

Student Dean Forum Term: LCF Fashion Business School			
Date & Time: 27.11.2024	UAL Staff: Liz Gee – Dean of Fashion Business School	Arts SU Officer: N/A	Arts SU Staff: Lee Anderson – Education Quality Coordinator Natalie Nakkas – Education Quality Coordinator
Number of students in attendance: 33			

**Action Log for School Dean and Students' Union**

<b>Actions for School Dean</b>	<b>Update on Progress</b>	<b>Response to students</b>
Investigate possibility of online platform/tool for better connecting students who want to collaborate across courses, possibly via Moodle.		
Dean to investigate college specific merch/apparel for students.		
Signpost students to the events and noticeboard that they can utilise on Floor 4 of Stratford campus building.		
Investigate separate student calendar for events that students can opt-into.		
Signpost students to the events and noticeboard that they can utilise on Floor 4 of Stratford campus building.		
Investigate separate student calendar for events that students can opt-into.		
Investigate and provide update to Reps on 4 <sup>th</sup> Floor		

Rooms being made available for students to book for themselves		
<b>Actions for Students' Union</b>	<b>Update on Progress</b>	<b>Response to students</b>
Circulate Hannah's question re: events programming to Course Reps with request to survey FBS students on their preference.		

### **Minutes**

[Notes for minute taker:

- Don't write out feedback verbatim – summarise what was said
  - o Group that feedback with the deans' and officers' responses.
  - o Separate out actions so they are clear
- Note down the year and course of the rep giving feedback, not the individual rep's name

E.g.

### **Canteen**

- BA Illustration Yr 1: students are feeding back prices are too high
  - o Other reps in attendance agree
  - o Dean: Acknowledges this issue. It has been raised in a number of forums
  - o Action: Dean to share feedback with facilities manager
- MA Publishing: MA students have classes scheduled through lunch so can't access hot food
  - o Dean: Did not know this was an issue.
  - o Action: Dean to raise this with timetabling team ahead of next year

### **Discussion points submitted by Deans**

<b>Agenda point 1:</b>	<b>COMMUNITY</b>
<b>Intro / Context:</b>	Do you feel a strong sense of community on your course and in your school? What could be done to develop the sense of belonging and community?
<b>Feedback:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Student (MA Fashion Marketing): At the start of my course, there was a lot of Postgrad mixers where I met students from different courses. But this has tailed off. I would like more opportunities to develop collaborations/mixers across courses and disciplines.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Student (BA Fashion Marketing &amp; Sustainability): Agreed. There is interest from students to collaborate with students from different courses.</li> <li>- Student (MA Innovation and Entrepreneurship). We have a lot of entrepreneurs and business owners in our cohort who are looking to work with student designers. We don't know how to reach out to students from other courses to do this. Can there be a channel on Moodle to help us connect to other students?</li> <li>- Student (BA Cosmetics): We struggle to connect with students from other courses. We'd like more social events within FBS.</li> <li>- Student (MA Applied Psychology and Fashion): I do feel a strong sense of community within my course, but I would like to see more ways of creating commonality amongst students via merch and apparel so that we know who our fellow students are (e.g. hoodie, apparel shops, bags).</li> </ul>
<b>Reply/Update:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dean: Reminder that students have Elective Projects in their 2<sup>nd</sup> year where they will be able to collaborate with students from other courses.</li> <li>- Dean: Switching up seminar groups has received mixed feedback from students; some like it and some don't. If you're in a seminar group where there the majority want to do this, speak to your Course Leader and let them know.</li> <li>- Arts SU: Reminder to students to reach out your LCF College Officer and Arts SU to identify societies that have events and opportunities taking place across multiple colleges. Arts Programme team within Arts SU also provides extra-curricular activities with students from across multiple colleges. Find contact details in 'OTHER' below.</li> </ul>
<b>ACTION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dean to investigate possibility of online platform/tool for better connecting students who want to collaborate across courses, possibly via Moodle.</li> <li>- Dean to investigate college specific merch/apparel for students.</li> </ul>
<b>OTHER</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arts SU Societies webpage: <a href="https://www.arts-su.com/communities/groups/societies/">https://www.arts-su.com/communities/groups/societies/</a></li> <li>• Arts SU Arts Programme webpage: <a href="https://www.arts-su.com/opportunities/development/resources/">https://www.arts-su.com/opportunities/development/resources/</a></li> </ul>

<b>Agenda point 2:</b>	<b>COMMUNICATION</b>
<b>Intro / Context:</b>	Do you find the communication from staff to be clear and easy to understand? Which communication methods do you find most effective?
<b>Feedback:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rep (BA Fashion Marketing, Year 2): Use digital boards in the corridors on every floor. If you make it known to students in</li> </ul>

	<p>advance that relevant information will be displayed on them, they make use of them.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rep (BA Fashion Marketing): Create Events round-up that tutors can share with in-person with students at the start or end of their seminars. Word of mouth and/or verbal updates can get to students more directly. We have so many platforms and this means there's a lot to monitor.</li> <li>- Student (MA Strategic Fashion Marketing): We have a lot of events that come through Eventbrite/email. There's a tiny board for events in the library and in the canteen, but it isn't being fully utilised. There could be a more visible board here to promote student events because a lot of students use these spaces.</li> <li>- Student (BA Cosmetic Science, Y4): There's a lot of emails flying around so unless you respond to one directly it's easy to miss some of them. Consider adding events/comms to the student calendar so it's already there and cannot be archived or ignored by mistake?</li> </ul>
<b>Reply/Update:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dean: Embedding events into the existing student calendar comes with additional risks; overwhelming students with more information in their already busy scheduled. Maybe an additional events calendar that students can opt into if they wish to?</li> </ul>
<b>ACTION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dean: Signpost students to the events and noticeboard that they can utilise on Floor 4 of Stratford campus building.</li> <li>- Dean: Investigate separate student calendar for events that students can opt-into.</li> </ul>
<b>OTHER</b>	

**Discussion points submitted by Reps**

<b>Agenda point 2:</b>	<b>COURSE TIMETABLING</b>
<b>Intro / Context:</b>	Do you feel that topics are given enough time in class for students to fully understand the concepts being taught? Do you feel like you have sufficient contact hours on your course?
<b>Feedback:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Student (MA Fashion, Sustainability &amp; Marketing): We conducted a student survey on this. Majority of our course feel that lectures are rushed, with not enough time to cover all slides/content. Propose less content to allocate more time to most relevant content.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We also don't feel we have enough face-to-face contact time with tutors on our course. We have shared this feedback with our Course Committee and Course Leaders, but do not feel this feedback was well received.</li> <li>- Student (BSc Fashion Management): There is a scheduling gap between two classes of 4 hours. This is too long (Marketing Management Unit). This results in fewer students showing up to afternoon seminars; some of these seminars are more like recaps of the lectures.</li> <li>- <b>Student (BA Fashion Marketing): Class starts at 9am on Thursday and this is difficult for many students who are commuting into London. Can we start the classes at 10am?</b></li> <li>-</li> </ul>
<b>Reply/Update:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dean: I appreciate this is not ideal as people will understandably be flagging in the late afternoon. However, because the Marketing Management is currently happening, we cannot adjust the timetable at this stage. Please continue to raise this with your Course Committee and/or Course Leader directly for the purposes of future changes.</li> <li>- Dean: Starting classes at 10am would mean your final class would end at 8pm. Is this preferable? Staggering it and going on later is an option for future timetabling, but this could be inconvenient for many other students.</li> <li>- Student: Inadequate seating in the study spaces, including the library. If there was enough seating capacity this might help with fostering community and helping people rest and recuperate between morning and afternoon sessions.</li> <li>- Student: Rooms on the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor – it was mentioned that they would be made available for bookings for students, but this was never followed up on. This has been going on for a year.</li> </ul>
<b>ACTION</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dean: Signpost students to the events and noticeboard that they can utilise on Floor 4 of Stratford campus building.</li> <li>- Dean: Investigate separate student calendar for events that students can opt-into.</li> <li>- Dean: Investigate and provide update to Reps on 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Rooms being made available for students to book for themselves.</li> </ul>
<b>OTHER</b>	

<b>Agenda point 2:</b>	<b>EXPERIENCE IN CLASS</b>
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<b>Intro / Context:</b>	What is your experience of group work on your course? What is your experience with student participation during class?
<b>Feedback:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Student (MA Fashion Marketing and Sustainability): Group Work - we have large groups (11+) and it's hard to organise the group and hold them accountable for their work; students proposed smaller groups of 4-5 students (max). This would create a better balance with individual work so that we can properly assess the quality of our work as it develops.</li> <li>- Student (MA Strategic Fashion Marketing): In the second hour of our sessions, we work on a group presentation (2-3 minutes) but this is too long and it feels like wasted time. Would be better spent getting feedback on our work that could feed into the summative assessments. Also, a bit more guidance would be welcome.</li> <li>- Student (Msc Cosmetic Science): We have a lot of group and lab work. Quite a few issues with the work not being balanced in the group. Would like better enforcement of teamwork agreements to mitigate against this.</li> <li>- Student: We sign an agreement at the beginning, but we never return to it, and there are no consequences for students who choose to fulfil the agreement. We have tried addressing it, but there isn't much we can do about it.</li> <li>- Student (Msc Cosmetic Science): This happened to me last year and we addressed it with the tutor, but it took a very long time for the tutor to address it.</li> </ul>
<b>Reply/Update:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Dean: How were teamwork agreements created and agreed? Do you feel you had agency to refer back to it in addressing issues within the group when they arose?</li> <li>- Dean: If the group is unable to resolve an issue themselves, then please raise it directly with your tutor.</li> </ul>
<b>ACTION</b>	No actions agreed.
<b>OTHER</b>	

<b>Agenda point 2:</b>	<b>Extracurricular Enrichment</b>
<b>Intro / Context:</b>	Do you think there is sufficient collaboration/ interaction between courses and between different years of the same course? What has been your experience with industry speakers?
<b>Feedback:</b>	Reps to collect feedback from student across FBS and feedback to Dean and Knowledge Exchange Lead.

<b>Reply/Update:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Hannah Middleton (Knowledge Exchange Lead): There is a Beauty and Wellbeing Symposium in May and an AI Fashion Symposium in June. But we want to programme something else sooner.</li><li>- Two options for Reps and students to consider: o</li><li>- Option #1: We run a longer session and select a topic/theme we believe students will find engaging.</li><li>- Option #2: We allocate each course a slot every month to organise a session of your choosing, with assistance from us.</li></ul>
<b>ACTION</b>	Arts SU: Circulate Hannah’s question re: events programming to Course Reps with request to survey FBS students on their preference.
<b>OTHER</b>	