



Education Committee

7th of February 2019, 5pm

Students' Association Committee Room

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
 - a. Jemima (Graduate School)
 - b. Kay (Medicine)
 - c. Rachel (Divinity)
3. Questions for School Presidents
 - a. Social Anthropology: Met with sub-honour DOTs on new format for SSCC. Talked about assessment. Looking for someone to take over mentoring scheme. Talking to first year reps to take on election committee. Advertising exam feedback session.
 - b. Film: one of first year reps left and didn't say anything. Remaining first year rep happy to carry on by himself.
 - c. Classics: Ides Ball tickets on sale on Sunday at midday. Price is lowered, everything digital, and other exciting changes.
 - d. Russian: New class rep to replace one on semester abroad.
 - e. IR: IR ball happening. Tickets on sale soon.
 - f. Philosophy: Gender neutral toilet opening in basement in Edgecliffe building.
 - g. Chemistry: Delia in careers centre has left. Was also representing maths. Email Pam Andrews if not sure.
 - h. German: New head of department.
4. Questions for Faculty Presidents
5. Questions for PG Academic Convenor
 - a. Absent.
6. Matters Arising

- a. Peer Support
 - i. Flora (peer support coordinator) explained what peer support was. Informal support for students.
 - ii. Interested in publicising it further in schools.
 - iii. Email Flora if your school has a wellbeing advisor (Flora's email – peersupport@)
 - iv. Applications open for peer support right now – open until 13th February. On StAnd Together Facebook Page. For starting straight away after training in March.
- b. Technological Enhanced Learning Strategy
 - i. Too many 'buzzwords'. Strip down what they're actually trying to do.
 - ii. Not enough concrete ideas. Seems to be covering too much – is everything going to perfect?
 - iii. Would like to see how it is being rolled out to staff. Some staff don't allow use of laptop.
 - iv. Lecture capture still a controversial issue.
 - v. Not very clear what they're trying to do – website goals not clear at all.
 - vi. No target dates. Could do with a concrete deadline.
 - vii. Agree that the websites aren't streamlined enough.
 - viii. Evan and Roisin volunteered to be student reps on committee for TEL.
- c. Brexit
 - i. Focus group.

7. AOCB

Reports from School Presidents

Art History - Meredith Loper – arthistorypresident

Last Week

- 28 Jan: Planned the SSCC for Week 6 along with an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion training session for all class reps and staff.
- 30 Jan: Met with head of Art History Soc and Director of Teaching about mentoring scheme.
- 30 Jan: Attended an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Staff meeting.
- 31 Jan: Attended meeting for Athena SWAN.
- 1 Feb: Hosted an Honours Focus Group for Athena SWAN.
- 4 Feb: Hosted the Art History Careers Conference (with 90+ in attendance!).

This Week

- 6 Feb: Scheduled to meet with the Careers Link and Head of School about careers events etc.
- 7 Feb: Will host the first Class Rep meeting of the semester.
- 8 Feb: Will attend another Athena SWAN meeting.
- Ongoing: Currently writing a section for the Art History Athena SWAN application.

Biology - Roisin Gendall – biologypresident

- We like most of the schools have some exciting events for careers week this week!
- Teaching Committee Meeting takes place this Wednesday
- This is the final week of the schools equality and diversity survey so I'll be nudging students to fill this out

Chemistry - Ailsa Edward – chemistrypresident

- Had meeting with CAPOD to start setting up a mentoring scheme for the next academic year. Met with some of the Class reps to discuss becoming the student coordinator for the scheme.
- Holding a wine and cheese night on Friday 8th February in collaboration with ChemSoc. In the process of organising this event and advertising it to the school. Applied for funding through the EDF for the cheese.
- Wrote Semester 1 report
- In process of emailing careers centre to set up a careers event for this semester.

Classics - Rebecca Hachamovitch – classicspresident: no report submitted.

Computer Science - Martynas Noreika – compscipresident: no report submitted.

Divinity - Rachel Miller – divinitypresident: no report submitted.

Earth & Environmental Sciences - Evan Margerum – earthscipresident

- Held a class rep meeting on Thursday the 31st to get things started for semester two
- First draft of mental health poster was completed by Belinda Hawes
- Digitized the mental health poster for easier manipulation and got feedback from several sources
- Wrote school president's report for semester one and shared it with the student body
- In the process of moving all internal Class Rep communication from Facebook/emails to a program called Slack. Should help with organization and continuation of information from year to year
- Met with Arola Moreras and CAPOD to organize 4th year-PhD mentoring scheme – set up date is in ~2 weeks
- Met with Arola again to refine the goals of the mentoring scheme
- First Athena Swan meeting after submitting application is on Feb 6th
- Organizing speakers for Conservation Forum on the Feb 13th

Economics & Finance - Rachel Williams – economicspresident: no report submitted.

English - Jessica Armstrong – englishpresident

- Met with Head of School and Director of Teaching to discuss plans for this semester
- In discussions with CAPOD to set up first student mentoring scheme in English
- Met with Lynsday Townsend (Film President) to discuss plans for a joint careers event later in the semester
- Arranged SSCC date for this semester with the committee members
- Attended School Council (Tuesday 6th Feb)

Film Studies - Lyndsay Townsend – filmpresident

- Organised weekly meetings for the Film Blitz committee, and had our first meeting of the semester last Friday (01.02.2019). This went very well, and things are coming along nicely – each member of the committee, including myself, has a list of actions to be

pursuing this week and we will reconvene again on Friday 8th.

- Met with Jess (English SP) and organised a joint English/Film alumni event. We have made plans to contact Morag from the Careers Centre, who will hopefully give us a list of alumni to contact. Moreover, we have also discussed organising another pub quiz for the semester, where we will work on feedback and experiences from last time to make an even bigger and better event!
- I also communicated with Miguel from the Careers Centre, and hope to meet with him this week to discuss further career events for the Film Department this semester.
- On Wednesday, I have a meeting with my DoT where we will discuss the department's upcoming SSCC, the National Student Survey and the Equality and Diversity Committee that I have now joined as Film Studies School President.
- I am also trying to organise my Class Reps for a meeting this week, but some are not replying to emails – hopefully by this week, we will have had a meeting discussing gathering feedback for the SSCC (February 14th) and organising socials for the semester.
- Moreover, this week I will create and distribute a survey asking about what types of socials that Film Studies students want to see organised, and will use this feedback in my meeting with the Class Reps.

Geography & SD - Rhiannon Potts – geosdpresident

- Completed Semester One Report
- Attended Refreshers' Fayre - I was present at both stalls and shared photos of both societies on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram with information about their membership and upcoming events.
- SGSD Mentoring Scheme - Rebecca Wilson from CAPOD shared provided me with feedback about the scheme which overall was positive. I am meeting with her on 11 February to discuss this feedback and future plans for the scheme.
- Conservation Forum - Myself and the SPs for Geology, Biology and the Graduate School are working with Pamela Andrew to arrange speakers for our Conservation Forum.
- Semester Two SSCCs - Our first of two SSCCs is scheduled to take place in Week 4, so I have asked the class reps to start collecting feedback and we have arranged a Pre-SSCC to discuss this and write the agenda.

Graduate School - Jemima Williamson – gspres: no report submitted.

History - Sahil Ali – historypresident: no report submitted.

International Relations - Kat Lawlor – irpresident: no report submitted.

Management - Philip Caraci – managementpresident: no report submitted.

Mathematics & Statistics - Kamilla Rekvenyi – mathspresident

- Created a Facebook event for Pi Ball
- Shared the Fixr with students to buy tickets
- Applied for and received funding from EDF
- Found and booked a Ceilidh band

Medicine - Kay McGillivray – medicinepresident: no report submitted.

Modern Languages - Amy Bretherton – modlangpresident: no report submitted.

Russian

- In week 1 I had a very productive meeting with the Head of Department about plans for this semester. We both want to continue to encourage the community feel in the department and this semester are planning a mentoring event, a Russian cinema club and an alumni LinkedIn group.
- In week 2 there will be the first meeting of the Russian Cinema Club and on Friday there will be a research afternoon about Russian Children's Literature (including a visit from two prominent researchers from Russia!) We are all very excited.
- The Language Convenors are planning a ModLang pub crawl for week 3 and the ball preparation continues."

Music - Aileen Walsh – musicpresident: no report submitted.

Philosophy - Sophia Rommel – philosophypresident

- Humanities Careers Fayre on the 8th of Feb., alongside the Schools of History and Classics; lots of meetings, outreach and prep for this has been happening – very excited and grateful that so many alumni are coming to speak to students (Careers Department was very helpful in providing us with a long list of potential speakers)
- Most of my Class Reps will be at the Fayre, and my Social Rep will help set up
- My main role during the Fayre will be to greet, coordinate and oversee the speakers
- Promoting the Fayre through daily FB posts, posters (made by Rebecca), emails, word-

of-mouth, and through lecturers (who are promoting the Fayre in their lectures/tutorials). I have also invited lecturers to come see their former students during the Fayre, if they are interested, which may increase our turnout and general departmental enthusiasm for this event (everyone seems keen!)

- Much closer ties developed with Philosophy's PhD community through MAP, Society for Women and Minorities, and future planned events (including a 'Race in Philosophy Panel' which is currently being planned by myself, PhilSoc, and MAP)
- Currently reaching out to potential internal and external speakers, alongside Kirsty (from MAP and PhilSoc), for the 'Race in Philosophy Panel'. A general timeline has been drawn up, including a potential date (8th of April) for the event and a preliminary schedule (including dinner with the speakers, beforehand)
- Most of the funding for the above event will be through PhilSoc – massive thank you to them!
- Met with Honours Reps and DOT regarding NSS results and their peculiar, often unwitting/ambiguous wording
- Also, discussed re-introducing cover sheets when students submit their assessed work, so students can see which skills they are applying and developing/required to apply based on the type of assessment, as well as gaining a general overview (split into categories) of their performance alongside their tutor's comments. This is done in psychology, which Kyle mentioned to us, and my DOT and I will bring this idea to our next TLA meeting
- At the next TLA, we will again be discussing exam (structure) reform, especially in light of the recent working group set up by my DOT for staff prior to the start of Semester 2
- Staff currently sending out 'thank you for your feedback' emails regarding MEQ comments (to ensure students know that their input is valued, taken and applied, and to increase enthusiasm for and the response numbers/rate for the next MEQ)
- Kyle (Honours Rep) and his friend Max Waller are setting up a 'Derek Parfit Reading Group' for Philosophy students; will promote it in my next School President email
- Kyle to meet with our DOT regarding his idea of an online Q&A system for undergraduates (project status: TBD)
- Meeting with all Class Reps on Wednesday (the 6th) to discuss collecting student feedback for our upcoming SSCC (on the 20th of Feb.), including changing a few of the questions we ask, in order to collect the feedback (MAP has helped draft one of the questions, focused on inclusivity, as we are increasing the Department's focus on E&D this Semester), as well as discussing any issues and/or ideas the Reps would like to raise (have kept the Reps updated on this meeting via email and our FB group and

private chats)

- Have updated DOT on EduComm meeting's comments regarding the NSS, bringing our concerns to the Deans at the next SPF, and on things to include in our SSCC Agenda (I create the Agenda, but felt that it would be good to run things by her, including the inclusion of External Examiner's Report and MEQ results)
- I am prioritising E&D issues this Semester; redrafting and alternations of our Handbook's 'Seminar Etiquette' guidelines, member of the School-wide E&D Committee, member of the working group (Self-Assessment Team) for the Athena Swan re-application which we are pursuing as a School, climate surveys (carried out by MAP, brought to our staff E&D Representative Professor Hawley and our very supportive DOT – I fully support MAP in constantly addressing E&D issues at both UG and PG level, as one must constantly work on these issues – one cannot merely 'address' them once and leave it at that, or no progress will be made)
- Looking into the prospects for a Buddy Scheme social (although my focus is currently on broader E&D issues, including the re-writing of our Athena Swan application (School-wide), and on the aforementioned Panel)
- CEPPA's Second Graduate Conference is also taking place on the 8th of Feb., after our Fayre (have worked with the PhD students organizing this to ensure that there is no major clash/overlap time-wise), until the 10th of Feb – should be a wonderful event (wholly organized by CEPPA and some PhD students), which I am promoting alongside our Fayre in my weekly emails
- Sent our last week's weekly email, and am about to send out this week's

Physics & Astronomy - Amy Suddards – physicspresident: no report submitted.

Psychology & Neuroscience - Winnie Li – psychpresident

- Met with Director of Teaching in Wednesday to discuss funding to cover conference expenses for upcoming BPS Undergraduate Conference in March
- Set up multiple meetings to organise social, careers, academic-related meetings for Week 2

Social Anthropology - Rikke Nedergaard – socanthpresident

- Held meeting with postgraduate reps to prepare for SSCC meeting
- Held postgraduate SSCC meeting
- Held a Social Anthropology Cake & Tea Afternoon with a really good turnout
- Had a productive TLA meeting where a new supervisor system, a curriculum review,

and continued exam feedback provision was agreed upon

- Had a catch-up meeting with my class representatives where we evaluated the last SSCC meeting and planned for the semester ahead
- Post-fieldwork PhD representative is setting up Professional Skills Workshops for PhD-students to prepare them for a career in academia
- Post-fieldwork PhD representative recruited pre-fieldwork representative named Manar Kawasmi
- Attended Equality & Diversity Committee meeting and got signed up for the new Athena Swan committee
- Advertising Burns Weekend away for Social Anthropology students to encourage attendance
- Arranged for exam feedback session to be set up with HoD and Exams Officer
- Signed up for Election Committee and attended first meeting
- Held school president office hour where I met with first third-year rep and then first-year evening rep
- Wrote semester 1 report
- Attended Education Committee

Reports from Faculty Presidents

Arts and Divinity - Gianluca Giammei – artdivfp

- This week I have met with Alice and the Career Centre to try to organise a Career week focused on Postgraduate studies in September. We have talked about virtual sessions as well as inviting alumni. We are keen on doing a collaboration with the postgraduate society as this also aims to promote a sense of community between UG and PG students.

Science and Medicine - Alisa Danilenko – scimedfp

- Not too much happening since the start of semester.
- I'm a member of a few of the ELIR writing groups, so we're seeing where that goes in the next few weeks.
- This week I'm working with a University Outreach Officer to work out the details of the visit of Marc Abrahams, the founder of the Ig Nobel Prizes.
- I will also be attending the first meeting of the newly assembled Elections Committee.

Report from Postgraduate Academic Convenor – Ashley Clayton – pgconven: no report submitted.