

| Student Dean Forum Term: LCF Design & Technology, Term 2, 2025-26 | | | |
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| Date & Time: 12.03.2025 | UAL Staff: Claudine Rousseau (Dean of Design & Technology) Annamarie McKie (Associate Dean) | Arts SU Officer: Katwamba Mutale | Arts SU Staff: Lee Anderson – Education Quality Coordinator |
| Number of students in attendance: 10 | | | |

Action Log for School Dean and Students' Union

| Actions for School Dean | Update on Progress | Response to students |
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| Previous Action agreed in Term 1: Investigate a Collaborative Unit in Year 1 for subsequent cohorts could be introduced to develop collaborative practice. | Dean: I shared this suggestion with the academic teams. This would need to go through future course reapprovals to identify where collaboration is best placed in the curriculum to enhance student learning. | |
| Previous Action agreed in Term 1: Develop a guide and create more physical/visual signboards for students on campus. | Dean: Newsletter circulated to students every Friday with updates and opportunities. A lot of information available on digital boards. More research needed around effective this is in terms of getting the word out. Associate Dean: We have recently launched LCF Interact (student takeover of the canteen on campus). Dates for the next two are 24 April and 22 May. | |
| New Action: Follow-up with Andrew and Gavin re: Sunday opening times for studio spaces and confirm what was | | |

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| previously agreed and what can feasibly happen now with extended opening times. | | |
| New Action: Investigate the problem with faulty printers on the 13 th floor. New Action: Investigate how Course Teams can provide more clarity about course costs for prospective students in advance of enrolling. | | |

Discussion points submitted by Deans

1. Discussion points from the Dean

Please share these topics with the students on your course to gather their feedback

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| Rep Agenda Point #1: | Opening hours for spaces on campus |
| Intro / Context: | |

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| <p>Feedback:</p> | <p>Rep from Bespoke Tailoring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A third of the students I've spoken to do not feel they have enough hands-on technical support. We cannot access studios on Friday evenings or Sundays. We've calculated that we have 36 hours to complete bespoke garments, but we do not feel that this is sufficient and does not align with industry standards. We do not feel this is good value for money in terms of the cost of tuition fees. Students are concerned and teachers are worried about. We feel that fees are going up and yet the offer we receive is being reduced and over stretched. - I don't feel that pushing the assessment will be helpful because we have industry placement following immediately after the deadline. <p>Rep from Sportswear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It doesn't make sense to us that there are so many students and yet not enough resource to be allocated, either in terms of space or time with specialist studios/equipment. When the building was open on Sunday, there was a decent number of students coming into the building to use the facilities. <p>Rep from MA Menswear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It's created a financial divide; those students that cannot afford it are at a disadvantaged and those that can afford can pay to hire equipment and specialists. I feel that making less to compensate for this would be to disservice to the degree experience, because we want to be challenged. <p>Rep from Fashion Design & Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The main issue is that our learning hours have been cut. The people we learn most from in terms of practical skills and applicable knowledge is technician. There is a lot of learning that needs to happen outside of our core learning hours, because these hours have been cut. - It is unlikely there will be hands-on technical support via the Technical Lab available over the holidays. <p>School Rep from Design & Technology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Having recently completed a placement year, I can say with confidence that LCF students are viewed by industry professionals as particularly highly skilled, and there is a correlation between this and students' opportunities to practice and learn in studios with enough access to resources. |
| <p>Reply / Update:</p> | <p>LCF College Officer:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Andrew confirmed that the studio would be open on Sundays for two weekends in the lead-up to hand-ins. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can something be done to extend the 4-week assessment timeline to offset the pressure being felt in terms of resource/space allocation? <p>Dean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACTION: I have requested a meeting to be set up with Andrew and Gavin about this to confirm what was agreed and what can feasibly happen. Technicians will need to take a break during the Easter holiday weekend, so the studio will not be open during this time, which is standard across the organization in terms of bank holidays. Sunday opening was brought in during Covid-19 to deal with these extreme circumstances, so it was always framed as a temporary measure, and I cannot guarantee we can go to a full Sunday opening, but I will raise it. - I agree that there needs to be more clarity and transparency for student on fees/costs/allocation of resources at this current time. ACTION: Investigate how Course Teams can provide more clarity about course costs for prospective students in advance of enrolling. - Question to Reps: if Sundays do not get re-enlisted, what then happens? - If you look at your learning outcomes, you need to evidence how you're fulfilling that, but that isn't always to do with making outcomes, it can also be about your engagement with the processes and knowledge of these processes during the making process. So, it is a balance. |
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| Rep Agenda Point #2: | Developing skills beyond the curriculum e.g. presentation and networking skills |
| Intro / Context: | |
| Feedback: | <p>Rep from Fashion Design & Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are some issues in terms of networking. Students in our class want to do Screen Printing. Our tutor told us we needed to find another student with those skills to help us do this, but we do not know how to connect with these students and are not being supported to do so. <p>Rep from MA Menswear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As MA students we do not have access to the BA floors. So, this limits our ability to connect with other students with skills that will add-value to our learning. This compounds the financial divide between students. There are lots of students in our programme who are working with Textile students because they need that expertise. It should at the very least be made |

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| | <p>abundantly clear to prospective students when they're applying to the course what they will and will not have access to.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Can the university start building relationships with external companies (e.g. studios, printing studios) to create extra capacity for students who are making and struggling with accessing the current resource in the building. - Printers are always broken on the 13th floor. <p>Rep from Fashion Design & Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It would be better if there was at least one other course/group of students who we would liaise with and collaborate with for the duration of our training. <p>Rep from Fashion Design & Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Is there any opportunity to connect with UCL so that we can use their facilities (e.g. Ceramic design). |
| Reply / Update: | <p>Reply from Dean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Re access to specific facilities: priority is given to those students who are on courses that require those facilities to complete assessments and fulfill their learning outcomes. This obviously does have a limiting effect. - ACTION: Investigate the problem with faulty printers on the 13th floor. - On the 9th floor there is the 'glue-room'. - Dean: I think it's unlikely UCL will simply let students from our university use their facilities, it would need to be a more reciprocal collaboration. |