EECS PG SSLC – 2019/20 Sem C

Minutes

Wednesday 8th July at 12.00 pm on Microsoft Teams

Present

Name	Initials	Department	Role
Akram Alomainy	AA	EECS	PG Senior Tutor (Chair)
Eliane Bodanese	EB	EECS	Director of PG Taught teaching and Learning
Bharatkumar Surani	BS	EECS	Rep MSc FT Internet of Things (Data)

Preliminary Items

Welcome and Introductions

Topics

Feedback and Issues Arising

- MSc Advanced Project
  - o BS mentioned that most students are trying to work on their projects and communicating with their supervisors.
  - o BS mentioned some students including himself were wondering if supervised and social-distancing adhering lab access system can be in place within the next 2 or 3 weeks since lots of hardware and HW/SW students would like to access some lab facilities for testing and validation and also for fabrication, such as the Makers Lab.
  - o AA mentioned that the best route and option at this stage is to work on the project with most probably no access to students to lab but if in need for specific requirements to email the lab manager and enquire about options available for fabrication and testing.
  - o **Response from Mr Ho Huen (Electronics Teaching Labs Manager); "The lab and ITL remain closed until students are allowed back on campus and we have suitable procedures in place. I am however trying to support students remotely. Projects have been advised to work in a non-practical way if at all possible and for those who can't (as agreed with project supervisor and project coordinator) I'm sending components etc to them. What facilities are required and have the**

> **projects been agreed with supervisors? I think Usman made this clear following the lockdown. Happy to support if needed.”**

- Industrial Placement Programs
  - BS mentioned that student on the industrial placement routes are frustrated with the lack of updates and support and they feel that the university is not providing any effective support or alternatives to them.
  - BS mentioned that student who signed up for these programs were interested in the UK work opportunity and experience and if the college can have more effective communication with this regards that would be highly appreciated.
  - BS suggested to hold a program-based career/industrial forum where the Industry Liaison Officer and also the Program Coordinator is present since the general forums are not very useful or helpful.
  - **Response from Claire Revell (Industrial Placement Manager); “We appreciate how difficult things are at the moment and understand the frustration that students are feeling. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 situation has made finding a job for all students/graduates much more challenging than usual. In terms of support this is available to students through online appointments or through email. If they want to discuss their situation they can contact us and schedule a time to speak to either Craig or Claire. Additional appointments and support are also available through the Careers and Enterprise Centre. The School of EECS has extended the deadline for students to find a role for the IE year by a month from 1st August to the 1st September to allow students some additional time to secure a job. We have also informed students that they have the option to take a number of shorter internships to make up the 12 months as an alternative to finding a longer-term contract to start with. We have sent out any vacancies that we have received over the past few months to the relevant students and we have been liaising with employers ourselves to try and generate more opportunities. However, the job market is very difficult at the moment and a number of employers have frozen recruitment until the situation improves so there are less jobs around.**

    Advice on working in the UK more generally then this is available from the Careers and Enterprise Centre and/or the QM Immigration Advisers in Advice and Counselling. Most of the jobs we advertise are UK based and this is where we focus our efforts.

    Please encourage the students to contact us if they have any questions or we can help with anything.”

Decisions & Approvals

- None

Any Other Business (AOB)

Items raised outside of the agenda

- None

Date of next meeting

Wednesday 22nd July, 12:00 PM – PG SSLC

Items for next meeting

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