

EECS PG 2<sup>nd</sup> SSLC – 2019/20 Sem B

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## Minutes

1<sup>st</sup> April 2020

Online – Microsoft Teams

## Present

Name	Initials	Department	Role
Akram Alomainy	AA	EECS	Chair/PG Senior Tutor
Eliane Bodanese	EB	EECS	PGT Teaching & Learning Director
Jennifer Richards	JR	EECS	PG Taught Administrator
Bharatkumar Virjibhai Surani	BS	EECS	MSc FT Internet of Things
Harnoor Singh Oberal	HO	EECS	MSc FT Big Data Science

## Preliminary Items

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### Welcome and Introductions

- Attendees gave a brief self-introduction each
- AA updated present reps on QMUL's strategy in light of the Covid-19 situation and the need for alternative assessment for remaining in-term assessments and May exams.
- General updates from the reps and present staff on their own wellbeing and coping mechanisms with all these rapid and unprecedented changes.

### General Issues and Students' Concerns

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- BS and HO stated that most of their peers and PG students are anxious and worried about exams and what are the alternatives.
  - AA mentioned that next week more information will be released by school and college about exams alternative assessment with clearer guidelines
  - EB also emphasised the need to continue to be engaged and suggested for reps to communicate this with their cohorts
- BS and HO both indicated that the online delivery of modules in general is fine and quite engaging; however, BS mentioned that there are sometimes issues with online lectures and streaming.
  - AA suggested to contact module organiser directly for additional information and repeated session and if possible upload of recorded lectures
- HO mentioned issue with students already abroad and visa related problems.
  - AA, EB and JR recommended for students to await QMUL update soon on such issue and also to contact QMUL Counselling and Advise Team
- BS asked about industrial experience and a year in industry.
  - AA and EB mentioned to contact Claire Revell and more information to follow including more unified approach across the faculty
- HO asked about financial burden and possibility of a refund
  - EB and AA mentioned that specific information from QMUL will be communicated and AA checked with School Manager who confirmed that no updates have been received yet
- BS asked about UCU strike and its effect on learning and that no updates with regards to that have been communicated since 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019.
  - AA and EB mentioned that schools and college are collecting information and trying to finalise a systematic way to refund and compensate students. The current situation gave priority to some urgent matters and these points and concerns will be forwarded to college soon for their feedback
- Reps were assured that QMUL and the school are trying their best to get as much information to them about exams as possible next week and also about the strike issues and how this will be reflected on learning and financial burdens.

### Date of next meeting

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Wednesday 15/04/20

## Items for next meeting

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- Updates on QMUIL and EECS guidelines and strategies in light of the current Coronavirus situation
- Updates from reps on the alternative assessment set by college and schools and their feedback on such changes
- Feedback on modules so far and in the new fully online delivery methods
- General discussions around what went well and what did not go as well and how we can improve on all aspects going further
- Reminder on completing the PTES survey for PG students
- AOB