

ACTION PLAN IN RESPONSE TO FEEDBACK ON THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE: SESSION 2015-16

School of Biomedical Sciences - Faculty of Biological Sciences

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY																		
Aspect	National Student Survey						Undergraduate Programme Experience Survey						Postgraduate Programme Experience Survey					
	2014-15		2013-14		2012-13		2014-15		2013-14		2012-13		2014-15		2013-14		2012-13	
	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni	School	Uni
Overall satisfaction	96	90	98	88	96	87	92	87	96	85	92	85				85		87
Teaching	94	92	95	90	97	89	92	86	91	85	91	85				86		87
Assessment & feedback	73	74	77	71	78	71	61	63	67	62	60	59				71		75
Academic support	88	85	84	82	92	81	72	74	78	73	73	72				82		85
Organisation & management	92	85	92	85	93	84	81	76	85	75	82	73				81		85
Learning resources	97	92	95	91	95	90	87	84	92	83	84	81				85		86
Personal development	94	85	87	82	88	81	81	72	83	72	73	69				77		77
Sector position		21/145		50/146		57/147												

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)

Headline achievement in 2014-15	Significant improvement in Graduate prospects and students continue to show high levels of satisfaction with the courses
Main actions for 2015-16	<p>List 3 actions – to be included on the posters to be produced for each School</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review of the Partnership to enhance staff and student collaboration on learning and teaching 2. Introduction of new and improved practicals and support materials 3. Agreement about suitable feedback mechanisms to be reached with student representatives

<p>Good practice examples from 2014-15</p>	<p>List examples of innovative practice and developments which are of wider interest across the University</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PASS groups to help first years develop good peer-study skills, and feel part of a community. 2. Mentor scheme, where alumni mentor students looking for careers in similar areas.
<p>Summary of student involvement in the production of this Action Plan</p>	<p>NSS and Programme data, and draft action plan, discussed with student reps at programme meetings, and circulated to them for consultation. Students invited to submit comments on the draft, for incorporation into the final version.</p>

AGREED ACTION PLAN IN RESPONSE TO FEEDBACK ON THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE: SESSION 2015-16

Aspect	Progress with 2014-2015 actions and indication of impact	Agreed Issues/Actions for 2015-2016	Responsibility/Expected completion date
Overall satisfaction	Overall satisfaction remains in the mid-90's. This year both Human Physiology and Neuroscience scored 100%.	No specific actions, though actions noted below should contribute to overall satisfaction.	See below
Teaching	Lecture capture now working regularly, and popular with students. Overall satisfaction with teaching remains high.	We hope to move to scheduled recording of lectures for next year, if this can be coordinated. This should increase the fraction of lectures recorded, and facilitate the release of recordings to students. New ADI equipment (see below) should help us refresh our practical classes, and introduce new, more topical, ones.	SES office and central University: aim to implement for 2016/17. Practical skills module managers and technical staff. Starting Jan 2016, and rolling out as new practicals are developed.
Assessment and feedback	We continue to provide feedback through a range of routes. These were assessed in the end-of-semester questionnaires last year, and we will review whether some of them could be replaced in favour of better-valued approaches.	We plan to pilot e-marking, which will, over time, provide students with an easily-accessible resource of feedback. Student response will be sought: there are some concerns from reps that they will find this less useful than physical annotation of a script. Use PASS scheme to provide an opportunity to discuss and consider feedback on coursework.	BMSC1213 will pilot this in semester 2: All staff will have the opportunity to test the Turnitin system for online grading and provision of feedback. Questions will be included in end-of-semester questionnaires to first years. PASS group leaders; module managers to provide them (via SESM) with the marking guidance that staff used to help them interpret comments. Ongoing.

Academic support	Personal tutor guide rolled out to staff. Students have been encouraged to use personal tutorials as an opportunity to review feedback on written work, as well as for careers development. Some students have been taking advantage of this opportunity.	As part of the new Faculty “update on the partnership” document, the monitoring of personal tutorials will be increased, to ensure that students are taking the opportunity to gain support at them. “Office hours” for all staff are being considered as part of our Faculty “update on the partnership”, providing an opportunity for students to get extra support from staff.	Tutors, SES staff, students. Ongoing. Academic staff;. Ongoing.
Organisation and management	Programme-level social events have proved popular, and will be continued. We have a new programme administrator, who is settling into her post well, and providing a good level of support to students and staff.	The integration of consideration of mitigating circumstances across all years of a student’s course will be reviewed.	DSE, Chair of mitigating circumstances panel. To be implemented over the coming year (for use at the progression and awards meetings in June).
Learning resources	Despite teething troubles, most lectures were captured last year, and this is now routine. Increasing range on online support material linked to through VLE.	We have obtained a set of ADI systems to enhance our existing practicals and develop new ones. These systems and the associated software should help students prepare better for practicals, as well as allowing more sophisticated data collection and analysis.	Practical skills module managers and technical staff. Starting Jan 2016, and rolling out as new practicals are developed.
Personal development	There has been substantial improvement in our score since last year, probably reflecting better provision in personal tutorials, and the work of our employability officer. DLHE data also shows an improvement over the last year, consistent with this.	Continue to encourage both students and staff to use personal tutorials to discuss personal development and careers planning. Continue to encourage students to engage with employability activities	Ongoing