

Postgraduate Student Staff Liaison Committee meeting

Minutes from meeting held on 26th May 2022, Microsoft Teams

Present: Olena Hrynenko (OH), Qianni Zhang (QZ), Yue Chen (YC), Eliane Bodanese (EB), Nadia Zaman (NZ), Alina-Maria Herciu (AH)

QZ summarised and commented on some points raised during the previous SSLC meeting, before asking OH how she perceived the semester went for her and other students. OH stated that the results from the student survey she sent out were overall similar to the ones from Sem A. One third of the students agreed with the statement that Sem B went well, one third disagreed and one third felt neutral about the statement. Neural Networks and Natural Processing received positive feedback because of its interactive lectures, approachable demonstrators and assessment structure. Deep Learning and Computer Vision received less positive feedback due to the discrepancy between the in-term assessment and the coursework at the end of the semester, the first one being structured and the latter being more creative. Moreover, OH told the Committee that students would like the coursework to be released earlier, as it constitutes 50% of the overall credits and it clashes with the revision of other modules.

OH told the Committee that some students were unsure on the monitoring aspect of the Forum. QZ explained that the use of the Forum is module specific, and its use and organisation should be made clear by the MO at the beginning of the semester. YC added that students are encouraged to contact the SSO if a lecturer hasn't been responding to Forum post for an extensive period.

OH said that receiving a Turn It In report for all submissions would be beneficial. QZ commented that this may be enabled for coherence at module level, but not across all modules, as it is down to the MO to define their preference for each module.

OH said that for some modules, students don't receive individual feedback, and they would like to. She also added that students would like to have the lecturers' office hours made available to be able to meet lecturers face-to-face. Moreover, students would also like an interactive Q&A session on the final paper. QZ pointed out that there are instructions, templates, info on QM+ and recorded sessions available, but she can discuss with UN the possibility of a Q&A session.

OH said that the waiting time for ECs claims outcomes is long and students don't seem to know whether to wait for the outcome or submit the work. QZ advised that students are supposed to submit their work as soon as they can even after submitting an EC claim, and the late penalty would then be revoked accordingly if the claim is accepted.

OH agreed on inviting students via WhatsApp group to complete the PTES survey.

OH asked if EECS could help her and other students organise a social event during the Summer. YC advised OH to email herself, QZ and EB with a proposal of the event to see how the Department can support the project.

ACTION: QZ to discuss with UN if it would be possible to organise an interactive Q&A on the final project

ACTION: OH to invite students to complete PTES survey.