

Student Experience Committee 19 November 2015
Agenda Item A2i) SEC05D02

2014 Postgraduate Student Experience Report: UEA Responses to the Students' Union [30/9/15] (From PVC-ACAD)

	PGT or PGR	SU Recommendation	Response
		Organisation and management	
1	PGR & PGT	We recommend that the University continues to work with the PG Education Officer to ensure that good quality careers advice and assistance is provided for all postgraduate students	Yes - agreed
2	PGR	We recommend that the University works to minimise differences in provision (e.g. training funding) between PGR students who are funded as part of Doctoral Training Partnerships and those PGR students who are not. Where there are differences, we recommend that these are made transparent and clearly communicated to students.	See PGR Executive response.
3	PGR & PGT	We recommend that students are fully represented on all University committees and groups responsible for setting student fees and funding.	This has been discussed and responded to through the SU Forum with the Registrar.
4	PGT	We recommend that the University establishes a group responsible for the PGT student experience. We suggest that this would operate as a subgroup of Taught Programmes Policy Group (TPPG) or of Student Experience Committee (SEC). We also recommend that the University explores staff responsibility for PGT, to ensure that access to PGT study and the needs of current PGT students are appropriately considered at an institutional level.	We see the commonality between taught students (UG and PGT) as strong, particular with respect to quality management processes, and so are keen to keep UG and PGT managed together under 'Taught Programmes'. We are happy to have specific Task and Finish Working Groups on PGT-specific matters as and when they are required (such as with the PGT and New Academic Model work).
5	PGR & PGT	We recommend that as part of the on-going review of student representation, the University commits to resourcing and supporting representation of PGT and PGR students at school, faculty and institutional level.	The review of the Code of Practice on Student Representation covers PGT. PGR is for PGE Executive.
6	PGR	We recommend that the University establishes minimum thresholds for space provision and considers the feasibility of guaranteed office space for Associate Tutors. We also recommend that the University includes postgraduate student representation on the Space Working	Minimum space allocations is for PGR Executive. On the question of the membership of the University's Space Management Group, we can only refer the SU to the answer we have given repeatedly in the past to this question.

		Group.	
7	PGT	We recommend that the University ensures that all students get the benefits of a high staff to student ratio and in particular considers the size of lectures and seminars in NBS.	This issue should be raised with NBS in the first instance and then with SSF Associate Dean L&T, and has been discussed during the monthly meetings between the two SU academic officers and PVC-ACAD, ADTP and Director LTS.
8	PGT	Language provision is hugely important to international students. We recommend that the University increases the amount of language support provided to international students on their courses.	Additional language support is provided either through DOS or INTO's In-sessional activities. These have been reviewed in the last three years. We would be interested to see any evidence of under-supply.
9	PGT	We recommend that the University reviews orientation to ensure international student integration, particularly in schools with large PGT cohorts.	This is in hand as part of the TPPG Review of induction.
10	PGR	We also recommend that the University works with the Union to improve induction and orientation for PGR students, particularly for students starting during the academic year, who often feel isolated.	This is for PGR Executive to consider.
11	PGR & PGT	In the new academic year, the Union will be opening our new Graduate Centre. We look forward to working closely with the University to make this space a success, and recommend that the University works with the Union to ensure that University services make use of the new space and that all students find out about the centre during their induction.	The University would be happy to promote the new Graduate Centre to students.
12	PGR & PGT	We recommend that the University considers reviewing welfare provision for PG students, to ensure that UEA's welfare provision proactively supports all students, and that any future growth in PG numbers is accompanied by increased resource for student support services.	The provision of student support services is available to all students and does not discriminate between UG, PGT and PGR.
13	PGR & PGT	We also recommend that UEA joins the Union in signing the Time to Change pledge, and recognises the need to promote a healthy environment for PG mental health through a joint campaign with the Union.	Yes – the University is happy to commit to the Time to Change pledge.