

**GOLDSMITHS
University of London**

ACADEMIC BOARD

**STUDENT COMMITTEE
5 May 2009, DTH 110, 2pm – 4pm**

Present: Philip Broadhead – Pro-Warden (Students & Learning Development) (Chair), Alison Ahern - Manager, Student Support Services, Jesse Fajemisin – Students' Union Welfare & Education Officer, Basem El-Haddadeh – Director of Information Technology, Ed Randall – Department of Politics

In Attendance: Anne Francis – Head of Careers Service, Yetty Efunnuga – Note taker

OPEN BUSINESS

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Mary Bright – Head of Residences, Catering & Conference Services

Jesse Fajemisin – Students' Union Welfare & Education Officer / later joined the meeting at 3.15pm

2 IDENTIFICATION OF ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Members were invited to consider any requests that items identified for Formal Discussion or Report would be the subject of substantive discussion.

3 APPROVAL OF ITEMS FOR FORAML DISCUSSION

Committee members were invited to approve items for formal discussion

4 MINUTES

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 27 January 2009 were approved.

5 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

It was noted that section 3 has not been amended by Jesse (SU)

It was noted that negotiation is still in progress for the internal post run

Matters for discussion

6 HEBBS

Committee members were invited to propose that Goldsmiths upgrades to the 'full' HEBBSS service provided by the Student Loans Company (SLC) from 2009/10. (SC09-183)

It was noted that there were concerns with costs and how SLC will operate and do what they are expected to do. There were some reassurances that there will still be someone to talk to regarding bursaries for students.

7 HUMANITARIAN SCHOLARSHIPS

It was notes that some wording in point 5 should be changed (to help identify as appose to in identifying).

It was suggested by committee members that Hugh Jones to write a paper to accompany the Humanitarian Scholarship – SMT agreed on original document.

Issues of clarity were raised – Identifying Palestine / Iran, due to the current political climate, there is a need to be aware of possible potential difficulties.

It was noted that the issues on support should be referred to the Registrar and Secretary.

The Committee members were in agreement with award regulations

8 MENTAL HEALTH

Committee members were invited to discuss proposals for reviewing and improving mental health provision (SC09-185)

It was noted that this document was put together based on internal concerns, at the moment, there is some work going on with CORE.

It was noted that there were no policies for this, committee members agreed that such policy should be put together by forming a working party. The aim of this policy should gear towards supporting students and staff. It was raised that the old guide line remains, and this could be used as a guide for the new policy.

It was suggested that the working party to look at the trend, interesting to see how other university view this.

Committee members were invited to nominate for the working part;

Alison Ahern – (Manager Student Support Services)
Jessie Fajemisin (Students' Union Welfare & Education Officer)
Ed Randall – (Department of Politics)
Counselling and Academic
A professional from the Medical Centre
Vivian Rose (Administrator, PACE)

It was agreed that a draft should be presented at the second committee meeting 09/10

9 GOLD AWARD

Committee members were invited to receive an update on the development of the Gold Award (SC09 -185)

It was agreed to take forward - re proof and send document back to author / Academic board will not be able to assist with funding

PB: To circulate to SMT

10 ATTENDANCE MONITORING

Committee members were invited to discuss a proposal for monitoring student attendance (SC09 – 184)

Committee members were concerned and were in agreement that there is a need to identify and supporting students in need. It was suggested that it would be useful to have a system which monitors attendance rate.

It was suggested to investigate what areas there are to improve the system and what the regulations are, also to have clarity on regulations of time scale.

G.G: Reported back on the success of the webmaster pilot, this went extremely well. This was a good system of which after swiping alerted tutors

automatically via email within 2 hours – committee members expressed concerns of abuse with this system.
The Pro warden raised some points;

(7.) Re phrasing the word 'consecutive' to 'for'

(7.1) A need to expand on what the letter should say

(7.1.1) Medical reasons – somewhat of a loop hole

(7.1.2) there should be further guidance for this, as there may be a possible danger of unreasonable treatment if this is up to a department on what circumstances they should consider.

Recommendations

Section 4 (1) normally to be added in after is.

1.C – To strike out lectures from sentence.

Section 6, to establish why students are doing this, what is not mentioned is students who have patchy attendance - if this is the case, students should not be able to obtain a Goldsmiths qualification.

F.E. are required to do monitoring returns

Pro warden suggests that it would be useful to have a re write for the support side, in addition to establish what happens when something goes wrong.

It was agreed by the committee members that this document to be submitted in time for the academic board.

11 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Committee members were invited to receive the Student Counselling service Report for 2007-2008

Philip Broadhead – Pro-Warden (Students & Learning Development) (Chair), thanks committee members for their contribution and commitments' through out the year.

12 NEXT MEETING

Date to be confirmed

