

# Deputy President (Education) report to Union Council

Ashley Brooks

## Highlights:

- Surveys sent out to reps and wider student body in departments to find out what students would most like to see in informal study & social spaces in their department at College (changes for this Easter/Summer hopefully) – good response rates.
- ERB input into Assessment & Feedback Task & Finish Group (5 meetings set up between March and June) - established in response to NSS recommendations.

College Meetings & Prep	Student + Union Meetings & Prep	Education/personal project work (major goals)	Other matters
23%	56%	8%	13%

## Updates:

- ERB input on **improving informal study & social spaces** at College (specifically in response to NSS recommendation on under-utilised spaces) – survey has been sent out to all students in departments now to get feedback on what they would most like to see in the spaces that have been identified.
- To improve our student experience and as a result of recommendations from myself, and NSS/PTES surveys/responses, a *Task and Finish Group* has been established to tackle **Assessment & Feedback**, a consistently low scoring area (5 meetings between March and June). ERB will provide input into this group.
- Training survey sent out to find out how we can better support reps/volunteers
- Sexual Harassment Investigators Training – need to share & align College & Union processes & policies.
- Student focus groups set up to improve **My Imperial** app/website and ensure that students have easy access to the information they want in one place.
- **NSS Response 2019**
  - Tracking of NSS recommendations ongoing.
- **NSS 2020** - response rates up on last year so far (~51% compared to ~44%).

## Upcoming:

Improving Assessment & Feedback – *Task & Finish Group now established, meeting soon!*

Implementation and tracking of NSS (& PRES) recommendations is in motion, slowly gathering comprehensive coverage

Updates on PGR regulations and PRES recommendations progress - *WIP*

Student engagement in curriculum review - *if you're interested in this area, do get in touch!*

## 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 – **In progress**

- Ensure clear assessment criteria and **quality**, timely feedback
- NSS recommendations regarding Assessment and Feedback will be discussed and worked out, to move toward actions in the *Task and Finish Group*
- **Assessment & Feedback Task and Finish Group** has been established (finally!), to meet 5 times between March and June
- Will receive **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!
- Faculty of Medicine and Engineering, in particular, are engaged 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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
- Ensure services/communications/activities (both from the College and the Union) are targeted specifically at 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 I welcome any feedback (in person or email or phone)!

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