room bookings.</li> <li>• Russian LC: release date first and then paper released after.</li> </ul>	<p>Sci/Med FP</p>	<p>10 minutes</p>
<p><b>Third Agenda Item: YouTube lectures for outreach.</b></p> <p><b>Overview:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Philosophy SP- lecturers posting on YouTube would help with outreach.</li> </ul> <p><b>Pros:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chem SP- would be fun and informative when researching universities to apply to.</li> <li>• Russian LC: would aid with applying for universities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Cons:</b></p>	<p>Sci/Med FP</p>	<p>10 minutes</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MFL SP- may not sit well with lecturers and giving them credit for research,</li> <li>• Arts/Div FP- most universities have distinction between public and private lectures.</li> <li>• Physics- what would happen when lecturer stops teaching- would it be taken down? Lecture attendance would decline.</li> <li>• Comp Lit LC- shorter online lectures could be effective.</li> <li>• Physics SP- becomes more like marketing than educational.</li> <li>• Psych/Neuro SP- weekly lectures that are non-compulsory could be released. Why should someone be able to watch module online when we pay fees to attend university?</li> </ul> <p><b>Feasibility:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoEd- new studio (for online courses) could be used for significant lectures. Difficulty with technology. Inaugural lecture filming popular. Legal issues with ownership between university and lecturer.</li> <li>• Medicine SP: difficult when content always changing.</li> <li>• Philosophy SP: should be voluntary from staff members.</li> <li>• Arts/Div FP- would require much better technology and a clear channel for these to be posted, for example the <b><u>'EduCom lecture series'</u></b>.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action points:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DoEd to have conversation with legal team.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>Fourth Agenda Item: Bake Off</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SPs (in teams) bake something to be judged by your FPs and DoEd at the end of next weeks EduCom.</li> <li>• Don't spend more than £15 in team.</li> <li>• EduExec figure out prize.</li> </ul>	Academic Rep Intern	5 minutes
<p><b><u>AOCB</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Lecture notes:</b></li> <li>• Physics SP: often told to just look at text book/ lecture notes when asking for help.</li> <li>• Music SP: Philosophy issue in accessibility with lecture slides, often not made until right before lecture itself.</li> <li>• Geog/SD SP: singles people out when they have to email lecture to ask for lecture PowerPoints beforehand.</li> <li>• DoEd- <b>SPs should have conversation with their Director of Teaching to see what they can do policy wise.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>1413 Teaching Awards</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nominations need shortlisting by SP/LC leading teams. 4 sci and 4 arts to lead teams. Job as team lead to encourage team to score. 10 hours over two weeks (begin 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb) with one call at the end. Free ticket for ceremony and reception included.</li> <li>• Volunteers: Ana, Shreya, James, Sydney, Chloe, Harry.</li> </ul>	Sci/Med FP	5 minutes

**Observers:**

**Resources:**