SPORTS AND EXERCISE SCIENCE STUDENT STAFF LIAISON COMMITTEE

Tuesday 15 March 2016, 1pm
Room 5A.108

Attendees: Dr Lloyd (chair), Mr Cadge (Assistant Librarian) Dr Freeman (3rd Year Organiser), Dr Gladwell (Course Director), Mr Kadzunge (1st Year Rep), Mr Knights (SES Society President), Mr Norman (School Manager), Mrs Pink (Education Services Manager), Dr Reed (Year 1 Organiser), Dr Taylor (Year 2 Organiser)

Apologies: Miss Winter (Year 2 Rep)

Library Facilities and Resources

1/16 Mr Cadge updated the group about some recent changes at the library. It was now possible to book a 1:1 appointment with a subject specialist librarian, ‘Book a Librarian’. There would be more staff visible and approachable and more devices available to print, copy and scan. Additional group study areas were also now available in the new extension. Over the summer RFID tagging would take place to enable machine check out and thus free up more staff time.

2/16 Mr Kadzunge reported that most Year 1 students used internet searches but that he could see that in Year 2 it would be useful to go into the library. Currently some Year 1 students had found it annoying to go in and then be unable to find an item. However, it was useful to know that availability information could be accessed from off-campus and that e-versions of some items were available.

3/16 Mr Knights reported that the Silberrad Centre was now popular amongst his peers as an option for group study but it was useful to know that this would be an option in the library extension and that quiet and group areas would be clearly signed. Year 2 students found online library searches useful and positive but many students had received text books as part of the scholarship scheme and so had less need to go to the library for books.

4/16 Dr Gladwell thought it would be useful for students to know more about the library. Dr Reed would liaise with Mr Cadge to arrange a session and tour as part of BS142. Dr Freeman would invite Mr Cadge to the Year 2 project information session on 19 April to give a reminder and update on library resources and facilities. Dr Gladwell commented that those who did not receive the Mastering A & P textbook would find a terminal to access this in the library very useful.

Action: KR, PF
Year 1 Business

5/16 Students had queried whether the exam timetable could be released any earlier. Unfortunately this would not be possible but students were made aware of the exam week dates, and summer school, at the start of the year.

6/16 Students felt that optional ‘careers in SES’ lectures would be very useful e.g. coaching. This tended not to be covered in Year 1, but would be in Year 2. However, it could be possible to scatter some alumni talks in Year 1 to give context.

7/16 Dr Gladwell encouraged feedback on BS142 as this would be looked at over the summer.

8/16 Mr Kadzunge reported that some students weren’t taking revision seriously and that it should be stressed that they needed to plan ahead. There was a session on Thursday, run in conjunction with the Talent Development Centre, which would focus on revision and revision timetabling would be an important aspect to cover. This session was targeted at students who may have struggled with week 15 MCQs but was open to all.

Year 2 Business

9/16 The speed networking session had worked really well. Gaining contacts, especially during WBL, had been very useful. Mr Knights recommended this session stayed in the plan for future years. The session had been organised by Dr Gladwell and Ms Hardcastle and comprised of 3 short presentations followed by speed networking with 8 – 10 alumni. It was agreed that the centrally run equivalent wasn’t focused enough. Mr Knights added that there were no speakers about pathways into research and that this would be a popular topic amongst students. Dr Freeman and Dr Gladwell would ensure this was included in Year 3 and in the next speed networking event, earlier the better.

Action: PF, VG

10/16 Students felt they had been bombarded with information about placements and if they didn’t want to do a placement they had wasted an hour. Dr Gladwell confirmed that BS216 content would be reviewed for 2016/17 to prevent overlap of material and that it would be useful if Mr Knights and his peers could contribute to this review.

Action: VG, JK

11/16 An issue with the BS271 mini-projects deadline clashing with the skills portfolio had been raised. Some groups had less time to complete these two large pieces of work than others. The portfolio deadline could have been moved to after Easter but would then have clashed with BS275. Dr Gladwell agreed that a solution to revise this would be looked at over the summer. A possible option would be to move BS271 labs earlier. There were currently very few deadlines in weeks 16-21.

Action: VG, MG
Statistics in PC labs had been very effective.

Journal clubs had been suggested at the last DCT meeting. This title was unpopular with students but Mr Knights reported that they would like more tutor time on critiquing journal articles as part of BS142 or BS216 – an ‘academic reading session’. This would be considered as part of a review of tutorials taking place over the summer.

Action: VG

Some careers content from tutorials could be signposted to the Careers and Employability Centre.

The SES Society currently had 15 – 20 members. A push for more members would take place during Welcome Week. The society were currently looking at logos and kit in liaison with Mr McManus.

Some students reported that they needed a 10 minute break within a 2 hour lecture slot. There was no particular preference for 1 versus 2 hour lectures but a refresher in a 2 hour lecture was always popular. However, some lecturers were averse to giving this break as it often encouraged students to leave half way through. Mr Knights added that students particularly liked switching of lecturers within a module.

There was positive interest by the reps present in having more content in the summer. Dr Gladwell asked for further feedback on whether summer term content would be appreciated by students and what else could be offered during this time. It was possible that the final year project deadline could move from week 25 to week 30. This would be considered over the summer vacation.

Action: Reps