



Academic Council 4

Minutes

14.00 on 11.03.25

Attending: Jay Brown, Student President- Academic Life (JB), Julie Read, Student Support Coordinator (JR) + 27 reps

Apologies received: 36

1. Student President (AL) update

Elections have taken place, and a new committee has been elected for next Academic Year. As Jay will be coming to the end of his two-year tenure, the new Student President of Academic Life will be Zoe McCallum.

Nominations have also closed for the annual STaR Awards and winners will be announced at the ceremony on Thursday 27th March in the Halle.

The S.U. has arranged for some introductory workshops in BSL (British Sign Language) to take place and many students and some S.U. staff have already taken part. There are still some slots available. If this is successful, we will look into extending this opportunity.

2. Class Representative Survey 2025.

Every year we ask reps to take part in either a survey or focus group to hear your thoughts on your experiences as Class Reps. This year's survey is now available via Jisc and will close on 2nd May. We encourage all reps to take part as it helps us to ensure our training and support is appropriate and allows us to make changes where necessary. Please access the survey via this QR code. You need to log in with your **QMU email address** and the password is 'rep'.



3. Student Reviewers Opportunity

All reps are invited to apply for the role of Student Reviewer. This is an opportunity to help validate review current and new courses and give the viewpoint of a student into

these. There is a flat fee of £150 payable for each reviewer activity you take part in. You must hold a British National Insurance number to be eligible. Training will take place on Wednesday 19th March from 10.00-16.00 Lunch will be provided. Full details will be attached to this email.

4. Question of the Semester

The issue of timetabling has been brought up at Academic Council on many occasions but it's not an easy one to deal with. Discussions are ongoing. This time, via the Student Union Partnership Group, there has been a suggested option. The number of electives available to many students take up slots on the timetable. The university will not get rid of all electives but could reduce the number available. Please answer via the QR code.

"The University can offer a more open and flexible timetable by reducing the number of elective modules available.

Which of the following best reflects your preference?

- a. A wide choice of elective modules – even if it means a more fixed timetable
- b. A more flexible and open timetable – even if it means fewer elective options
- c. No strong preference – I am happy with either arrangement

5. Rep Feedback

Katie (Dramatherapy). The dissertation seminars but all Seems like a great initiative opportunities would be had also affected her course. if there would be other dates that were spread out to accommodate those who couldn't attend.



library recently put on a week of clashed with her course's classes. and wondered if any other available. Hannah (SLT) said issue JB to feedback to LRC/ELS and ask

Aisling (Nursing) raised the issue of high prices for food in the Hux and Guthries, making these almost inaccessible for students. JB said he was aware of this and would raise again with Baxter Storey (caterers). Highlighted to students that free hot water is available to all from the Nook. The machine says tea/hot water and will say £0.00 when chosen. If this is broken, students can ask at the counter in Guthries for hot water.

Myrna (International Tourism & Events Management) said that many of her classmates are entrants straight from school and need support in writing university level essays for the first time. However, the ELS is fully booked for appointments. Aisling and JR suggested going into the ELS as there are printed resources available there, and also to ask if there are any more planned group workshops which would help, even if individual appointments are not available. Katie mentioned that Studiosity had previously been available but was no longer. It was stated that the university now has a licence for Grammarly instead.

Meeting ended 14.45