

# Deputy President (Education) report to Union Council

Ashley Brooks

## Highlights:

- Working with Pres/DPE/ reps (& College) to implement safety net policy for UGs/PGTs, among other Covid-19 impacts – we have regular education meetings!
- Teams' meetings with Taught & Research reps to ensure their concerns are raised to College in light of Covid-19 (e.g. policies, fees, comms, exams, teaching, research)

College Meetings & Prep	Student + Union Meetings & Prep	Education/personal project work (major goals)	Other matters
~40%	~35%	~10%	~15%

## Updates:

- In light of NSS results and the Union's response an **Assessment & Feedback Task and Finish Group** has been established and has met 3 out of 5 times. The agreed focus areas are **timeliness, effectiveness, fairness and consistency**, with the goal of producing a list of ca. **10-20** concrete, short-/ medium-term actions to be implemented during AY 20/21 (*more details below*)
- **PGR**: Task and Finish Group's response to ICU PRES 2019 Recommendations: final report to go to (May) PRQC detailing a comprehensive list of targeted actions, organised around the 3 major themes identified of supervision, research culture and wellbeing
- **MD** recruitment
- President's Awards: Excellence in Teaching, Teaching Innovation and Student Experience; encouraging and inspiring to see the great efforts & passion from staff
- **PTES** survey going ahead
- **NSS 2020** - response rate ~72% (reached required threshold)
- Improving informal study & social spaces – *on hold*

## Upcoming:

Continuing work with college & reps around Covid-19 regarding assessments, teaching and research

Improving Assessment & Feedback – *final 2 meetings and report (more details below)*

Updates on PRES report (*more details below*)

Student evaluation for 1<sup>st</sup> year curriculum review - *if you're interested in this, 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: Improve Assessment & Feedback – **In progress**

- Ensure clear assessment criteria and quality, timely feedback
- Met with Assessment & Feedback champions - there are toolkits to help lecturers
- NSS recommendations regarding Assessment and Feedback will be discussed and worked out through a *Task and Finish Group* (see next bullet)
- **Assessment & Feedback Task and Finish Group** has been established, to meet between March and June; has met **3 out of 5** times
- Agreed focus areas: **timeliness, effectiveness, fairness and consistency**
- Agreed matrix approach: use NSS questions in this category, and consider each from the angles of: **staff, students & process**; and **exams, coursework & practicals**
- Has received useful **input** from the **Education and Representation Board**; plan for further consultation and input at ERB in May

### Goal 3: Ensure 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!
- Student-led evaluation planned for 1<sup>st</sup> year curriculum review with rep network; plan to find out what college evaluation has taken place (if any) and complement this.
- Will require **input** from the **Education and Representation Board**, and many year/dep reps, (**especially 1<sup>st</sup> years**) along the way

### Goal 4: Enrich the 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
- Ensure services/communications/activities (both from the College and the Union) are targeted specifically at PGR students to increase sense of belonging and wellbeing
- Final report to go to (May) PRQC detailing the Task and Finish Group's response to ICU PRES 2019 Recommendations; a comprehensive list of targeted actions have been organised around the 3 major themes of supervision, research culture and wellbeing
- 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

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