

Institute of Health Sciences Education

Postgraduate Student Staff Liaison Committee
(Physician Associate Programme)

25th March 2021

Minutes

Staff members present:

Miss Arunthathi Mahendran	Chair – Head of Physician Associate Programme
Mr Vinodh Krishnamurthy	Head of Year 3, Module Lead and Lecturer
Dr Brenda Manoharan	Head of Year 1, Module Lead and Lecturer
Dr Mythili Mahendran	Clinical Skills Lead, Module Lead and Lecturer
Dr Miriam Fine	Communication skills Lead,
Mr Jon Jezak	SIE for Physician Associate, Module Lead and Lecturer
Dr Nimesh Patel	Head of Assessment & PIE for Physician Associate
Mr Tom Schindler	Deputy Operations Manager, Student Office
Miss Laura Debrincat	Minutes - Physician Associate Administrator

Student members present:

Miss Nafisa Bari	Year 1 Physician Associate student REP
Miss Maryam Syed	Year 2 Physician Associate student REP
Miss Faiza Asadi	Year 2 Physician Associate student REP
Miss Nadia Aktar	Year 3 Physician Associate student REP
Mr Javed Hussain	Year 3 Physician Associate student REP

Apologies for absence:

Miss Laila Hussain	Head of year 2 PA, Module lead & Lecturer
Dr Padma Wignesvaran	Community care Module Lead & Lecturer

Part 1 – Preliminary Items	
1	Membership: The Committee noted the membership. (Physician Associate only).
2	Terms of Reference: The Committee noted the Terms of Reference.
3	Report on matters arising and actions taken
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 students requested more SBA practice. <i>Dr Mythili Mahendran suggested using online resources such as Pass Med to revise. Miss Arunthathi Mahendran confirmed that the PA faculty will not provide regular SBA practise as sufficient online resources are available.</i>
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 students wondering how teaching will be delivered post lockdown. <i>Programme will remain as blended learning until advised otherwise.</i>

C	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 1 students enquired RE home LFT to be provided. <i>At present, home kits are not available through QMUL.</i> Concern from year 2 was expressed at a significant increment in tuition fees on the MSc Physician Associate & Admin fee - <i>it was advised that students escalate the matter and discuss with Student Union on how to move forward.</i> Year 2 & 3 students reported missing some lectures & resources from the Surgery & EM Module. <i>Module lead looking into this to see how this can be resolved and material covered.</i> Year 2 students are worried that the Anatomy sessions for year 2 have not been scheduled. <i>PA team to look into this.</i> Year 2 students raised the concern that there is an increase in Pre-recorded lectures & SDL. <i>The PA team addressed the issue which is unavoidable due to the ongoing pandemic and also working clinically.</i> Year 3 students discussed the QI results and queried if the 10% proposal mark was included in the overall module grade. <i>Dr Nimesh Patel confirmed originally the 10% grade was not included however this has now been revised. For students who started Jan 2020 - it will be an overall mark for the degree that determines classification, also to note for the y3 students the no-detriment policy was applied.</i> 	
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Part 2 – Programme Delivery and other matters		
4		Programme/module developments and amendments:
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The QI Module is being reviewed, more information to follow in the near future. 	
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 2 PA representatives raised the issue of module codes being removed from their Mysis account. <i>Laura Debrincat is working with the Student Records team to rectify the issue.</i> 	
5	Learning and teaching matters	
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representatives raised the issue of SDL material not being uploaded in line with the timetable. <i>The PA team will look into this for future.</i> 	
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PA Team have requested that all students have cameras turned on for their live teaching sessions. 	
7	Organisation and communication	
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representatives reported that communication from the programme was effective and matters usually resolved in good time. 	
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Communications with Fees department is an ongoing issue for PA students. 	
8	Learning resources	
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representatives raised that they are not always enrolled to courses on QMplus for set SDL meaning students cannot complete the work. <i>The PA team will look into this for future</i> 	
9	Assessment	
A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final year (year 3) exams feedback: Student feedback was very helpful to the assessment unit, improvements can be made based on this. 	
B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An updated version of the Elogbook has been introduced to the MBBS programme. Dr Nimesh Patel hopes this will also be rolled out on the PA programme from January 2022. The PA 	

	Representatives and PA team will be invited to the working group for this.
10 A B C	<p>Student feedback</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Year 1 Representative reported that so far they feel very well supported and the regular check in sessions with academics is working really well. • Year 2 Representatives mentioned that the clinical supervisors on placement do not have capacity to fill out the feedback sections in the logbook and find it long winded. • Year 3 Representatives feel this PA specific SSLC will be very beneficial. <p><i>Due to the Physician Associate programme being an intense course that requires a national licencing exam, the logbooks and feedback sections are necessary to pass students on the course.</i></p>
Part 3	
11	Next Meeting: This will be sometime in June, exact date to be confirmed.