

Minutes: Staff Student Liaison Committee Access Programme



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Centre for Open Learning

27th October 2020

Present:	Rachael King (RK)	Chair; Director of the Access Programme
	Kirsty Adamson (KA)	Deputy Head of the Centre for Open Learning
	Dara Coward (DC)	Programme Representative
	Colin Slattery (CS)	Programme Representative
	Ethan De Thier (EDT)	Student
	Ben Bright (BB)	Student
	Marta Murawska (MM)	Student
	Ginebra Izquierdo (GI)	Student
	Lachlan Hay (LH)	Student
	Anni Cameron-Hameed (ACH)	Student
	Haniyah Khodabocus (HK)	Student
	Denissa Nagy (DN)	Student
In Attendance:	Nicola Dove (ND)	Teaching Office Administrator – Assessment & QA

Start Time:	14:00
End Time:	15:05

1	Welcome	RK
	RH convened the meeting at 14:00. RK welcomed and thanked all for their attendance.	
2	Minutes of last meeting	ALL
	This was the first meeting of the Access Programme 20/21 reps so there were no minutes to review.	
3	Matters arising	ALL
	This was the first meeting of the Access Programme reps 20/21 so there were no matters arising.	
4	General Feedback	Reps
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some of the students expressed that they were not aware of what an SSLC was and that Reps had been elected. RK noted this and will endeavour to make it clearer in future. RK asked if students felt they could interact with their peers: <p>Students expressed that they were missing the before and between class conversations for more general discussions about the programme and courses.</p>	

	<p>Following a discussion surrounding the topic of time being assigned for more general conversations between the students RK explained that she would work on putting something together which would allow students to meet and chat virtually.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some students expressed an interest in learning more about the functionality of Teams - KA shared a link during the meeting to resources and encouraged students to search online for additional resources but will also pass on to digital services that students are looking for more information in this area. Some students are finding that the weekly course materials for Social Sciences are being made available too close to the class time and would like more time to prepare. Students confirmed that overall the reading materials across courses are varied and balanced. RK asked students what was keeping them motivated: Students responded that fascinating subjects and their progression to undergraduate study kept them motivated. Some students didn't think that all of the Access Humanities lectures were being recorded, these are useful for students to refer back to, RK will look into this. RK confirmed that Teaching Fellows will set course specific activities and readings over the winter break. Some students have still not received student cards – RK and KA will follow up. Some students said that they would be interested in study tips. RK will set up a discussion board on the programme learn page for this. Some students expressed that feedback can sometimes make them feel disheartened, as if they are not where they should be, but discovered, on talking to tutors, that they were doing well and feedback was only to help them improve. RK took note of this and expressed that it needs to be made clearer that feedback is meant for helping students improve and to approach tutors with any concerns. Some students also felt feedback was too stand alone and didn't mention their development and progression enough – Social Sciences feedback tends to be more balanced with both mention of areas done well and areas to work on and students would prefer this approach in Humanities as well. Some students find the current library booking slots are at difficult times for them – KA to look into the options for study space in Paterson's Land. KA asked students if they found Personal Tutor meetings helpful, as this is under review, the students said they did but would like to know how to best utilise the time spent with personal tutors. 	
	<p>RK and KA thanked everyone for their attendance and comments.</p> <p>RK adjourned the meeting at 15:05</p>	