

**Imperial College Union Board of Trustees**

**26/02/2020**

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| **AGENDA ITEM NO.** | **xxx** |
| **TITLE** | **DPE Report** |
| **AUTHOR** | **Ashley Brooks (DPE)** |
| **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** | * Rep Thank You Party (before Christmas) * PGR Regulations undergoing major review with good student engagement * PRES recommendations are being refined by working group (from PRQC) – again, good PGR consultation & engagement * NSS recommendations being monitored & evaluated from student perspective (needs more work) * Overall, good level of engagement from reps – providing valuable input to:   + Under-utilised space survey   + iExplore (new modules) comms   + My Imperial app (new student services portal) * NSS 2020 good response rates so far * SACAs & Union Awards to be incorporated into one Awards event |
| **PURPOSE** | **Update BoT on DPE activities** |
| **DECISION/ACTION REQUIRED** | **None** |

Deputy President (Education) report to Board of Trustees

*Ashley Brooks*

# Highlights:

* Input from reps to improve study & social spaces at College (this Easter/Summer)
* PGR Regulations undergoing major review with student engagement at forefront
* **NSS 2020** - response rates up!

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| College Meetings & Prep | Student + Union Meetings & Prep | Education/personal project work  (major goals) | Other matters |
| 27% | 73% | <1% | <1% |

# Updates:

* (Festive) **Rep Thank You Party** Successful, well attended and fun! Including pizzas & choc fountain! Thanks to the Union Representation Team, too!
* ERB input on **improving study & social spaces** throughout College (specifically in response to NSS recommendation on under-utilised spaces)
* ERB input on comms strategy & essential info for new (compulsory) iExplore modules
* Genuine student consultation obtained for next version of **My Imperial** app/website to ensure that students have easy access to the information they want in one place
* SACAs & Union Awards to become **Student Choice Awards** (**SCAs**), details tbc. – students generally seem supportive of the change
* **NSS Response 2019**
  + Tracking of NSS recs well received & influential at College & Faculty level committees – important tool to keep College accountable; needs wider coverage across depts.
* **NSS 2020** - response rates up on last year so far (**~45%** compared to ~37%)
* **PRES Response 2019**
  + *PRES Working Group* meetings scheduled Jan-March covering 3 key areas: **supervision, research culture, wellbeing**; to agree final report in April
  + Recommendations to the Union should feed into and support this
* Interim MD and College (CLCC Director) recruitment
* Some annual leave!

Upcoming:

Implementation and tracking of NSS (& PRES) recommendations is in motion, but needs to have comprehensive coverage to be most effective

PRES Union & College recommendations to be looked at in detail with a view to form a longer term strategy over the next year or so (for short-term, long-term goals)

Improving Assessment & Feedback working group (finally meeting!)

Student engagement in curriculum review (in collaboration with the Educational Development Unit)

# Key goals:

## Goal 1: NSS & PRES Response – **NSS complete, PRES complete**

* Consult and collaborate with appropriate reps
* Write response (& recommendations) to NSS and PRES surveys in order to send to relevant committees on time
* Send, present, discuss at appropriate (senior) College committees
* Tracking of implementation of NSS recs now in progress; will be an influential tool but currently needs more focused efforts from myself and the rep network

## Goal 2: Assessment & Feedback – **Beginning**

* Ensure clear assessment criteria and **quality**, timely feedback
* NSS recommendations regarding Assessment and Feedback will be discussed and worked out, to move toward implementation, at the NSS Working Group (a specific group/team to tackle this issue **has now been formed**)
* Will require **input** from the **Education and Representation Board** along the way
* Have met with Assessment & Feedback champions and there are toolkits out there to help lecturers!
* Faculties of Medicine and Engineering, in particular, are focussing efforts in this area

## Goal 3: Student Engagement in Curriculum Review – **Beginning**

* College rolling out new curricula across many (most) UG programmes (degrees) — and some PGT programmes, particularly in Faculty of Medicine — and will require ongoing input and review from student reps
* College undertaking PGT curriculum review, and will require student consultation – period extended by college so will be something for DPE next year!
* Will require **input** from the **Education and Representation Board**, and many year/dep reps, (**especially 1st years**) along the way
* Evaluation from the College (CHERS & Education Unit) is underway; ideally I would like to get student-led evaluation, too, so I plan to use the rep network to get feedback to input into the overall evaluation

## Goal 4: Postgraduate Research Student Experience – **In progress, ongoing**

* Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) Response 2019 completed and presented to the PRQC on 23 Oct
* Recommendations taken to a sub-working group of PRQC, to include DPE, Grad School, GSU and academic (on the staff side) representatives – now established
* *PGR Regulations Working Group* currently meeting regularly to discuss & modify key PGR reg issues to benefit students and bring up-to-date – with input from GSU reps.
* We have drawn up **Union** **recommendations** in addition to College ones to increase PGR activity & engagement from the Union; these are being looked at, too (slowly, but surely)
* Ensure services/communications/activities (both from the College and the Union) are tailored specifically for PGR students to increase sense of belonging and wellbeing
* Will require **input** from the **GSU**, and many **PG reps**, and **PGs**, more generally along the way

Thanks for reading and please do give any feedback now or later!

### dpe@ic.ac.uk | @icu\_DPE | 020 7594 8060 | IC ext: 45646