

**School of Law**  
**Undergraduate Student Staff Liaison Committee**  
**30<sup>th</sup> October 2019**  
**Minutes**

Chair: Rupert Seal

Secretary: Shahida Uddin

Present: Aysha Bismillah, Elizabeth Gillow Jeffery Kennedy, Sheila Shirley

Course Reps: Alice Hocking 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Law with History, Eileen Murphy 2<sup>nd</sup> Year English and French Law, Liza Diechenbough 2<sup>nd</sup> year English and European law, Julia Cyrson 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Law LLB, Zarah Afzal Bhatti 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Law LLB, Zainab Saboor 2<sup>nd</sup> year LLB Law with Business, Mickaella Andriantsiferana 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Law and Politics, Zahir Tapia 1<sup>st</sup> Year Law LLB, Mohammed Wahid 1<sup>ST</sup> Year Law with Business

Apologies: Maryam Rebhi Law and Politics Year 1, Ahmet Oztekin Law Year 1, Layal Hammoud Law Year 2, Emma Leong Jin Ying Law Year 3 and Tautvydas Medziukevicius English and European Law Year 4

**ACTION 1: SS Circulate Terms of reference**

**Liza Diechenbough 2<sup>nd</sup> year English and European law**

- There was only one meeting about the programme which was held in October 2019 a lot of students were not available to attend and no follow up, slides or information after the meeting was given to students. Sheila/Anja will send out the slides. In previous years, there were several meetings but in recent times they have been stopped as they were poorly attended.
- SS, there is a new online system where to put your options and all students will get an email how to fill in the details from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2019
- There are mandatory classes for Paris, Madrid in year 2. There are language classes for Spanish, German start in year 2.
- Mental health, students feel generally particular in the Law school information about mental health isn't raised enough. SS, there was a mental health stand this semester, SS has office hours, information all around campus, there is also advice and counselling, DDS etc. SS will re-emphasise the importance of mental health in the welcome back week for 1<sup>st</sup> years students

**ACTION 2: Welcome back week, mental health stand**

- Students have not learnt how to manage their work load. Students are working hard, not smart.

**ACTION 3: Rupert /Elizabeth/Jeff to put something together on how to work smart Law and history. Post on QM plus.**

**Zarah Afzal Bhatti 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Law LLB**

- Students felt Family Law resits/EC exams are harder than the one in the summer. RS confirmed all the exams are the same. They are taught, examined and marked by the same person.

#### **Zainab Saboor 2<sup>nd</sup> year LLB Law with Business**

- Last year for elective choices, students were first given six options from the School of Business and Management. Students went back and forth with the Law School and Business. Then the six modules were not available to them, weather if it was too full or it clashed with the timetable
- A lot of students felt the modules were limited. Some modules student felt was too basic.
- Students would prefer quantitative modules

#### **ACTION 4: RS to speak to Fernando Barrios**

- Students expect to have at least the six options as promised
- It is difficult to meet with Fernando as some students don't have any classes with him. RS suggested a formal meeting with Business and Law students, RS and Fernando to be present

#### **Alice Hocking Law with History year 3**

- Students felt there is no clarity on how the course runs. Issues with module conveners, unaware of the weighting, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, any questions with regards to law and history there is no information. Prakash Shah is the new lead. SS confirmed all the information in the student handbook.

#### **Other discussions**

- Are there any research fellowship scheme available for Law students? This will be a good opportunity for personal development. RS, suggested an Ad hoc arrangement, Christian Witting to take lead

#### **ACTION 5: Christian Witting to take lead on research fellowship scheme**

- At the Law fair, there was only chambers, no barrister stands
- Not many students are aware of non-commercial law options. There is lot of information about commercial law.

#### **ACTION 6: Feed the information to Professional Development Meeting – Elizabeth Gillow and Afua**

#### **Muhammed Wahid 1<sup>st</sup> Year Law and Business**

- Some students don't know how to write an essay. Equity and trust module teaches students how to write an essay and that was very helpful. Law and Context was very good. GSA is not very good compared to Law and Context.
- Law and business students don't do Law and Context.
- The students should have access to the material. GSA material are available online.

#### **ACTION 7: Aysha to give all years access on QM Plus**

#### **Eileen Murphy 2<sup>nd</sup> Year English and French Law**

- There are 8hrs in a week, 3 weeks semester and there isn't enough space. SS unfortunately there was no time to organise a suitable room. SS can put more tables and chairs.

- Tort and Criminal Law, same concepts but they're different. Is there anything that can be done? JK they're not synced. The modules have different ideas, methods etc. Same names but different tests. Not ideal to have them taught at the same time
- Student suggested to do Tort in year 3? RS, this will not be possible as students have not covered compulsory modules.
- RS, perhaps moving Criminal Law back into 1<sup>st</sup> year. RS to discuss with Elizabeth Gillow

### **Jeff Kennedy**

Student survey, there was a lot of emphasis on the student voice. To improve student voice, new and innovated way of having a say perhaps through citizen assembly. In Ireland on a much a larger scale, had a citizen assembly for abortion.

Participants are randomly selected, they will be given all the information prior to the debate. Time and effort are required to have an impactful influence on the issues. It needs to be presentative of the student population on specific issues and provide recommendations on what should happen next. What kind of issues will be brought to this assembly? JF is aware of the challenges, for example how to get students together, student numbers, not only we need a good number of students but also students who will participate in the discussion etc.

All course reps liked the idea. Students may not attend as they are busy. May conflict with their timetable. Students recommended to have an option to opt out.

### **AOB**

RS suggested to have three SSLC, recommended 4<sup>th</sup> December 2019 TBC

Date of next meeting: 04.12.2019 TBC