

# Academic Council

24<sup>th</sup> March 2026

## **What are this year's reps proud of?**

Everyone highlighted the positive impact they've had and how rewarding it's been to gather feedback from their cohort. Being part of the QMU community also came through.

## **The biggest piece of feedback from the year**

Seats was repeatedly raised by multiple reps – this is still an ongoing issue. Zoë MacCallum updated the group about working closer with the IT department in the University to keep improving the app. ZM also mentioned most work on SEATs will take place during the summer in hopes it will be improved for the start of the next academic year.

Assessment setting and feedback has been an issue – the description of the task is not always clear and therefore the way in which it will be marked is unknown to students. Inconsistencies with marking.

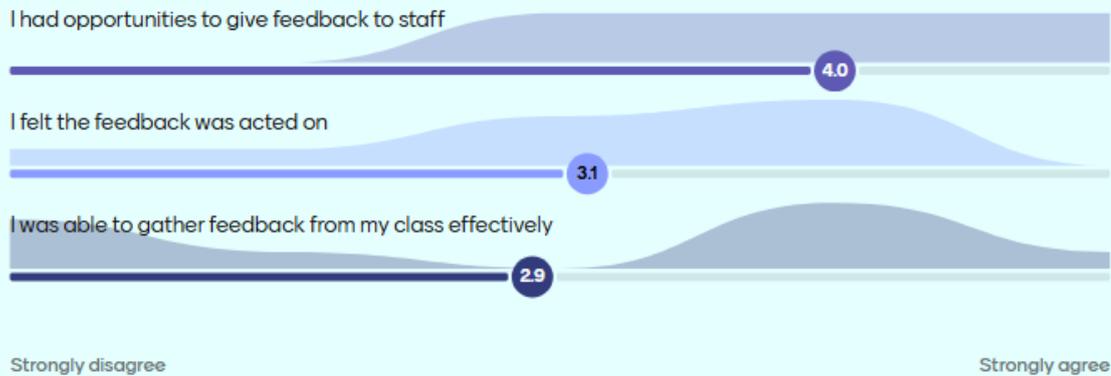
Scheduling and timetabling are ongoing issues.

Some courses feel too interdisciplinary, so content isn't always relevant.

The changes to library opening hours have been strongly opposed by students. ZM updated that it will return to 24/hours open during exam season from 13<sup>th</sup> April until 1<sup>st</sup> May, but as reps pointed out, different courses have exams and assessments happening at all different times and particularly during March too, so this period feels insufficient. Everyone felt that the way the university communicated their decision without consulting students was the biggest issue. Reps were keen to support campaigns to reopen the library 24/7 in future.

## **Collecting feedback this semester**

## This semester...



The most commonly used methods of collecting feedback were google forms, padlet, and whatsapp groups. Some reps are still finding it difficult to motivate their classes to give feedback, it was suggested that more specific questions like “how do you feel about X topic?” might prompt more responses.

### **What went well this semester**

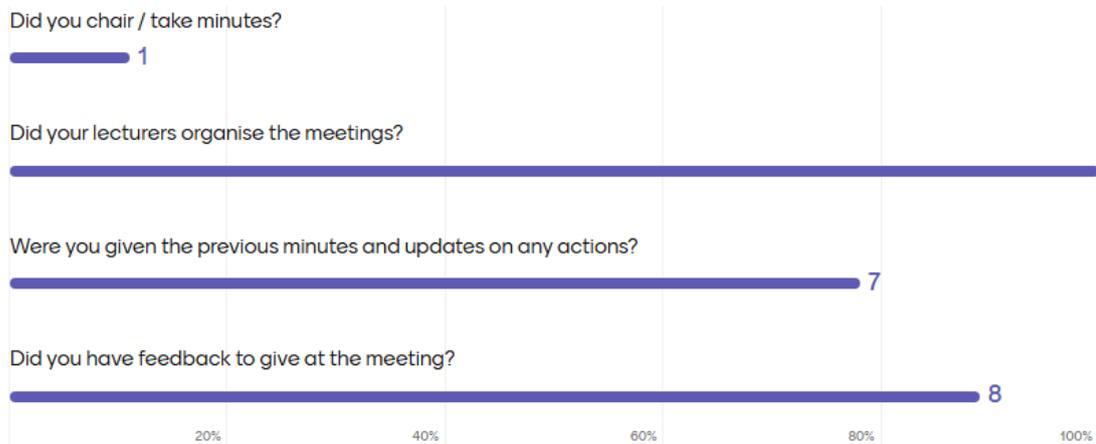
Reps mentioned feeling like issues are being resolved quickly, and feeling like they are making progress and changes that positively impact their classes.

### **SSCC feedback and what didn't go so well**

There have been communication issues between lecturers and students regarding assignments, as well as miscommunications between programme leaders and teaching staff.

Difficulties attending meetings such as SSCCs – being on placement, close to deadlines – it would be helpful if the university could be more flexible with when they hold them. Some staff members are still trying to force students to chair or minute SSCCs, reps are advised to get in touch with the SU when this happens because there should be no expectation for them to do so.

Reps are keen to feel more like equal partners in SSCCs; for the uni staff to ask for their feedback, listen respectfully, and encourage the students to feel confident and empowered to take part in the meetings.



### **Maggie's feedback – question of the semester**

How can Maggie's be more student-centred?

The overall sentiment was that Maggie's is an overstimulating space. The reps raised that the music and TV screens are loud, distracting, and aggressive. They suggested having more comfortable seating, softer lighting, quiet and cosy areas, and quieter times. One rep mentioned that the staff can be rude to students.