

## IGC Staff Student Liaison Committee

11 October 2021

Present:

Academic staff

Val Brunton

Nick Gilbert

Dasa Longman (Chair)

Catherine Naughton

Pauline McDonald (Minutes)

Student Representatives

Michaela Raab - HGU

Grant Marshall – CGEM

Esme Bullock - CRUK

Nathalie Feeley - CRUK

### **1. Matters arising from previous meeting**

No matters arising. Apologies from Kathy Evans, Portia McGhan, Fraser McPhie and Heather Love.

### **2. Room bookings**

NG confirmed that students are not able to book rooms in IGC; all room booking requests for staff and students should be made via the Admin Hub ([admin@igc.ed.ac.uk](mailto:admin@igc.ed.ac.uk)).

### **3. IGC Gym Facility**

NG informed the committee that, as far as he is aware, the gym will be re-opened to students and staff when the equipment has been serviced.

Action: NG to follow-up with Elidh Guild re gym opening date.

### **4. Computational reps**

The committee discussed the lack of computational student reps on the SSLC, and agreed that POGS should encourage computational students to join the committee. Grant Marshall confirmed that he will be submitting soon and will find another student to join the committee to take his place.

Action: Current student reps to ask POGS to send email out to computational students.

### **5. General comments from student reps**

Student survey; the committee agreed that it would be helpful for POGS to organise sending a survey to all current students in advance of the next SSLC.

Teaching programme; the students thought it would be beneficial to have a short description about each teaching session taking place, to gauge whether it would be useful for students to book a place.

Action: NG/PM to follow-up.

Pastoral Support Committees; student reps are very keen to see implementation of this scheme and pleased to see a disconnect between academic progress/pastoral support.

Sick leave; NG gave a brief overview of the process for student sick leave and confirmed that the majority of PhD programmes now have sick leave entitlement, but highlighted that different funders have different rules. Where smaller funding bodies do not offer sick leave to students, PG Directors can present a case to College to see whether discretionary funds are available. NG confirmed that if a student is in doubt about being eligible for sick leave, they should check with their supervisor or PG Director of Studies for confirmation.

Action: NG to review “what to do if things go wrong” section in handbook.

Health and Wellbeing posters; the committee discussed the possibility of adding a flow chart of who’s who at the bottom of the poster.

Flexibility to work from home; student reps agreed that having the flexibility to work from home has been welcomed across the student community, and are keen for this working practice to be kept in place. NG confirmed that implementing the new student checklist would allow a structured discussion between students and supervisors, which will encapsulate working expectations.

Student Q&A session; PG Directors agreed to host a student Q&A session in November, which will be held face to face on site, and also remotely for those who cannot attend in person.

Action: NG and PM to organise.

6. Any other business

No other business

7. Date of next meeting

April 2022