

ACTION PLAN IN RESPONSE TO FEEDBACK ON THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE: SESSION 2013-14

Faculty of Engineering School of Computing

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY																		
Aspect	National Student Survey						Undergraduate Programme Experience Survey						Postgraduate Programme Experience Survey					
	2012-13		2011-12		2010-11		2012-13		2011-12		2010-11		2012-13		2011-12		2010-11	
	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni
Overall satisfaction	87	87	83	87	68	86	75	85	81	85	87	83	75	87	78	84	90	82
Teaching	85	89	84	90	74	88	72	85	78	84	82	83	92	87	74	85	83	84
Assessment & feedback	77	71	83	69	58	65	64	59	68	61	75	56	65	75	84	69	86	68
Academic support	87	81	87	80	79	77	72	72	74	72	78	68	100	85	89	80	93	79
Organisation & management	71	84	85	83	72	82	69	73	60	74	71	83	82	85	81	80	93	77
Learning resources	89	90	94	88	92	87	82	81	88	78	89	77	100	86	83	83	89	82
Personal development	64	81	72	81	56	78	59	69	62	68	69	65	75	77	75	71	77	70
Sector position	-	57/147	-	51/150	-	46/151												

Scores in each category are expressed as a percentage of the number of respondents who mostly or definitely agreed with a range of statements (score 4 or 5)

Impact of 2011-12 actions	<p>There was a further improvement in the overall satisfaction score this year.</p> <p>The refurbished long room and creation of the study zone provide a much better environment for both studying and hosting events such as visits from companies and invited speakers in the school.</p>
Achievements in 2012-13	<p>The new structure of level 1 and use of summative assessment improved results obtained at the end of the first year.</p> <p>The re-introduction of summative coursework has improved engagement in coursework across all years. Our external examiners were pleased with the changes made to the assessments.</p> <p>A new set of MSc programmes have been launched for 2013.</p>
Main actions for 2013-14	<p>To continue to look at how we can improve the timetabling of coursework deadlines and management of workload.</p> <p>To work with a focus group to look at how different methods of assessment and tutorials can be used to improve personal development.</p> <p>Work with the University COCUAC project team to review the assessment criteria for final year projects.</p>

<p>Summary of student involvement in the production of this Action Plan</p>	<p>Last year's results were discussed at the Student Staff Forum and students in level 2 and level 3 were asked to complete a short questionnaire during lectures to help us understand the concerns of students and improvements we could make. A working group for the student staff forum has been formed to work on the plan.</p>
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Aspect	Progress with actions in response to 2011-12 feedback and indication of impact	Issues raised in 2012-13 feedback	Planned response in 2013-14
Overall satisfaction	We have implement all the proposed changes to our programmes.	There was a further improvement in the overall satisfaction score this year.	We have a larger SSF this year and a number of focus groups. The forum appears to be working well. We are also continuing to work with CompSoc to help develop a better sense of community in the School.
Teaching	New modules have been created which better separate the material for different degree programmes at level 2 and better prepare students for level 3 and the project.	Some concerns were raised over modules that were shared between students on different degree programmes. Some IT students felt they did not have enough options at level 3.	A new module has been created at level 3 for IT students.
Assessment and feedback	Most modules now have a component of summative coursework.	You were less satisfied with assessment this year. The main concern was the quantity of coursework, but also the timing of feedback in some modules.	We have made changes to some courseworks to try to reduce workload and the problems of bunching of deadlines. We will look at how changes to the structure of courseworks might be improved to reduce this further and help you manage your workload. Some modules have reviewed how coursework is marked to provide faster feedback such as marking in labs sessions.
Academic support	Further lab classes and tutorials have been timetabled to support modules. Your feedback shows these are very popular. A webpage providing information on options at	You raised concerned over the timetabling of some of the tutorials and lab sessions.	All additional sessions have been added to the timetable at the start of the year. We will be running additional some in house sessions for postgraduate demonstrators who work with you in the labs and tutorials.

	level 3 was created to help you make choices of module at level 3.		
Organisation and management	<p>The timetable has been reviewed to try to schedule more lectures in the mornings and lab/tutorials in the afternoons.</p> <p>Material from the intranet and handbook have now been consolidated and is available in a new School handbook in the VLE.</p>	<p>A common concern was the organisation of the employability sessions.</p> <p>A number of students raised concerns over how we communicate information to you via email.</p> <p>Other issues were the timetable for some programmes and the numbers of cancelled lectures in some modules due to staff illness.</p> <p>You also raised issues over timetabling and module registration for students who had been on placement.</p> <p>Placement students have requested earlier visits where they are working.</p>	<p>The employability programme has been completely revised for this year.</p> <p>A focus group of the SSF will look at how we can make better use of other tools to ensure you receive information in a timely manner.</p> <p>We will look at how we might better cover lectures when staff are ill and how you are notified of any cancellations.</p> <p>Earlier visits will be made to students on placement. We are working with the SSO to ensure problems with module registration etc do not reoccur.</p> <p>We are continuing to update information on the intranet and move this to the VLE where appropriate to ensure information can be found in one location.</p>
Learning resources	<p>There are now Android tablets in the Eniac laboratory for mobile app development and more available for final year projects.</p> <p>Refurbishment of the Eniac and final year laboratories has been postponed while there is a broader university project looking at School accommodation.</p>	<p>You raised concerns over access to material and discussion boards in the VLE.</p>	<p>We hope the new VLE app will help with some of the concerns about access to the VLE. Staff are being encouraged to make all materials available online where possible.</p> <p>A number of students have shown interest in using other devices such as microprocessors to interface to electronics and novel user interfaces such as Kinect or haptic devices and we are looking at how to make this equipment available to you.</p>
Personal development	<p>A broader range of types of assessment have been used this year to develop different skills.</p> <p>Employability sessions have been</p>	<p>Some of the new employability material overlapped with our own courses.</p> <p>You have said that you find it difficult to identify the skills that you have and how to demonstrate them in job applications.</p> <p>You would like more opportunities to acquire skills through internships etc.</p>	<p>We are continuing to review the types of assessments we use to develop different skills and are working closely with the employability team.</p> <p>We are working more closely with our alumni to provide guest lectures on different career paths.</p> <p>We are exploring with ISS how they may be able provide training opportunities for you.</p>