

## EECS PG SSLC – 2020/21 Sem B

---

### Minutes

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2021 at 16.30 on Microsoft Teams

### Present

| Name   | Initials | Department   | Role   |
|--|----------|--------------|--|
| Akram Alomainy   | AA       | EECS         | PG Senior Tutor (Chair)  |
| Divya Hitesh Chhipani  | DHC      | EECS         | Student Co-chair<br>MSc Artificial Intelligence                          |
| Eliane Bodanese  | EB       | EECS         | Director of PG Teaching and Learning<br>Taught Programmes                |
| Ana Cabral   | AC       | QM Academy   | Education and Learning Adviser   |
| Dola Aina  | DA       | EECS         | Student Support Officer  |
| Jennifer Richards  | JR       | EECS         | PG Administrator   |
| James Soderman   | JS       | QMUL Library | Faculty Liaison Librarian: Science<br>and Engineering - Student Services |
| Jamie Robert Pond  | JRP      | EECS         | MSc Sound and Music Computing  |
| Shuaib Aqil Ahmed  | SAA      | EECS         | MSc AI and Data Science<br>(Conversion)                                  |
| Rohit Garg ( <i>Met on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2021</i> ) | RG       | EECS         | MSc Computing and Information System                                     |

### Preliminary Items

---

- Welcome and Introductions
- Introduction to 2020/21 PG SSLC student co-chair (*Divya Hitesh Chhipani*)

### Topics

---

#### ***Feedback and Issues Arising***

Positive Reflections on Programmes and Modules

- Really positive research paper-based coursework and analysis experience on ECS736P Natural Language Processing from all cohort.
-

- ECS7012P Music and Audio Programming by Andrew MacPherson is very clear and well organised. It is well delivered with both theoretical and practical concepts are well linked and addressed.
- SAA mentioned that generally speaking teaching standards are very good and learning new contents and skills. Specifically, on ECS708P Machine Learning the students appreciate Jesus' delivery and communication and the fact that he is tentative and approachable.
- DHC mentioned that ECS736P Natural Language Processing and ECS736P Information Retrieval modules are well delivered and arranged and DHC mentioned they were the highlights of this term so far since most students enjoy them thoroughly.
- RG mentioned that video recording and lectures on some modules are done really well and these modules are well organised and run, e.g. ECS7005P Risk and Decision-Making for Data Science and AI.
- RG mentioned that ECS784P Data Analytics is organised very well with clear guidelines on coursework and assessments.
- RG also mentioned that ECS781P Cloud Computing's lecture is really enthusiastic and well delivered and organised.

#### Raised Issues

- Students are still facing challenges with ECS795P Deep Learning and Computer Vision module. The students believe that their feedback, suggestions and comments are not taken on board. DHC conducted a survey and shared results with MO; however, minimum responses and actions are taken. In labs, demonstrators are only providing one to one chat options or also video links when requested and the students are not enjoying the chat options for discussions and requests. Feedback on submitted coursework in contrast to what the demonstrators' suggested and therefore it was confusing to the students.
- ECS773P Bayesian Decision and Risk Analysis released the coursework, and it is not clear. Students posted many questions on the QM+ forum and the response were very general that he cannot help much. Many emails received by AA and shared with Yue Chen and EB with requests from student to ask for an extension since they believe they do not have time specially with the software being complex and not easy for them to grasp.
- JRP mentioned that semester B for Sound and Music Computing is going very well.
- JRP mentioned that the group work for ECS733P Interactive Design might not be delivering the best due to some group structure and lack of participation. Possibly less weight on the group work?
- SAA suggested that one of the solutions to solve the issue with group work is to ensure continuous monitoring of the group's work and their contributions.
- SAA mentioned that students have to go to many steps in order to get the content. Specifically, ECS759P Artificial Intelligence, where arriving to the content and also the various aspects seem a bit more complex.
- SAA mentioned that for the January starting cohort, they did not have clear guidelines on the right people to contact. There was no hierarchical structure made clear to them.
- It was suggested by EB to include the SU rep information during the induction and also enable selection of Course Rep during the induction week for January Cohort.
- DA to contact SU about choosing course rep for January cohort
- SAA mentioned that sometimes the timetable has conflicting information in contrast to what the MO mentioned or added on QM+. AA, EB and DA emphasised that it is

important to follow guidelines given by MO's on QM+ or through emails since central timetable sometimes lags behind when updating sessions.

- ECS7024P Statistics for Artificial Intelligence and Data Science, coursework 1 feedback is provided after the deadline for coursework 2 and this needs to be reorganised since students would like to get the feedback to improve their future submissions and hence the grades.
- RG mentioned that ECS726P Security and Authentication only has recorded lectures and live Q&A sessions. The lectures are hard to grasp and understand specially at later stages. The students would appreciate more live lectures since some aspects are very hard to understand by depending only on recorded lectures.
- RG stated that ECS781P Cloud Computing has too many contents and it is getting to the point of overload to students. In addition, for the module there are assessed quizzes but some questions are quite ambiguous and students are not sure about the correct answers even after feedback.
- ECS7005P Risk and Decision-Making for Data Science and AI's labs are not very useful since the video recordings and lectures cover most of the content as felt by the students, as stated by RG.
- RG mentioned that students on the ECS784P Data Analytics feel the coursework requirements are not covered in lectures and labs and they feel they are lagging behind. Students asked the MO and lecturer for additional support, but it was mentioned that more information will be delivered in later weeks, which for students is a bit too late.

## **Actions & Decisions**

---

- AA and EB will follow up with the specific modules discussed above.
- AA and EB has already contacted Martin Neil (Module Organiser) and Yue Chen (Director of Education) with regards to ECS773P Bayesian Decision and Risk Analysis coursework deadline and issues. MO has agreed and already announced the one-week extension of the coursework.
- AA to follow up with MO's for ECS784P Data Analytics and ECS781P Cloud Computing regarding the coursework and quizzes issues raised above.
- AA to relay feedback on ECS7005P Risk and Decision-Making for Data Science and AI labs to the MO.

## **Any Other Business (AOB)**

---

### **Items raised outside of the agenda**

- JS talked about the library updates and various workshops offered to support PG students for dissertation and also for information literacy that could be useful for their projects.

## **Date of next meeting**

---

- **Week 11 of Semester B (TBC)**

## Items for next meeting

---

- Feedback on semester B modules and specifically on assessments and balance of load.
- Queries and questions regarding the summer exam period and related issues.
- Reflections on the whole year so far and what worked and what could have been improved.