

LTC14D143

Title: Student Experience Committee
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Issue

This is a round up report to members of the Learning and Teaching Committee for information on activities of the Student Experience Committee covering the meeting held on 20 November 2014.

Recommendation

None

Resource Implications

None

Risk Implications

None

Equality and Diversity

None

Timing of decisions

N/A

Further Information

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Background

N/A

Discussion

The report is for information only and no discussion is anticipated.

Attachments

The summary report is below.

Report of the Meeting of the Student Experience Committee on 20 November 2014

The following items were considered by the Student Experience Committee at its meeting on 20 November 2014 and are presented for the information of Learning and Teaching Committee members.

1. UPDATE FROM THE PRO-VICE CHANCELLOR (ACADEMIC)

Members received an oral update from the Chair on progress in key areas since the last meeting of the Committee. This included Student Accommodation Pricing being an ongoing agenda item for the SU Forum, the establishment of a Multifaith Consultative Group and the establishment of a University Working Group looking at the Time for Change Initiative.

2. UEA SKILLS AWARD

The Joint Head of the Careers Service gave an overview of the Skills Award and how it had been developed in UEA.

It was agreed that the Dean of Students would meet with the Joint Head of the Careers Service to discuss mechanisms for ensuring that students with disabilities were able to participate in the Skills Awards.

3. UEA STUDENT ACTIVITY EVENTS AND GROUPS

- 3.1 Members approved a proposal from the UUEAS Chief Executive that where student groups or planned activities used the UEA name, the activity would have to go via a legal vehicle through UUEAS or a legal vehicle of the University. This would ensure appropriate levels of oversight, risk management and intervention for the event or activity, if necessary.
- 3.2 The Directors of University Services and Executive Deans, all of whom had responsibility for staff would be advised of the proposals so that they could bring them to the attention of their staff. It was agreed that the Chair would discuss with the Head of Equality and Diversity whether an Equality Impact Assessment was required for the proposals.

4. INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS WORKING GROUP

- 4.1 The Committee considered a report from the International Students Working Group, chaired by the Ms J Amos, Deputy Dean of Students, which had been established to look at improving the experience of international students whilst at UEA. At its first meeting the group had looked at aspects of dissatisfaction arising from the Student Experience Survey.
- 4.2 The group would consider the experience of PGT, PGR international students and INTO students and would look at improving the experience of international students transitioning from INTO and becoming UEA students. The group would also collaborate with ARM to develop a coherent communications strategy.
- 4.3 It was reported that UUEAS has its own student caucuses including one for international students. The UUEAS International Officer agreed to share information from that caucus with the working group.

5. UNION OF UEA STUDENTS: STUDENT EXPERIENCE REPORT 2012-13

Members considered an update on any actions arising from recommendations made in the 2012/13 UUEAS Student Experience Report (Parts 1-3) and resolved that any outstanding actions from the 2012/13 report would be considered at the UUEAS Academic monthly meetings and the Assessment and Feedback Working Group. It was also agreed that a report on decisions made following consideration of the report by these groups would be submitted to the February 2015 meeting of the Student Experience Committee.

6. UNION OF UEA STUDENTS: STUDENT EXPERIENCE REPORT 2013-14

6.1 The UUEAS Undergraduate Education Officer gave an overview of the UUEAS 2013/14 Student Experience Report. UUEAS had identified five key priorities for 2014/15. These were Organisation and Management, Learning Resources, Equality, Assessment and Feedback and Advice and Study Choices: Joint Honours/Sandwich courses.

6.2 The Chair noted that that the most appropriate fora for considering matters relating to students on joint honours required further consideration. It was agreed that it was crucial that joint honours was fully taken into account in the 2015/16 Course and Module update process which was currently taking place.

6.3 The following was agreed by the Committee:

- i) the Chair would produce a paper on the University's response to the UUEAS Student Experience Report 2013/14 for the Committee's meeting in February 2015;
- ii) the PGT/PGR Student Experience Report would be presented for consideration at the February 2015 meeting of the Committee;
- iii) the Chair would ask the Faculty Executive Deans and the Associate Deans (Learning and Teaching) to draw staff attention to the key issues contained within the report. It should be considered by all Faculty Learning, Teaching and Quality Committees;
- iv) the Director of the Learning and Teaching Services would investigate a problem with regard to the late release of PHA timetables in September 2014.

7. HIGHER EDUCATION POLICY INSTITUTE (HEPI)/HIGHER EDUCATION ACADEMY (HEA) STUDENT ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE REPORT 2014

Members' attention was drawn to the executive summary to the report. The report contained some positives, including high levels of student satisfaction with their course. In particular the correlation between higher levels of contact hours and increased student satisfaction was noted. Also noted were students' views on hidden course costs and how these impact on their perception of their course. It was agreed that the report could provide some useful benchmarking for the University in a number of areas.

8. DEAN OF STUDENTS' OFFICE

Members received a summary report from the Student Affairs Group and Student Safety Group.

9. MEMBERSHIP AND TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE STUDENT AFFAIRS GROUP, STUDENT EXPERIENCE COMMITTEE AND LEARNING AND TEACHING COMMITTEE

The Committee received the membership and terms of reference of the Student Affairs Group and the Student Experience Committee.