

Institute of Dentistry
425th meeting of (Dental) SSLC held on 28th April 2021
Microsoft teams
Student Staff Liaison Committee

Minutes

(Chair) Mr Milton Justinsuthakaran

(Secretary): Ms Mariam Khan

Staff members present:

Dr D Hurst (DH)
Dr A Crutchley (AC)
Dr A Ranauta (AR)
Dr S Rawlinson (SR)
Ms C Mclean (CM)
Ms J Treadgold (JT)
Ms R Hunter (RH)
Dr S Younas (SY)
Dr S Butcher (SB)

Student members present:

Mr Milton Justinsuthakaran (MJ)
Ms Mariam Khan (MK)
Ms Helya Moghaddam (HM)
Ms Zaynah Fariduddin (ZF)
Ms Areej Mehdi (AM)
Ms Sabaa Nawaz (SN)
Mr Rawand Shado (RS)
Mr Mat Robathan (MR)

Apologies for absence:

Mr M Newberry (MN)
Ms L Spicer (LS)
Ms S Murray (SM)
Dr S Shahid (SS)
Mr B Audsley (BA)
Dr Pratik Sharma (PS)
Ms Amina Arshad (AA)
Ms Shona Sawhney (ShS)
Ms Amber Martin (AmM)
Ms Gurleen Muker (GM)
Dr J Berry (JB)
Prof M Patel (MP)
Dr M Payne (MaP)
Ms Emma Grimshaw (EG)

Unaccounted absences:

N/A

Part 1: Preliminary items

Minutes of the previous meeting

17:21 **CONFIRMED**

Matters arising from the last minutes

	Action	Progress	Responsibility
01:21	MR to work with the library to find a way to ensure students attend their booked slots	Completed	MR
10:21	AM to request an email to be sent to BDS2 students reassuring them that the workload will not be too overwhelming	Completed	AM
10:21	AC to have a meeting with BSC1 and SM to address their concerns	Not required	SN, AC
10:21	DH to send BSC1 and BDS2 last year's EBD exam as an example	Completed	DH
10:21	SB to contact Dr Jones/dental e-learning team regarding Dr Bhandari's lecture slides	Completed	SB
10:21	AC to find a way for students to have all their assignments put in one place for clarity	Completed	AC

Part 2: Programme delivery and other matters

18:21 Learning, teaching and assessment

NOTED BDS1 Matters –

- Students would like to know what the format of next year will look like. AC has said that it will continue to be blended learning as there are some of the positive factors of doing online seminars and lectures. Also due to the current QM Covid restrictions, the numbers of people in a lecture theatre will still be quite small and therefore it would be difficult to have in person lectures. As a year group, BDS1 have had limited interaction in the Whitechapel campus due to the teaching format of this year. Therefore, AC has said that they would be reluctant to delay BDS1 students being in clinic further as they do not want students to feel as though they have done nearly half of their course online. There have been recent developments in the skills lab which has allowed more students to be in the lab at one time. This could mean that in addition to the blended learning the current BDS1 students may receive their cariology clinical skills lab

training earlier than it has been in previous years i.e. they may receive it before Christmas. However, this is subject to the pandemic situation at the time.

- MR reiterated that the principal has said that they want to try and push blended learning. This includes E-learning using High Flex, but also pushing to provide more in person activities and making sure that students who are coming to campus have a good experience. The in-person activities could include group work, case based discussions and smaller group teaching where possible. AC has said that they are going to aim to strive towards this. However, it is difficult as the seminar rooms in the dental hospital still only have a capacity of 3 or 4 people. This is unlikely to change as QM are still insisting on having a 2M distance between people in a seminar room. It will also vary dependant on tutor availability. MR has said that this is where High Flex will be very beneficial. With High Flex, some students will be able to be present in a seminar room and others will be able to join the seminar from online. CM has said that High Flex is now being used in dentistry. It has been used recently for a course where post-grad students were in the seminar rooms in the building and then the lecture capture system was used to live stream the sessions so that people were able to view it remotely from home. A downside to the lecture capture system is that people from home cannot engage as well as they would do in a Microsoft Teams or Blackboard Collaborate seminar. There is a Q and A feature which can be enabled for all of the live lectures. However, aside from asking questions, there is not a lot of interactivity. There are three seminar rooms which already have Lecture Capture in them. There are also two lecture theatres in the basement of the dental hospital which have Lecture Capture.
- CM has also said that they have purchased stand-alone cameras to install into three or four more seminar rooms on 5th floor. This would mean that tutors can record and live stream from seminar rooms. This will be able to be used for blended approach in September.
- DH asked whether this technology would be able to be used in the clinical skills labs. CM has said that the Lecture Capture system is not yet set up in the clinical skills labs. CM has suggested that if students are struggling with the more static content, such as presentation slides, rather than the lab based content whilst in the skills lab then there may be a way to set up a Microsoft Teams meeting or a Blackboard Collaborate session on the podium computer in the lab so that the content that the tutor is sharing along with their audio is recorded. MJ has suggested that having online lectures prior to the restorative lab sessions may also be helpful.
- RS has said that some students have struggled with keeping up to date with pre-recorded lectures. This was because the lectures were pre-recorded which meant students kept postponing when they were going to do them and then ended up cramming at the end of their weekly before the Q and A sessions. SB has said that for BDS4 he timetabled all of the online lectures that were pre-recorded

which gave the students a guide to follow if they wished. As every student learns differently, it is challenging to find one method of teaching that will suit every student. Students should also be aware that at University there is a step-up from 6th form where students will be expected to know how to manage their time. MJ has said that a guide will definitely help with time management and structuring their learning. MJ will create a survey for BDS1 to see what may benefit students in terms of providing structure to their learning.

- RS has said that students had a positive reaction to the possibility of having the PTSR communication skills sessions and confidence building skills sessions in clinical groups rather than as a whole year group. Some students felt that talking in front of the whole year group may be overwhelming. AR has said that she also prefers the small group workshops and up until last year this is how they were run. The clinical group sizes meant however that the seminar rooms could not accommodate them. Therefore, AR could only book the lecture theatre and do a large group session to ensure that everyone was being safe. AR is hopeful that if restrictions ease the small group teaching could resume next year.

NOTED BDS2 Matters

- Students wanted to know what the grade boundaries will be this year. AC has said that these will stay the same as previous years.
- Students have had concerns that clinical sessions feel rushed and that they do not have enough time for feedback on how to improve their work. This also relates to their upcoming cariology gateway and students would like to know whether it would be possible to have extra sessions to practice for the gateway. AC has said this concern should be passed to Dr Payne. This year has been different from previous years due to restrictions and therefore students have received less clinical time. DH has said that he has spoken to Dr Payne who has said that there should be three catch up sessions before the gateway test. AM has asked if there was a way to book a slot in the lab to practice before the gateway. SB has said that AM should speak to Sally and the module lead. The labs are busy at the moment. Careful planning would be needed to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity if this were to happen. AR has said that they could maybe look into something targeted for BDS2 that could be drop in sessions that students could book into. The decontamination process does make this more difficult but it may be possible if it was organised. AR has said that an ad hoc approach may not be feasible as some students will be able to book in very quickly however some students will miss out and it would not be fair on those students. AR has said that she will work with Dr Payne to explore what can be done in terms of getting extra practice sessions in a way that is fair to all students. AM has said she will also get in touch with Dr Payne regarding this.
- Students would like to know whether lectures will be online or in person. AC has said that the drive will be offer a blended learning approach. This will be the same for all year groups.

- Students would like to know when they will be able to get their feedback back for their PBL1. AC has said that he will follow this up.

NOTED BSC1 Matters

- Nothing to report

NOTED BDS3 Matters

- Students would like to know what their restorative clinic sessions will involve. SY has said that these are supposed to be screening clinics. SY has asked ZF to remind BDS3 about their CRS training.
- Students were wondering whether they will be practicing LA on each other before they start seeing patients. However, some students have started to deliver LA on patients this week with no problems and therefore this is no longer a concern.
- Students have had concerns that communication with the SSC supervisors has not been standardised. Some students have received lots of help with finding articles and having multiple meetings with their supervisors whereas other students have received very little guidance. ZF has suggested creating a list of requirements to give the supervisors so that the supervisors know what they will be signing up to do. SY has said that this is a good idea and will help future year groups. AC has said that he is aware that this is an issue and has had discussions with dean to find a way to reduce this problem. However, in fairness to tutors not all students make the contact to help it drive their SSC forward. ZF and SY will discuss this further with Dr Kang. SR has said that it would be nice to have some guidance on what is expected as a supervisor. DH has said that students can apply for extenuating circumstances for the SSC if they need a few extra weeks.
- Students have requested to have locking facilities for electric scooters. SR has said that these are illegal on public roads and therefore this will be unlikely. SB has said that bikes should not be kept in the changing rooms. AC has said that there are bike storage units around the site however he is not sure if students have access to them. This also does not mean that the storage units are safe. MR has said that students should be encouraged not to use the bike locks in front of hospital as they are awful and there are lots of thefts. The university offers more secure bike storage. There is a place by the library which is gated and also in the library square which requires card access. Bike theft is high in Whitechapel. There is a project that is being funded by the University to improve bike storage on all campuses including Whitechapel. Students should also use proper locks such as D-Locks rather than chains and both tyres should be locked.
- BDS3 has completed online assignments. All of these ran smoothly except for fixed pros. ZF collected feedback and sent it to Dr Giwa and Dr Jones. SY and ZF have not heard of any progress on this yet. SY has spoken to Dr Giwa and if any students are concerned about the assignment then they should contact Dr Giwa individually rather than as a whole year group. DH has said that the reasoning behind ZF collecting feedback was that BDS3 wanted to try and improve the assignments for next year's BDS3. Some of the questions were not well constructed. SY has said that there should be a conversation with the assessment leads regarding this

NOTED BDS4 Matters

- Students wanted to know whether the 4th year requirements are going to change as they do not think they will be able to achieve them. SB has said that BDS4 are concerned that these requirements are going to affect their progress and would like some reassurance as the requirements are currently written in a way that they would have been before the pandemic. AC has said that this will be reviewed. The Covid mitigations that were circulated this week also address this issue. AC has said that some of these tasks will need to be completed however they will not prevent students from progressing into BDS5. **SB and AC have suggested having a meeting to review where students are in terms of requirements currently and what still needs to be completed.**
- Students would like to know whether there is confirmation that Saturday/Evening clinics will continue to take place next year. AC has said that they are striving to achieve this and there are upcoming meetings regarding this. They are looking for a way to deliver more clinical experience as students have lost out this year. Evening clinics and Saturday clinics will be a good way to achieve this.

NOTED BDS5 Matters-

- Nothing to report

NOTED BSC2 –

- Nothing to report

NOTED Final year diploma-

- Nothing to report

19:21 **Learning Resources**

NOTED Library facilities/ resources: Nothing to report

E-learning/QMplus:

- CM has said that BA did a presentation to the IT strategy board about Immersify and they have agreed to fund the pilot. Therefore, the app will be available for students for three years.

20:21 **Academic support**

NOTED PASS: Nothing to report

Mentoring: Nothing to report

Other:

- SR, MR and MJ have been creating a video for the next cohort of students at Barts. These will involve being on campus and doing a Q and A with students. SR has said that this stems from the next BDS1 cohort coming in would have had a disrupted education up to now. Therefore, they have been in the process of setting up some information where those students coming in could be bought up to speed with the background work. Within this conversation student

wellbeing items came up and SR, MR and MJ thought of doing a video. In the video they would answer questions such as where to eat, or if they had any advice on note taking. The video should be some encouragement and a good morale boost for the new cohort. MJ will be sending information to the year reps later this week about this.

21:21 **Pastoral support**

NOTED Nothing to report

22:21 **DQAC & DEC Report**

NOTED Nothing to report

23:21 **EDSA& BDA Report**

NOTED Nothing to report

24:21 **Events**

NOTED

- DentSoc are planning in-person events.
- MR has said that they are still planning rites of passage for the final year dentists to happen in some capacity. The planned date is the 19th of July. Numbers will most likely have to be restricted significantly. There is also a plan for last year's rites of passage to happen on the 28th of June. Invitations will be sent out as soon as possible.

25:21 **Elective report**

NOTED Nothing to report

26:21 **Date of next Meeting**

NOTED June

Action Sheet: Student-Staff Liaison Committee

	Action	Progress	Responsibility
18:21	MJ will create a survey for BDS1 to see what may benefit students in terms of providing structure to their learning.	Ongoing	MJ
18:21	AR has said that she will work with Dr Payne to explore what can be done in terms of getting extra practice sessions in a way that is fair to all students. AM has said she will also get in touch with Dr Payne regarding this.	Ongoing	AR, AM
18:21	AC to follow up on BDS2 PBL feedback	Ongoing	AC
18:21	ZF to remind BDS3 about their CRS training	Ongoing	ZF

18:21	ZF and SY to discuss with Dr Kang how to improve SSC for future years	Ongoing	ZF, SY
18:21	SB and AC have suggested having a meeting to review where students are in terms of requirements currently and what still needs to be completed	Ongoing	SB, AC
20:21	MJ to send out information regarding videos to year reps	Ongoing	MJ