

Minutes
Philosophy Student Staff Liaison Committee (SSLC) 2017/2018

Meeting held Tuesday 21 March
11:30am – 1pm 7 George Square Room 29/30

Student Representation: Year 1: Aydin Simsek, Year 2: Rebecca Joyce, Year 3:
Violet Tinnion Year 4: Alessandra Fassio, Sophie Charalambous

Staff Representation: Dr Bryan Pickel, Dr Wolfgang Schwartz, Dr Matthew
Chrisman, Ani Marie-Cowe T. Office, Allison Lazda T. Office

SSLC Convenor: Bryan Pickel, Teaching Director

Minutes: David Moran, Student Support Officer

Apologies: Alistair Richmond, Meyra Coban, Jesper Kallestrup

Agenda Issues Covered in Meeting: recap on items from last meeting, upcoming hires, continuing UCU industrial action and student participation.

BP opens with a recap of last SSLC and thanks students for their understanding in regards to strike action. It is highlighted Wolfgang Schwarz is in process of setting up pub quiz style student staff social and will be in touch.

MC and BP discuss the effects of strike action on due dates. It is highlighted dissertation due dates have been addressed and the student cohort are supportive and up to speed with any changes taking place. MC also offers a letter outlining ongoing strike action queries. This letter is emailed to all UG cohort. MC also highlights CO's have been asked for change assessments in relation to structural reviews that take place annually within schools.

Impact on exams in relation to strikes is queried by student cohort. BP and MC confirm that the exam board are required and able to take into consideration the impact of exams in relation to learning assessments and outcomes. The snow days are also able to be considered. A full picture and clarity moving forward are seen as key focus areas for all. The room agrees this would be beneficial.

Teaching programme review is highlighted by academic staff (W. Schwartz joins meeting at this time). Delays to this review process are a result of strike action. Further news regarding volunteers for teaching hires within department will be announced soon and is highlighted by MC. The academic staff are grateful for student involvement.

Year 1 Student Representative Feedback:

Clarity on assessment highlighted as beneficial to students. MC highlights taught assessment review as a way of assessing that deeper clarity is given. Mid-term grade delay is mentioned by student representative. A Lazda interjects, mentioning a pending publication upon all marks being received. Strikes highlighted as reason, this is understood by student representatives.

Year 2 Student Representative Feedback:

Clearer structure in lectures for K & R would be seen as beneficial. Tutorials however are highlighted as a success, but a little more structure would also be appreciated. The pub style quiz is planned for April by WS.

Year 3 Student Representative Feedback:

A discussion relating to dissertation proposals and the deadline takes place. MC highlights students do have the option of submitting early. Both options considered positive: to submit early or use time allocated. BP asks if extended academic office hours are considered a benefit, the student cohort considers them to be so. A query related to time of course selection dates is made. BP confirms the release date will be given by end of week. Information relating to course insight prior to selection is raised as an area of concern. Deeper insight considered a true positive, and sample readings also a positive.

Year 4 Student Representative Feedback:

Shout out's given to teaching office and support office in relation to ongoing work throughout strike action. Student representative business cards for next year is mentioned as a possible benefit in relation to communication, and visibility. BP and MC agree this could be a positive promotion. The SSO will look in to making this happen. The moving of graduation ceremonies is queried, to everyone's current knowledge in relation to strikes, there will be no movement.

End