



ACADEMIC COUNCIL

Date: Monday 12th October 2020

Time: 12:15

Room: Teams

Attended – 20 Apologies - 4

AGENDA

1. WELCOME

Chiara welcomed everyone to the Academic Council and briefly went through the purpose of the meeting for those who had not attended before. The Council was also taken through the Officers Committee and their role.

2. STUDENT PRESIDENT UPDATE

1. Covid 19 and general support

The Students' Union have been directly involved in the decision making for the arrangements to shape this semester and continue to do so. Details were also provided for all services available to students during this time.

2. Blended Learning

The Students' Union would love to hear any feedback the students have regarding how everyone feels about blended learning whether it be positive or negative.

3. Class Rep Training

Training for all class reps will be available. The dates for training are the 13th/14th/15th/20th/21st October and will be held on Collaborate. To book a place on a session please contact Sacha Forbes at SForbes@qmu.ac.uk

4. Your Voice, your idea's

This is an opportunity for all students to put forward an idea they have to improve the student experience. All they have to do is put their suggestion on to the 'Your Voice' your idea's' section on the qmusu website. www.qmusu.org and the Officers committee will go over any suggestions and decide how to proceed with them.

5. Question of the Semester

This semester we have a survey, which has gone out to all Class Reps, their Programme Leaders (to share on their Hub sites and through the Moderator. We are hoping for a good response from this as your collective views could potentially shape next semester for you.

6. STaR Awards

The 2020 STaR Awards were scheduled for 26th March this year, however the lockdown soon put a stop to that. We have decided to go ahead with a Facebook Live event on the 12th of October (Tonight) where the winners will be announced including the coveted award of Class Rep of the Year.

3. VACANCIES FOR STUDENTS

There are currently vacancies for students within two University committees. QMU are looking for a Post Grad and Undergraduate for the ASSaM School Academic Board, one Post

Grad for Health Science School Academic Board and one ASSaM student for Senate. Please contact Sacha Forbes if you are interested or would like more information about these. One of the Academic Council members present who is on the School Academic Board kindly gave a bit of insight into how the board works (Thank you Mareike!)

4. CLASS REP FEEDBACK

- Concerns were raised about the lack of face-to-face supervisions and in some cases instead of individual supervision these were being done as a group, which meant that the students did not feel they were getting the full benefit from it.
- Details of the availability of lecture recordings in some programmes are poor, often little notice given. It was suggested that they speak to their module coordinator to see if a more suitable time period can be arranged.
- Some members felt that their programmes were very well organised and were grateful for the extra effort their PL's/lecturers had put in to ensure that all learning was covered and in an accessible way.
- Sometimes during students 'face to face' teaching time is lost because of the lecturer having to move between rooms. There are also some technology problems at times with this, which can hold up the session.
- Worries about isolation were raised especially in courses where it is predominantly online teaching. These included isolation and poor Wi-Fi for some students. Chiara mentioned the Digital Poverty initiative where QMU may be able to help with this.
- Due to the poor transport connections, evening tuition on campus while appreciated does sometimes mean a very late night for getting home. In one instance where a class finished at 8pm the students involved were not getting home until 9.30pm. Suggestions of asking for a change of time were given.

5. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 19th November 2020 @ 12.15 – 1.15 on Teams

Contact Information

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