

# Comparative Literature and Culture (SLLF) Undergraduate and Postgraduate Student Staff Liaison Committee 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2020

Agreed minutes

#### Staff members present:

| (Name)                  | (role)    |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| Dr Shital Pravinchandra | Chair     |
| Dr Kasia Mika           | Secretary |

### Student members present:

| (Name)               | (Programme name and level) |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| IIsa Ahmad Anjum     | Year 1 CLC                 |
| Miranda Fotheringham | Year 2 CLC and History     |
| Randhi Chethana      | Year 2 CLC                 |
| Weerasekara          |                            |
| Olivia Walton        | SU SLLF Rep                |
| Aratrika Choudhury   | PGR Rep                    |

#### Apologies for absence:

| Ciara Briggs        | Year 3 Course Rep  |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| Sahra Isha Muhammad | Year 3 Course Rep. |
| Jones               |                    |

| Part 1 – Preliminary Items |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| 1(a)                       | Welcome and introduction for new members   |
| 2020.001                   | A short introduction of all present members.                                       |
| 1(b)                       | Apologies for Absence  |
| 1(5)                       | (Year 3 Reps: Ciara Briggs; Sahra Isha Muhammad Jones)                             |
| 2020.002                   | The meeting noted the apologies from members as recorded above.                    |
| 1(c)                       | Minutes of the previous meeting  |
| 2020.003                   | The committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on 29 <sup>th</sup> October |
| 2020.003                   | 2020.  |
|                            |  |
| 1(d)                       | Report on matters arising and actions taken  |
|                            | The committee received a report on matters arising and noted the                   |
|                            | following:   |
|                            | All matters arising from the previous SSLC were addressed.                         |
| 2020.004                   | The issue of (more) Library training (following an earlier in-class                |
|                            | workshop in Semester A) for year 1 module (COM4207), will be                       |
|                            | addressed further in Semester B: there will be another in-class                    |
|                            | Library workshop held.   |
| 1(e)                       | Terms of reference and membership  |
|                            | The new SU (Student Union) SLLF Student Rep (Olivia Walton) was                    |
| 2020.005                   | introduced to the Committee and explained her role as a liaison between            |
|                            | the Faculty, SU, and the School reps.  |

|               | In addition, it was noted that the staff Chair of the SSLC will change in Semester B (the Secretary remains). Who it will be, will be confirmed in due course.  |
|---------------|---|
| 1(f)          | <ul> <li>ACTION: (SU SLLF REP+ KM): In line with new guidelines as well as the change of the staff Chair of the SSLC, we need to elect a student co-chair in time for the next meeting in Semester B.</li> <li>Admissions, induction and enrolment</li> </ul> |
|               |   |
| 2020.006      | N/A   |
| Part 2 – Stud | lent feedback, Programme Delivery and other matters   |
| 2(a)          | Programme/module developments and amendments  |
| 2020.007      | The committee reviewed proposed programme / module developments<br>and amendments. The following feedback was received from student<br>representatives:   |
|               | The Secretary has confirmed that teaching in Semester B will be delivered<br>online, with some face-to-face sessions most likely available (but will be<br>confirmed individually by module organisers in due course).  |
|               | Likewise, face-to-face advising and office hours will be confirmed individually by each module leader/advisor.  |

| 2(b)     | Learning and teaching matters   |
|----------|---|
| 2020.008 | Representatives reported on learning and teaching matters and the   |
|          | following points were noted (This includes online learning):  |
|          | 1. Coursework deadlines:  |
|          | The Chair has confirmed the January and May deadlines for coursework.   |
|          | <b>ACTION: All course reps</b> to remind their cohorts of January 10 <sup>th</sup> deadline for re-sits/first sits. |
|          | 2. Evaluations  |
|          | The Secretary has re-emphasised the importance of module evaluations forms.   |
|          | <b>ACTION: All course reps</b> to remind their cohorts to fill in module evaluations forms.                         |
|          | 3. Organisation   |
|          | It was noted that it is not always easy to get in touch with the whole cohort                                       |
|          | of students: some years use whatsapp group but this does not guarantee  |

that everyone is on it. Also, a more formal channel (such as mailing lists for the whole cohorts, not attached to specific modules) is needed.

ACTION: SU SLLF Rep to get hold of a mailing list for each year group.

## 4. Year-specific feedback

**Year 1:** It was remarked that the organization (in terms of deadlines; and overall structure) of the new Culture and Language module was not entirely clear for the year 1 group with some concern being expressed, specifically, about the upcoming essays. It was also suggested that, for Semester B (since this is a whole year module), a more detailed breakdown (e.g. weekly checklists on QM+) is included.

**ACTION: KM** to email the course convenor and discuss this further.

**Year 2:** It was suggested that it would be very helpful if all module convenors/seminar tutors would discuss the assignments in greater detail much earlier on in the course (rather than only 1-2 weeks before the deadline).

In addition, it was suggested that it would be very helpful to have PowerPoint slides made available as a separate file (whether pptx or pdf)

|                         | since this makes it easier for students with lower band-width to follow (e.g.   |
|-------------------------|---|
|                         | when the video recording doesn't work smoothly).  |
|                         |   |
|                         | Finally, a question was raised about the availability of Semester B modules   |
|                         | and module outlines. In response, Kasia Mika (Teaching Lead for CLC)  |
|                         | has reassured that the module convenors for Sem B will be in touch before   |
|                         | university closure days.  |
|                         |   |
|                         | ACTION: KM to remind the Department and adjust their planning and QM+   |
|                         | pages accordingly.  |
|                         |   |
|                         |   |
|                         |   |
| 2(c)                    | Assessment and feedback   |
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| <b>2(c)</b><br>2020.009 | Assessment and feedback           Representatives reported on assessment and feedback processes and the   |
|                         |   |
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| 2(d)     | Academic support   |
|----------|--|
| 2020.010 | Representatives reported on academic support matters and the following       |
|          | points were noted:   |
|          |  |
|          | No issues were raised.   |
|          |  |
| 2(e)     | Organisation and communication   |
| 2020.010 | Representatives reported on organisation and communication matters and       |
|          | the following points were noted:   |
|          | Included in 2(b).  |
|          |  |
| 2(f)     | Learning resources   |
| 2020.011 | Representatives reported on learning resources matters and the following     |
|          | points were noted:   |
|          |  |
|          | 1. Student Handbook  |
|          | A point was raised that the current SLLF Student Handbook (QM+),             |
|          | especially its sections on referencing/bibliography, is not entirely updated |
|          | and this is a source of confusion when editing and proof-reading essays.     |
|          | ACTION: KM to find out who is responsible for updating the SLLF              |
|          | Handbook and ask for these sections to be updated.                           |

|               | 2. British Library<br>The PGR Rep remarked with joy that the British Library is now open<br>(again)! |  |
|---------------|--|--|
| 2(g)          | Student feedback (NSS/PTES/UKES/Module evaluations)  |  |
| 2020.012      | The committee discussed responses to NSS/PTES and UKES and noted                                     |  |
|               | the following:   |  |
|               | 1. Study Groups  |  |
|               | Department-wide study groups are being launched after some initial delay,                            |  |
|               | for all year groups. It is hoped that these informal and peer-lead groups will                       |  |
|               | be able to meet at least once before the start of Semester B.  |  |
|               |  |  |
| Part 3 – Any  | Other Business   |  |
| 2020.014      | The following items were raised under Any Other Business:  |  |
| Part 4 – Date | Part 4 – Date of the next meeting  |  |
| 2020.015      | The committee noted that the next meeting would take place: <b>TBC due to</b>                        |  |
|               | change of CLC Staff Chair  |  |