**St. George’s Students’ Union**

Meeting of Senate

Minutes of the 4th Senate meeting

*14/01/2014*

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# Business

## Present

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Mohamed Amer | MA | President |
| Nathan Eager | NE | Chair |
| Yan Leung | YL | VP Education and Welfare |
| Andrew Salmon | AS | T-Year MBBS Stream B Representative |
| Neelkrishna Patel | NP | 1st Year Medicine MBBS5 Representative |
| Ruth Varney | RV | 1st Year BSc Biomed Representative  |
| Chloe Martyn | CM | 1st Year BSc Biomed Representative |
| Jenny Day | JD | 1st Year Medicine MBBS4 Representative  |
| Noreen Nguru | NN | Intercelated BSc Representative |
| John Gondwe | JG | 2nd Year HCS BSc Representative |
| Jessica Guo | JG | 2nd Year HCS BSc Representative |
| Sonia Uddin | SU | 1st Year HCS BSc Representative |
| James Elliott | JE | 1st Year HCS BSc Representative |
| Robin Dru | RD | 1st Year Medicine MBBS4 Representative |
| Chris Davies | CD | 3rd Year BSc Biomed Representative |
| Tom Kirk | TK | 3rd Year BSc Biomed Representative |
| David William | DW | F Year MBBS Representative |
| Will Twiggs | WT | F Year MBBS Representative |
| Ena Ankutse | EA | Physiotherapy MSc 1 Representative |
| Michelle Ford | MF | Physiotherapy BSc Year 1 Representative |
| Gareth Hutson | GH | Physicians Associates BSc Year 1 Representative |
| Steve Hirwa | SH | Intercelated BSc Representative |
| Canan Ozcan | CO | Physiotherapy MSc 2 Representative |
| Rupinder Panesar | RP | F Year MBBS Representative |
|  |  |  |

## In attendance

## Apologies

Anjalie Rajapakse

Tom Arjomandi

Stuart Deton and the final year Physio reps

Suchita Bahri

Arian Rahim

Charlotte Braithwaite Shirley

Felicity Andrews

Ryan Salisbury

Rachel Meed

Ranvir Cheema

Edmund Grouse

Martin Gannon

Nabila Bassam

## Minutes from the previous meeting

PASSED

## Matters arising

1. Ongoing
2. Ongoing
3. Done
4. Done
5. Ongoing
6. Done – on it’s way

## AOB

JD – alternate to recoring of lectures with professional podcasts which opt-out lecturers may consider instead.

CO asked whether anyone was aware of rules for joint faculty and audio recording

**ACTION POINT**

. **YL to sort meeting with Physio year reps regarding audio recording of lectures.**

**ACTION** **POINT**

**Media to send email out to the student body regarding Newsletter deadline.**

**ACTION** **POINT**

**Media to send email out to the student body regarding Newsletter deadline.**

# Reports

## Top 4

* YL gave an oral report to supplement the Top 4 report.
* PASSED

## 1st year biomedical science reps

* RV gave an oral report to supplement her team’s report.
* PASSED

## 2nd year biomedical science reps

* NO REPORT GIVEN

## 3rdyear biomedical science reps

* PASSED
* TK gave an oral report to supplement their written one

## BSc intercalated year reps

* NN and SH gave an oral report to supplement their written one.
* PASSED

## 1st year healthcare science reps

* JE and SU gave an oral report to supplement their written one
* PASSED

## 2nd year healthcare science reps

* JG and JG gave an oral report to supplement their written one
* PASSED

## 1st year physiotherapy reps

* No report
* The Year reps stated that they were currently settling into their roles and getting to grasp with their jobs.
* PASSED

## 2ndyear physiotherapy reps

* *No Report Submitted, Officers not present.*

## 3rd Year Physiotherapy reps

* *No Report, Officers not present*

## Physiotherapy Msc reps

* CO Gave an oral report to supplement their written one
* PASSED

## FdSc Paramedic science 1st year

* *No Report, Officers not present*

## FdSc Paramedic science 2nd year

* *No Report, Officers not present*

## PgDip Physician Assistant 1st year

* GH gave an oral report to supplement his written one.
* WT asked whether a name change had occurred
* GH explained that the name was patitioned and changed subject to polling.
* PASSED

## PgDip Physician Assistant 2nd year

* *No Report, Officers not present*

## MBBS4 Year 1

* RD and JD gave an oral report to supplement their written one
* PASSED

## MBBS5 Year 1

* NP Gave an oral report to supplement their written one
* PASSED

## MBBS5 Year 2

* *No Report, Officers not present*

## MBBS T year- Stream A

* AS Gave an oral report to supplement their written one
* PASSED

## MBBS T year – Stream B

* AS Gave an oral report to supplement their written one
* PASSED

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## MBBS5 Transfer T Year

* *No Report, Officers not present*

## MBBS P year

* PASSED

## MBBS F Year

* DW and WT Gave an oral report to supplement their written one.
* WT mentioned that he had the details of a great year book contact should anyone need.
* TK asked which company
* WT said Scott Dixon from Grad finale
* PASSED

# Library Refurbishment

SD gave a brief talk about the Library refurbishment, emphasis on the ideas for group space, not group study rooms. A map was shown, detailing where the new refurb will take place. She noted how getting power to an area requires walls and pillars, with the potential for power poles.

CD questioned whether new group study will push students into silent study for individual study, which some may not want.

TK asked about provision for PBL rooms

SD replied that PBL rooms are out of her remit, but that YL will be meeting with Sophie Bowen about it next week. She also mentioned that PBL rooms are not fit for all.

TK also asked about updating books

SD explained that they were looking at it, but that none of the money was earmarked for the book stock. She also mentioned that we are limited in terms of shelf space. She explained how one issue is that new editions of books is a problem. PDA Patron driven acquisition will be coming, a form of electronic reading that auto-purchases after a number of students read.

AS asked about moving the group areas to the other side of the library away from the silent study area.

SD replied that the designers were looking into splitting the book-stock to buffer noise, but limits our options for 24hr access.

She also reassured that a lobby area between the two areas would help also.

# Student Experience

JB welcomed the floor and introduced herself within her new role as head of student experience on the education side. She summarised how she will champion the student experience in terms of all aspects, above and beyond the academic side. JB hopes to create strategies to look right across the university to develop partnership working. She mentioned how she will be focusing for the time being on MBBS, but that she will also be looking across the whole institution to improve things.

WT asked whether she has got into the role yet or whether she is just starting.

JB mentioned that she was talking to many people and was writing a report to the principal to assess the challenges of the university. She will be focusing on how SGUL evaluates and feedsback, and closing the feedback loop. The second project is around communication – what we do and why, what formats should we use and so on. Another focus was around Year reps and building non-academic rewards around the role. The last was around the student as change and partnership project, focusing on a different way of working with students.

# Upcoming NSS

MA gave an oral report on timescale for the NSS.

NA asked whether it was all year reps

YL said yes it will be for all in their last year, and that they would be getting information on a regular basis.

# Revision and Education courses

MA gave an oral report

DW said he wouldn’t want to be the one to do it

JD said its invading peoples inboxes, and asked if the information could not be put on the website, newsletter.etc.

RD asked whether its difficult to do, and whether other people could just put the ifnormation up on a link

DW said emailing it out is recommending it and would prefer not to do so.

YL mentioned how the SU do not want to be the ones to advocate different courses. She also mentioned the potential for tagging the SGUL ones to differentiate ones on the SGSU website.

# Attendance and signing in

YL gave an oral report to explain how Doctor as professional sign ins were being reviewed on whether or not we should be assessed this way.

TW mentioned that this is all things that they will need when they qualify, so were goning tohave to do it and doesn’t see it as a problem

DW said he fears how many wouldn’t turn up if they were not assessed this way.

MF stated that in physio, the parameters are agreed with the lecturers at the start of the year

DW said the problem is people signing in and leaving

TK said people still can sign in their friends.

CO said in Msc pysio they were told signing in others was explained to them as fraud and they’ll get into big trouble, so no one does it.

DW stated that they get told the same but nothing happens about it.

JD says everyone has card readers, and that in the professional world it’s all done that way in a professional environment

YL said that there is a large expense and tailgating is a problem.

RV said you could just bleep through many cards

WT stated that the reason it works now is that it depends on the resource, e.g. clinical skills and core skills that are expensive and need people there, whereas for lectures they don’t have that need.

AS said there is an issue about arriving late for a lecture.s If your late its disturbing the lecture. He wants the lecturers to state that individuals must be there on time or not at all

AS said he would like an institutional policy on being late meaning your have to miss that lecture

CO said they just discussed this point in a meeting and that they put a 15min rule in and that for the past few years, it hasn’t been an issue.

EA mentioned it came from students so they cant argue it.

YL asked whether the generic student would have the same viewpoint

CD mentioned that some people come late regardless and that the recording policy means that odds are they can catch up on moodle.

AS mentioned that WMT sign in says they are getting sick of people turning up late and still getting signed off.

DW says theres a late register

NN mentioned she had an issue last year when the snow meant she was late and it could not be helped.

YL said they talked about it in the meeting, but that it makes it harder.

JD mentioned that if you know theres a hard cut off, you change and adapt after being late once and forward planning is key.

RD mentioned a cut of point is good for some things but perhaps not everything.

JD said it can be over the top with clinical skills 5 mins though and said its as much how you presented as well.

GH mentioned that people travelling long distances having to compensate further for weather conditions may not get happy.

DW says maybe the late register is a compromise

WT says for lectures there shouldn’t be a cut of but there should be a cut of for seminars.

CD mentioned Penny Murphy told students at the start of the year and maintained her strict rule of being late, and it works.

DW says that’s fine as long as it’s consistent throughout.

**YL to chase up at next meeting with documents from AE**

# Year Rep Evaluation Group

YL gave an oral report to talk about improving the year rep system and asked for people to sign up to come to the meetings.

JD said as long as it’s not in the middle of exams!

**YL to email round requests to join the group**

# MBBS Changes

PT and LG gave an oral report about the changes to MBBS.

Last year periodic report with student reps involved and gave an outlined structure.

Rolling holiday was the proposal.

New proposal tabled also.

PT said overcrowding must be addressed and clashing exams and bursry requirements. Primary driver was overcrowding of placements.PT stated that Geriatrics has been moved from T Year to P year.

Floating holiday idea of 2 weeks at end of periodic review with caviats such as not missing first week

New information about student numbers lead to revision of proposed structure.

Options are periodic review with 2-3 week floating holiday or a new structure.

New structure has one week intro week to each 10 week block to replace current WMT. Allow matching with international sites to allow transfer.

Replacing Wednesday teaching would mean having more clinical placement on the Wednsday mornings. It was assured that Wednesday afternoons would still be protected.

WT says old structure would lead to exhaustion and people need a break.

WT says everyone will want to take them all at once, by exams, which would cause problems. The new one looks much better and gives that break at the end of the year.

PT says it reduces repetition for teaching also.

LG says the downside is if you miss some of your attachment you’ll probably have to repeat.

PT stated that the geriatric Block will be with medicine, now having it with palliative care.

LG says this offers things to be split up within blocks which offers flexibility.

RP says the new one is much better. P year is tough and after easter it gets very intense and would lead to burnout without a break. Theres a bigger pressure on P year since a lot of people failed last year.

YL will ACP be during resit revision

TW says that that’s not what happens at the moment.

WT says theres no point doing a resit that would require you to attend teaching in that small period before the resit

LG asked if it was worth havig one whole week of ACP?

RP stated that they met about this, and think that it can be squashed into about 3 days and people will prefer that as you wont be coming in and out for a few hours a day.

WT asked why the ACP could not be situated after the OSCE?

LG says then you’ll have 2 weeks then one week holiday

How will it affect neurology as that’s where theres a lot of overcrowding?, PT stated that this was a good point.

YL stated that the two placements will integrate between the two sister blocks, how will it work in terms of teaching on different sites?

PT good point and we’ll have to think about it. It may affect the way money to placements go etc. It does mean that if it works we could integrate with internationally, so that you could do some here and some abroad.

DW stated that he loved the fact that the F-year elective has been extended another week

RP stated that in terms of applying for F-pass, in P-year there should be a talk on applying for the academic posts, and that need to be emphasised due to time frames for applying.

RP stated if these changes are to go ahead, they need to be communicated very well, since the P-year problem where the examinations were changed from one exam to two.

LG stated that they were not trying to rush this and that’s why they’re here. They will communicate it well over the next year as its going into the 2015-16 academic year, and it gives them time to talk to staff also.

# *AOB*

JD on Podcasts. Prepared scripted audio. She thinks it will overcome those annoying lecturers who cannot talk about sensitive data etc. or for whatever reason. We’re in a multimedia age.

JG – don’t we already have that on iTunesU.

MA – that’s the audio podcasts from lectures

JD – it’s an audio video lecture, summarised data with the appropriate slides.

CD said why would a lecturer want to do that

JD perhaps theyre not comfortable or nervous being recorded if they make a mistake etc.

JD says she doesn’t know why but we should go for it

AS said it can only be a good thing for students

JD listed some lecturers interested.

JD would like to raise the profile on it and see whether it’s a good thing to do.