

## Vice-Principal Student Experience, Teaching and Learning's Report to Senate

### Publications

- Higher Education: success as a knowledge economy – white paper (16 May 2016): <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/higher-education-success-as-a-knowledge-economy-white-paper>
- Teaching Excellence Framework (TEF): year 2 - technical consultation (16 May 2016): <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/teaching-excellence-framework-year-2-technical-consultation>
- Higher Education and Research Bill to deliver choice and opportunity for students (19 May 2016): <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/higher-education-and-research-bill-to-deliver-choice-and-opportunity-for-students>

### Student Recruitment, 2016/17

As at 06 May 2016, recruitment figures were not as high as we would have hoped. Compared to last year, undergraduate figures are down for both home/EU and overseas. Postgraduate taught recruitment is down for home/EU, but that is offset by figures for overseas students.

The home/EU undergraduate application position is near-final (overseas applications can be received up until 30 June), as the UCAS acceptance deadline has passed. We are now proactively planning for confirmation and clearing in HSS and S&E, and are well-prepared for recruiting a good number of students through clearing. Central admissions has started preparation with faculties and schools. MRAG will oversee planning for and delivery of confirmation and clearing as usual.

There is still time for further recruitment to postgraduate taught programmes, as recruitment continues through the summer, and we anticipate further interest following the PG virtual open day on 11 May. Recruitment information is available at: <http://qm-web.planning.qmul.ac.uk/FactsAndFigures/Applications-Statistics/index.html>

### QMUL Model

Work continues on the QMUL Model – our major undergraduate teaching and learning initiative. This is the subject of a separate discussion at the June meeting of Senate. Further information is available at: <http://qmplus.qmul.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=6813>

### Grade Point Average (GPA)

The GPA task and finish group has been working towards recommendations for the introduction of a GPA alongside degree classification. A desk exercise of mapping between mark intervals, grades, and grade point averages has taken place for two schools' undergraduates and now for a postgraduate graduate programme from the Centre for Commercial Law Studies. A pilot will be undertaken in 2016/17 with the intention of full implementation of the GPA in 2017/18 to allow for consultation with schools and institutes.

### Student Surveys

The National Student Survey has closed with an increased number and percentage of responses (2,112 students completing the survey, which is 70.1%). Thank you all who have helped promote the survey and communicate its importance to final year students. Results will be published in August. The Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey closes on 29 May.

A QMplus page has been developed as a survey resource, with new content being added frequently: <http://qmplus.qmul.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=6804>. Information on student surveys can also be found at <http://connect.qmul.ac.uk/teachlearn/studentfeedback/index.html>.

### Degree Apprenticeships

HEFCE recently announced a Degree Apprenticeships Development Fund (DADF) of £8m to encourage the creation of new degree apprenticeships. Phase 1 of the call (£3m), for HEFCE-funded institutions already active in degree apprenticeships, is to develop further degree apprenticeships for

delivery from academic year 2017-18. A group within the Faculty of Science & Engineering is actively working on a submission. The deadline is 20 June 2016. More information can be found at <http://www.hefce.ac.uk/kess/apprentice/>.

### Engagement, Retention and Success (ERS)

Christina Perry (from the School of Law) has been appointed as the Academic Lead for ERS, starting in June 2016, working closely with the ERS team. The work of the ERS team was showcased on 11 May at the event "Maximising Our Students' Potential". The event, in its second year, included poster displays and presentations, including:

- First Year Experience and Curriculum: A Multi-Layered Project (Dr Ana Baptista, Learning & Teaching Advisor)
- Social, Cultural, and Network Capital in a Super-Diverse HE Context: A Collection of Research Projects (Dr Daniel Hartley, Research Fellow, ERS team)
- Student Experience from Students' Perspective (Miranda Black, QMSU VP Welfare)

More information on ERS activities can be found at: <http://qmplus.qmul.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=5727>.

### QMSU Education Awards

The latest round of education awards took place on 29 February at the Drapers' Hall –130 student and staff attended. Thanks to the Drapers' Company for hosting the event, and to the Students' Union for running the awards. A full range of the winners and nominees can be found at <http://connect.qmul.ac.uk/qmandyou/staff/items/2016/item173310.html> and <https://www.qmsu.org/teachingawards/>, but notable winners included:

- Stephen Potts (School of Biological and Chemical Sciences) - Teacher of the Year
- Matt Jacobsen (School of History) - Support Staff Member of the Year (Student Services)
- Shazad Noorshargh (Estates and Facilities – Security Service) - Unsung Hero Award
- Sunie Kundi (Dentistry Year 4) - Course Rep of the Year

### UK Qualification Reform: Student Recruitment & Admissions, 2017 and Beyond

There are a lot of changes in the pipeline for qualifications that will affect our admissions and recruitment processes. With this in mind, QMUL's Admission team put on a very useful event on 27 April 2016 to provide information on the changes and discuss their implications for QMUL. Ben Jordan from UCAS provided an overview of qualification reform, Jim Dobson from Pearson and Paul Glaister from the University of Reading provided insights into BTEC reform and Core Maths, respectively, and Claudia Harrison from the London Academy of Excellence gave the school perspective on the extended project qualification. Contributions from QMUL staff came from Alastair Owens (Geography), and Chris Pountain (SLLF), both of whom had served on A-Level Content Advisory Boards. Over 100 people were able to attend and the presentations are available at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/777zuhaye0hf0zs/AADmzxZBim-GqHFvLpUYulh9a?dl=0>

### Appraisals

While appraisals are underway, academic staff should be reminded to complete the section on MyHR confirming their teaching recognition status. We need to reduce the large number of "unknowns" in our HESA staff return and it is important that those without a qualification have a plan to complete the Fellowship process with the ADEPT Teaching Recognition Team ([adept@qmul.ac.uk](mailto:adept@qmul.ac.uk)).