EECS UG SSLC – 20120/21 Sem A – First Meeting

Minutes

21st October 2020; 14:00-15:30

MS Teams

Chairs: Mehedi Khan, Saba Sadek, Tassos Tombros

Present

Name	Initials	Department	Role
Mustafa Bozkurt	MB	EECS	Year 2 Tutor
Mahesha Samaratunga	MS	EECS	Year 1 Tutor
Matthew Huntbach	MH	EECS	Senior Tutor
Stuti Saxena	SS	EECS	Computer Systems Engineering Year 2 (BEng) - Rep
Saba Sadiya Sadek	SSS	EECS	Electronic Engineering Year 2 - Rep
Suvi Haeaerae	SH	EECS	Electronic Engineering Year 2 - Rep
Tassos Tombros	TT	EECS	Director of Student Experience
Sofia Gervasoni	SG	EECS	Creative Computing Year 3 - Rep
Mehedi Khan	MK	EECS	Computer Science Year 3 - Rep
Deiby Sanchez	DS	EECS	Computer Science Year 3 - Rep
Lulwah Alasfour	LA	EECS	Electrical and Electronic Engineering Year 3 - Rep
Maisha Ahmed	MA	EECS	CSE Year 2 - Rep
Shazib Ameer	SA	EECS	Electrical and Electronic Engineering Year 2 - Rep
Sebastian Maliwiecki	SM	EECS	Computer Science, Year 2 rep
Keshav Bokhoree	KB	EECS	Computer Science, Year 2 rep

Preliminary Items

Welcome and Introductions

The chairs welcome all members and note that the School has still not received the new Year 1 reps from the Student Union.

Topics

Online and Campus attendance, Blended Learning

- An open discussion about current state of affairs and the use of campus facilities still open by students.
- **SG:** Not many students choose to travel to campus and many have stayed away from London
- **SA:** QM tries its best to provide students with resources and equipment (kits) at home. Suggested that it may be beneficial if all online lectures move to a single platform (e.g. Collaborate) for all modules.
- **TT** mentioned the results of a class survey where many students choose not to travel on campus because of COVID fears.
- **SG** asked the school to not stop offering on campus activities as long as it is possible as this is an opportunity for students to meet peers as there are concerns about student mental health.

Year 2 feedback

- **MA:** Very positive feedback for Microprocessor Design and Communication Systems. ECS505U: lectures some time become too long (run over time) and this is very tiring in an online setting. Quality of lectures very good, it is just the timing. ECS529U: Some issues with early lectures with audio quality but these have been addressed now.
- **MB** responded as MO for ECS505U that will do his best to keep lectures on time.
- **SA and MA:** ECS501U, a discussion about the points raised in email sent to MOs and discussed in an online meeting with reps, MOs, TT and the Director of Education.
- **SH** mentioned that it would be useful for students to get feedback on their code in the labs and maybe to get some more concrete programming examples as part of the module resources. Also asked if possible to release sample answers a few days after the labs.
- **MH** mentioned the challenges of giving 1-1 feedback for programming labs, especially so when the labs are fully online.
- **SM** mentions that for ECS519U (Database Systems) the tutorials are not particularly useful as tutorials as they cover new content. TT will pass the comment to the MO.

Year 3 feedback

- **DS** – Difficulty getting used to the many different platforms used for the online labs, but in general positive feedback. Further Object Oriented Programming was commented for the quality of feedback given.
- **MK** – Data Mining lectures are tiring (reading off slides) and labs lack structure in general. The Final Year project sessions scheduled for 9am do not seem useful to all students. **SS** agreed with MK's comments on Data Mining.

- **LA**: Coursework deadlines overlapping and close together. Queried whether coursework deadlines could be a bit more flexible. **TT** will look into the deadline situation in Year 3.
- **SG** agreed with this point and mentioned the effect of workload and pressure on students' mental health given the current state with the pandemic.
- **MK:** Asked if there is information about the exam arrangements for January exams. **TT** will notify reps once a decision is taken by the School but all students will be notified by the Director of Education.
- **SG** gave positive feedback for Sound recording and production techniques and for the MO. Mentioned that things look well put together in terms of learning and in a much better position than in March when we suddenly moved online.

Final Remarks

- MH - Contact schools on employment post studying to develop graduate employment data
- KT - When should students expect graduate diploma
- YC - This is still being decided by school. The same goes with FAE provisional results
- TT - Weekly Teaching Interest Group meetings with staff looks at how to deliver the best possible teaching next year
- YC - Control Systems degree will not be available - there are other equivalent degree programmes
- YC - School wants to invite graduates as part of curriculum review
- YC - Students will receive training to cope with online/blended learning

Decisions & Approvals

None in this meeting

Any Other Business (AOB)

MS: Asked reps to publicise the Year 1 drop-in sessions

Date of next meeting

TBC, Week 10 or 11 of Sem A.

Items for next meeting

TBC