

<b>Committee Title</b>	Student Voice					
<b>Date of Meeting</b>	25 <sup>th</sup> March 2019					
<b>Item Number and Title/Subject</b>	Student Voice Officers Reports					
<b>Paper Presenter</b>	Student Voice Officers					
<b>Brief Summary of Issues/Topic</b>	Student Voice received a written report from each Student Voice Officers once a Trimester.					
<b>Recommendation(s)</b>	Information		Discussion		Approval	X
	<p><b><i>Any member can ask a question by raising their voting card and being recognised by the Chair to speak.</i></b></p> <p>Student Voice is asked to approve the Student Voice Officers Report.</p>					
<b>Who have you consulted when developing the paper?</b>	Executive Committee					
<b>Staff/Student Protocol</b>	Yes		No	X	N/A	
<b>Will any decision approved directly affect the work of staff?</b>						
<b>Should the paper be submitted to any other committee following its consideration/approval at this meeting?</b>	No					
<b>If yes, please state the committee and proposed date of submission.</b>						

### **Mechanical Engineering Department Rep**

I reached out to the Class Reps through e-mail earlier in the year after getting the list from the Department Head, although there has unfortunately been no response from any of them. Because of this, I've been unable to try and help resolve any problems within the department, as I've not been made aware of them. I did attend the 20<sup>th</sup> of January School Board Meeting, which did help in giving me a better understanding of how the school works.

In the coming weeks, I'm going to try and get some response from the Class Reps, and hopefully get some feedback from them about their courses. Until they reply to me, I'm unable to bring any issues up at future meetings.

## Trimester 2 Summary

### **Jennifer Donnelly – Psychology Department Rep.**

This term has been positive for the psychology department! I aimed to be more prominent within my role for the class reps, and to continue to communicate with other psychology students. I have summarised this term and will highlight notable points below.

- I sent out a message to psychology students over facebook to re-introduce myself, send my department rep email and ask for any feedback they may wish me to pass on about the psychology department.
- I have been communicating with class reps and psychology lecturers over a recent issue regarding marking for a module. This issue is being discussed at a staff meeting but is mostly resolved. The confusion was noted and I am informed that this will be rectified for future year groups in the psychology department.
- I have attended meetings for the implementation of lecture capture at the university. These have been very interesting and I raised issues I felt were important to myself, and to psychology students in regards to implementation of the system. I look forward to follow up meetings.
- I have attended all S.A.G.E meetings and plan to attend the next.
- I have identified some difficulty regarding understanding the availability of career or course options for students after the end of their studies. I shall be aiming to address the issue over the rest of this month.

Thank you!

## Minutes March 2019

Within the Vision Science department, I have continued to get involved with Opsoc, the course related society by attending society run events to meet people within the department and see their views. So far the feedback is positive.

This term, I will continue to attend such events to gain feedback and depending on the outcome of this further follow ups and adjustments maybe required and these will then have to be discussed between myself and the head of department.

Within the next few weeks I am planning to get involved with a society run event held in Plymouth called Opfest where we meet students from other universities studying vision science related courses where I will be able to find out about departments across the UK to gain ideas for our own university.

I will keep supporting the full time officers by attending meetings such as student voice and SAGE.

### **BME officer report**

- Worked with vice-president Moses Apiliga and Yetunde Ogedengbe in coordinating a BME/international listening event.
- This event was for students to give feedback to the staff that was in attendance, about their student experience at GCU.
- The staff in attendance was the dean and vice dean of the engineering school, the vice dean of GSBS, a staff from admissions office and the full time officers.
- The event was successful with the university now planning to regroup and do a smaller focus group to highlight the key issues that was brought up.

**POST GRADUATE REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND BUILT ENVIRONMENT  
REPORT**

**TRIMESTER B – 2018/19 SESSION**

**BY**

**ISAH A. JIMOH**

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

This brief report is written as a paper to be submitted for the 25th March 2019 Student Voice which is a requirement to be fulfilled as a student voice officer. The report gives information on the recent issues that affect PGT students experience in the School of Engineering and Built Environment that have been raised and/or addressed. The report gives a list of some of the meetings I have attended and those I regrettably missed with apologies.

## **2.0 MODULES DELIVERY**

### **2.1 Content of Modules:**

- Measurement theory and devices (MTD) and Industrial Cases Studies (ICS): These modules are delivered in the MSc programmes -Applied Instrumentation and Control and Electrical/Electronic Engineering (EEE). Most of the components of ICS are already treated in MTD. It was suggested to the departmental head that these modules be reviewed for improved learning.
- The Electronic component of the MSc Electrical/Electronic Engineering is seriously lacking. Hence suggestion was made, and the programme leader has promised to look into this.
- It was suggested that the industrial case study module be replaced by industrial process systems I for Applied Instrumentation and Control students. For EEE students, the module should be converted to course on Electronic eEngineering.

### **2.2 Length of Modules Delivery:**

Three weeks delivery of some courses are impractical as findings have shown that majority of students do not understand what was done. Investigation shows that the lecturers delivering the modules were competent but the time to digest the information in the module is rather too short. The modules are **Control Systems** taken by MSc Electrical Power Engineering and MSc Applied Instrumentation, and **Industrial process systems** taken by MSc Applied Instrumentation and Control.

To tackle this challenge, it was proposed that these modules consolidate each other, and it would be a good idea to deliver them both simultaneously that will make the delivery time 6 weeks as opposed to the usual 3 weeks. This will be given students longer time to ponder over new concepts that are being thought.

### **2.3 Visitations to Facilities:**

- MSc Applied Instrumentation have reasonable number of Engineering facilities visitation which the MSc EEE have complained that they lack seriously. Hence, this was put forward to the programme leader and he has promised to work on it.

## **2.4 Software**

Following my invitation to the MSc General Engineering Programme Board which took place on Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018 I raised an issue complaint by students on important software like MATLAB that are not available for students' personal use.

Addressed: This has been addressed as software subscription was made available close to the end Trimester A.

## **2.4 Policy Formulation**

I have been actively involved with the series of meetings that have been held to discuss the development of a Lecture Capture policy.

## **3.0 MEETINGS**

### **Student Action Group for Engagement (SAGE)**

Date: Wed 12 December 2018

Remark: Attended

### **Student Voice Meetings**

Monday, 11<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Remark: Apologies submitted

### **MSc General Engineering Programme Board**

Date: 14<sup>th</sup> November 2018

Remark: Attended

### **Upcoming Meetings:**

**SAGE:** Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019

**Student Voice:** 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### **Conclusions**

The report detailed some of the issues that have been raised in SEBE Postgraduate school and it demonstrate that there has been some level of co-operation between staff and students. Some of the issues raised have already been addressed and hopefully those that are yet to be fully attended to will be addressed in the coming session(s). The report also presented some of the meetings I have attended. Hopefully, I will become punctual in the Student voice meetings in the coming weeks.

**Economics and Law Department Representative - Report for 25th March**  
**Student Voice Meeting**

Since my last report, I have maintained contact with class reps, updating them on the topics discussed at various meetings. Disappointingly, I have had no responses from any class reps with regards to group or individual meetings to discuss any issues or praises they would like to report. Remaining persistent to encourage class reps to raise feedback is one of my main priorities at the moment and I will continue to encourage them to contact me whenever they need.

The issue previously raised by some Economics and Finance students in relation to their module selection has been fed back to the programme leader and comments were taken on board.

I attended the GSBS School Board meeting on 30/01/2019 in which learning & teaching quality, research and also the impact of the changes to the January exam diet were discussed. At the meeting I noted down some topics which were of particular interest to students and circulated these highlights to all class reps.

I have also attended a few 'lecture capture' meetings which I hope will develop the concept and improve the learning experience for future students.

Going forward, I will continue to attend relevant meetings and circulate topics of interest to all class reps. Also, encouraging class reps to get in contact.

Lauren MacLean

Economics and Law Department Rep



**Emma Dunnett**

**Department Rep**

**Physiotherapy and Paramedic Science**

SSCG meetings;

- Attended SSCG meetings: Level 1 Physiotherapy, Level 1 and 2 Paramedic Science
- Due to receive minutes for above SSCG and contact made to Year Heads for Level 2,3 and 4 Physiotherapy to receive minutes once meetings have taken place; minutes to be reported at that time
- Students of both departments content with University life and student experience
- Development issue raised; improve communication between roles and form better correspondence amongst these roles; debrief of role come end of Term 2 to suggest improvements for following years
- Major issue concerning paramedic science students surrounds funding for the students. I hope to contact the SHLS President, including, having further discussions with the programme lead/programme board to come to any solutions to rectify this issue if, and where, possible

Attendance at other meetings

- Due to University placement commitments, attendance at meetings was very limited
- Attended Pairing Project session 12th March 2019

Feedback as dept rep:

- I believe that there should be a better understanding of the role requirements for myself, including a better introduction of the department reps made available to the students. Blackboard posted a notice after the selection of department rep for SHLS: Physio and Paramedic Science, however, very few of the students and more importantly, class reps, were aware of this role and what it meant for them and their experience at GCU.
- I also believe that the role of department rep needs to be filled at the latest in early October. Being appointed in December gave very little time prior to Christmas/exam timetable/placement commitments to contact students and build a rapport for the academic year. I would be more the happy to provide some constructive feedback to help improve this for next academic year

## Cyber Security and Networks Department Rep Report

- Continuing to promote events the department have organised through communication with class reps via Facebook and email.
- Currently working on promoting involvement in the Ethical Hacking Society, as there is a need for feedback on events that have been held in the past, as well as input on what students would like to see more of.
- Currently working on promoting external resources to students in the department in order to develop practical skills.
- Continuing to make staff aware of raised issues by Class Reps and students.
- Now currently working on an initiative with the Department Lead concerning the retention of College-entry students into Year 3, highlighting the importance of the *Research Skills and Professional Issues* module.

## **GSBS Taught Postgraduate Student Representative**

### **Have worked on**

- Introduced myself to the reps in my school and made them understand what my role is
- Created a whatsapp group page to facilitate communication between the reps and I
- Have organised a meeting with the reps to discuss prominent issues facing students in the school
- Have forwarded the issues arising from the meeting to the vice president- GSBS for action to be taken
- Have been involved in GCU student union elections where I went round encouraging students to vote.

### **Plan to**

- Feedback the action taken so far on the issues raised at the meeting to the reps
- Get actively involved in promoting the student union's activities
- Assist other reps when the need arises

### **Social Work Department Rep report**

Since the last Student Voice, I engaged with students through “lecture shout outs” and let myself more widely known as well as explain the role of a department rep to them.

I have attended various meetings such as SAGE and consultations about implementing new features at the university (Lecture Capture).

I am planning to attend the Academic Rep Gathering this April and engage with Class Reps further and bring more awareness to the role of a department rep as there seems to be a bit of confusion regarding the role. I am also attending the next SHLS School Board meeting and bring feedback back to the students.

I am in the process of setting up a short survey/feedback session to explore students’ opinion about the role and how helpful do they find it as well as what they would like to see from the role.

Maria Nagy

Social Work Department Rep

### **Chair of Societies Council Student Voice Report**

Since the last Student Voice Societies Council has not had another meeting.

We have approved two new societies since our last meeting, and we still have over 60 active societies.

The council promoted go green week and the nominations for the STAR awards where opened. This included the new award we had added.

We also opened up the Dragon's Den fund for the second time and will be running that again.

Due to not having another meeting since the last student voice I do not have very much to report on.



### **Editor in Chief- Student Voice Officer Report**

We have had a successful few months.

Our Student Elections Edition was an amazing success, it was distributed throughout campus and was on offer at all the SA polling stations throughout Election Week which definitely got us great recognition.

Hustings went very well and the live stream was very well viewed.

We held Musical Bingo on Tuesday the 5th of March in the Re:Union Bar which was well attended. At this event we released our Spring Edition of the EDIT. The committee all worked hard to produce this edition, however there were some discrepancies with the designing of it, we are still on the whole happy with it.

We have continued with our social media schedule which is working very well with the help of the rest of committee all pitching in when assistance is required.

We are continuing to work closely with the SA in terms of producing the magazine and we have also been very lucky as they have secured us extra funding which in turn helps the financial stability of our magazine.

Our committee is currently undergoing elections for next years committee and a verbal update will be given at Student Voice.

## **Mature and Part Time Student Group**

### **Paper for Student Voice**

- We have had several get-togethers including a visit to the Christmas Market with mulled wine and mince pies, a movie night, get-togethers at the bar and we are having an end of year party.
- We are running an age awareness campaign aimed at tackling unconscious age bias on mature students and also younger students. We have asked for volunteers to get involved with this involved and have had a good response. These volunteers can also use this towards the common good award.
- We are speaking with a group of students who are looking to create a society for mature students.
- We are launching our Easter egg campaign in April, involving staff and students, aiming to beat last years generosity with the eggs going to disadvantaged adults. Any society/group who would like to help and get involved with our campaign please come see me or drop me an email.
- We had a quiet space for mature students to study throughout exam time with free tea coffee and biscuits.

14/03/2019 Officer Report:

Department Representative: for Electrical and Electronic Engineering (EEE)

**Hannah A. Brown**

<b>In contact with students and staff wishing to found a S.A. society.</b>	Several students within the department had approached staff inquiring about a Formula student group, as no group exists these students and staff have got in touch with me to attempt to arrange information sessions, which I have communicated out. I have also helped them get on track for arranging starting a society.
<b>Attended Trimester B department SSCG meeting</b>	I emailed a programme leader and got in touch with the department administrator to ask if I could attend the SSCG meeting, let the students know I am available and what I can do to help with some issues.
<b>Followed up on Actions from SSCG</b>	After taking note of some key issues in the department I followed up with them to make sure that the class reps felt they were being dealt with, I also raised specific concerns within the S.A. that we could help with.
<b>Contacted Programme Leader of EPE for feedback sessions</b>	Earlier this year the department head suggested that the EPE course was specifically suffering from low ratings with students, as such I have been in touch with the programme leader with hope to arrange a feedback session where students can talk about any issues they've had on the course and then this information can be passed on to the module and programme leaders.
<b>Promoted IET Chartered Engineers Event</b>	A few students had reported that they were unclear on chartership and what was involved with the process of gaining chartered or incorporated status with the Engineering Council after university, through my position on the local "IET young professionals" we arranged an event to go into detail on these topics. I sent the information on this event to the specific students and also got in touch with the admin team to have it distributed out on GCU Learn.



## **Finance, Accounting and Risk (FAR) Department Representative**

### Engagement with Class Representatives

I have made e-mail contact with class representatives from my department.

I have invited them to add me on LinkedIn, a networking site for professionals, to improve communication as well as to increase positive connections within the FAR community and recognise me whenever inside campus. This e-mail included several meetings that I have been to and will be attending, such as board meetings and SAGE and classes are encouraged to give feedback, offer diverse opinions and representation about issues in and out of lectures.

Currently, I have sent e-mails to organise face-to-face meeting through the Spring 2019 Academic Rep Gathering, provided my contact details as well as encourage students to nominate lecturers that have exceeded above and beyond their call of duties.

### Engagement with the Department

I have met with the Programme Leader on several occasions including networking events with ACCA and Morgan Stanley as well as introduction via e-mail. I have been added on to the BA Accountancy@GCU group on LinkedIn to allow greater visibility of my position within the Accountancy programme as well as make connections outside the department.

I have met with the Head of Department and discussed my role and distinctions between department from class representatives. There were some suggestions made in the improvement of the department as a whole, including but not limited to, awareness of Societies and issues around IT during the New Year break. There were also discussions about opportunities for post-graduate studies as well as discussion of issues raised by students and class reps that were unresolved. Students expressed positive feedback on Pause for Padlets which allowed issues to be resolved quickly before the semester ended. No pending issues were raised nor need to be resolved to date.

### Engagement with School/Associations

I have attended the SAGE meetings on two occasions, as well as Student Voice meeting, School Board meeting and Election Committee meeting. From these meetings, several issues were raised to class reps via e-mail to gather feedback from students such as discussions about Lecture Capture, Grade

### Prospect work

I intend to meet with class representatives on the Spring Academic Gathering as well as meet the class representatives face-to-face and possibly develop them into a focus group. I have provided them with my availability for weeks 8 and 9.

The class reps will be updated regularly about the meetings attended. I look forward to discussions with staff and other representatives in improving the quality of GCU's programme and its management and governance as well as utilising the power of LinkedIn in the employment of interested students.

**Dion Maroulis**  
**Department Rep for Biological and Biomedical Sciences**

Actions I have taken:

- Attended the 1<sup>st</sup> Lecture Capture Meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Offered apologies for my absence from the School Board on February 8<sup>th</sup> due to clashes with my timetable.
- Attended Student Voice on February 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Informed the Head of the Department about some issues with the online timetables of students from Year 1 BSc Biomedical Sciences and MSc Biological and Biomedical Sciences on March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Contacted the Class Reps of my department via email to collect feedback and arranged a drop in session for those who want to talk to me in person.
- Contacted the Head of the Department and the VP SHLS about the dissatisfaction of Year 4 BSc Microbiology and BSc Cell and Molecular Biology students with their May exam dates, which are clustered within 4 days at the start of the diet, for the second time this year after January.
- Attended the SAGE Meeting on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Adam Fraser**  
**Radio Caley Station Manager**

Radio Caley is currently in the process of our committee elections after a successes year.

Our main highlight since the last student voice was our coverage of the Full Time Officers elections in which we conducted things such as live streams of the results announcement and interviews with winning candidates on our Facebook page.

On the horizon for Radio Caley we look forward to introducing our new committee as well as our Summer Getaway event. “

## **Nursing and Community Health (NCH) Department Rep**

Craig Davidson

### **Engagement with Class Reps**

- Have been in continued contact with class reps to try and help them facilitate ways to garner student engagement.
- Have encouraged the class reps to attend the Spring Academic Rep Gathering.
- Have been liaising with class reps to try and get them to encourage students to complete the NSS.

### **Engagement with Department and School**

- Was unable to attend the last Board meeting, Student Voice Committee meeting, and SAGE meeting due to placement. However, sent apologies comments.
- Have had meetings with the assistant head of department with regards the NSS survey.
- Have an upcoming meeting with the head of department regards the NSS.
- Have represented the Department at a meeting with MSP John Mason.
- Now sit on the Programme Development Board for the new 2020 undergraduate nursing programme. Sit on both the Student Engagement, and Teaching, Learning and Assessment subgroups. So far have attended three Board meetings.

## **Media & Journalism Department Representative Report**

Attended GSBS School Board meeting and raised the issue of work placements which were lost due to the closing of STV2. I was assured by the Head of Department and Staff Representative that new networks with STV and other organizations are currently being explored.

Have set up regular meetings with the Head of Department to discuss issues raised by students and class reps. In the first meeting, we discussed the issues surrounding freelancing in the media industry while still a student and how the university can help and give advice for those looking to gain experience.

Plan to:

- Encourage class reps to promote Teaching Awards to students and other volunteer opportunities within the university
- Attend Academic Rep Gathering to get better acquainted with class reps

Rebeka Luzaityte

Department Rep

Media & Journalism

**PGT student representative of School of Health and Life Sciences (SHLS)**

My planning is to

- Make more strong communication with my class reps, vice president of SHLS regarding any issue
- Support the officers of student association
- Participate in any volunteering

Worked on

- Meeting with vice-chancellor of my school about how to increase student and university relationship more

Focus on

- Supporting other student officer to solve any issue

**Men's Health & Alliance Officer – Vincent Waters (SHLS, Psychology)**

- This is a new officer post, and a new group, approved at previous Student Voice meeting.
- I was appointed to the officer post in late February.
- Following meetings with the SA VP who is the MHA Lead (Yetunde), and SA staff, we have an initial plan for beginning activities within the group and remit.
- An introduction video was filmed (w/b 11/3) to launch the remit, and will be published on the usual platforms.
- I participated in the equalities committee as a Rep member for the first time on 14/3 and this will be my first Student Voice meeting.
- **There is potential for lots of different activities in this area, and I'm keen to know what men at GCU are looking for or would value. Please contact me at [menshealth@gcustudents.co.uk](mailto:menshealth@gcustudents.co.uk) or 07764 44 18 58. You can also find me on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.**
- **Find the Men's Health & Alliance Group on Facebook (group and page).**

*You are part of the Men's Health & Alliance group if you self-identify as male. All men are welcome to this group, and all will be made to feel welcome and part of the group.*

**Aliisa Pulkkinen – Applied Computer Games Department Officer Report**  
**29.1.19 -18.3.19**

- 8<sup>th</sup> of February I participated in the Lecture capture meeting
- 11<sup>th</sup> of February I attended the first Student voice meeting of the semester
- I have had discussion about adding a life drawing lessons to the courses to my department programs that have animation modules with Sarah Dargie and other students. Unfortunately this has been unsuccessful, as it has been tried before and couple of lessons were offered a while back but due to the low attendance and possible high cost for students it has been unsuccessful to continue. Still, as the skill is incredibly valuable for animation students, making the effort to bring the lessons back for students is important.
- I have been taking part of the student leadership workshops to better my own skills as the department officer