

Student Dean Forum Term: CSM M School, Term 2, 2025-26			
Date & Time: 26.02.2025	UAL Staff: Jonathan Carson (Associate Dean of Student Experience) Hywel Davies (Dean of M School)	Arts SU Officer: Zainab Goriawala	Arts SU Staff: Lee Anderson – Education Quality Coordinator
Number of students in attendance: 11			

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

Actions for School Dean	Update on Progress	Response to students
Investigate confusion and inconsistencies re: scheduled deadlines/project briefs for BA Fashion Image and Promotion on Moodle and Timetables.	From course tutors: "On the whole we have been very clear and briefs match up to what students are expected submission times and deadlines. If there have been changes we communicate these to students so it is clear via Moodle. When we split students into groups we have given advance notice, shared group lists on Moodle and via email, and this has been reflected in student timetables. We can check over all the upcoming briefs to make sure everything is aligned."	
Report issues about the sockets in M302 A & B.	Programme Director met the Building Operations Manager (07.03.25) to measure M302a/M302b and map out the placement of new plug sockets.	

### Minutes

#### 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

Dean's Agenda Point #1:	UAL Online Showcase
Intro / Context:	Are students aware of this? What are your experiences with / thoughts on this?
Feedback:	<p>General feedback from Reps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Some students are unaware of the UAL Online Showcase.</li> <li>- Some Foundation students are aware of it and continue to use it.</li> <li>- Some students are reporting technical issues.</li> <li>- One Course Rep reports that it has not been mentioned in class</li> <li>- Students don't upload to it because their ECs and deadlines.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There was a link to the Showcase on the Biodesign course page.</li> </ul>
Reply / Update:	Reply from Dean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mostly relevant to 3<sup>rd</sup> year students.</li> </ul>

Dean's Agenda Point #2:	<b>BA Collaborative Unit – Creative Unions</b>
Intro / Context:	What are students' thoughts and experiences of this unit? Students are asking for more collaborative opportunities across courses/disciplines, so this is an attempt to respond to that.
Feedback:	General feedback from Reps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We haven't been briefed on it yet as first years, but students are excited to collaborate with other pathways. Everyone does know about it though</li> </ul>
Reply / Update:	N/A

#### Discussion points submitted by Reps

Reps Agenda Point #1:	<b>Course Organization</b>
Intro / Context:	Are there any challenges with scheduling, timetabling and course organizations?
Feedback:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MA Fashion Rep (1<sup>st</sup> year): There's a lot of disorganization and miscommunication. There is no longer a first year Course Leader and so the organization has fallen to Course Leader assistant to coordinate first and second year. This has been a detriment to the course as our cohort is twice the size of the second year. Fabio's assistant is doing a brilliant job.</li> <li>- The intergration of our year into the second-year showcase is really welcome and has been useful.</li> <li>- BA Fasion Image and Promotion: Students expressed confusion regarding some deadlines as often the brief, timetable and Moodle will say different times. Students also expressed they felt the schedule was confusing especially when we are split in groups that have to come in at different times.</li> <li>- BA Biodesign Rep, Year 1: Some quick feedback from Biodesign Yr1- We have noticed a massive improvement in course organization and communication from the lecturers since voicing some confusion last term.</li> <li>- BA Biodesign Rep, Year 1: They are constantly sending us emails with updates and that has helped everybody in the Biodesign course.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- MA Regenerative Design Rep, Year 2: Online course Running of the overall course has improved loads since last year. Fewer scheduling conflicts, communication is clear and consistent and the teams are very contactable.</li> <li>- BA Womenswear Rep, Year 2: I want to second that for the womenswear tutors Anna-Nicole and Heather, their communication is always excellent and they always accommodate and are flexible for any timetabling problems.</li> </ul>
Reply / Update:	<p>Reply from Dean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We haven't put a new tutor in at the moment for MA Fashion and we're still in the process of discussing it. We're aware of the different approach this year and it's partly intentional. We're working with Fabio to integrate different aspects of the course (e.g. your year group is being intergrated into the second-year showcase programme)</li> <li>- We've asked staff to keep all information about timetabling in one place and there should be no paper-based documentation sent out to students; we're removing that to ensure all the information is consolidated accurately in one place.</li> <li>- <b>ACTION:</b> I will look further into confusion and inconsistencies re: scheduled deadlines/project briefs for BA Fashion Image and Promotion on Moodle and Timetables.</li> </ul> <p>Reply from Associate Dean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- At the moment the university is looking at reviewing its timetabling processes, so this is really useful feedback.</li> </ul>

Reps Agenda Point #3:	Studio Space
Feedback:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rep for Regenerative Design, online course: We use Miro as an 'online' space to exhibit work and share ideas and it's proving to be really useful.</li> <li>- Rep for BA Womenswear (2<sup>nd</sup> year): We need evening access to studio space.</li> <li>- Rep for MA Fashion Rep (1<sup>st</sup> Year): Pre-emptive worries from students on our course about lack of space when we move into our second year. How will our cohort be able to achieve the same quality of work as the current 2<sup>nd</sup> year students, who have a smaller cohort to us.</li> <li>- Rep for BA Womenswear, 2<sup>nd</sup> year: Access to certain departments from some courses. Three printing studios for Womenswear and Fashion. A lot of question around why some courses have access to these spaces and others don't.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rep for BA Womenswear, 2<sup>nd</sup> Year: A lot of students don't know that they're supposed to be inducting in the first term, so by the time they express an interest later, it is too late.</li> <li>- Rep for Fashion Image and Promotion: We use the photography studios a lot. Students pre-book these spaces before they know what they're doing. Some students are also saying that we don't have a meeting room. Lack of sockets.</li> <li>- Rep for BA Womenswear, 2<sup>nd</sup> year: Feedback from tutorials with our tutors has been great. The feedback has been that the 1-to-1 and group time with Anna-Nicole and Heather is incredibly enriching and invaluable to our course. This also applies to all the pattern cutting tutors, their teaching time is very appreciated and valued by the class.</li> </ul>
Reply / Update:	<p>Reply from Dean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Timetabling the studio for different courses is very challenging. The priority is for 3<sup>rd</sup> year students who are working on their final collections. There is a challenge around late-power (e.g. it can't be on unless there is suitable supervision) in terms of our duty of care. We're also finding that some students are not coming in in the daytime when it is available. Please continue to flag with Sarah and your pathway leader.</li> <li>- Spoke with Fabio about managing this. Class sizes vary from year-to-year and is confident that he'll be able to resource your year group. It is on his agenda. The team will do everything they can to ensure that 2<sup>nd</sup> Year MA Fashion Rep students have enough capacity in second year.</li> <li>- We're working with the Technical Staff to ensure as many students as possible have access to different spaces. If you look on Technical Moodle it will explain each resource and who has access to it. If you're not a 'Primary User', there may be a way to gain access via your Tutors and Pathway Leaders. This mostly happens in final year as students work towards their final projects.</li> <li>- Two years ago, we got access to the rooms on the third floor for Fashion Communication. Despite the fact they're shared between BA and MA, we're in a better place than we were. If students are booking strategically, it might be good to speak to Reps about this to figure out a fairer booking system and taking this to Dale.</li> <li>- <b>ACTION</b> from Dean: Will pass on info about the sockets in M302 A &amp; B.</li> </ul> <p>Reply from Associate Dean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We can't just have open access to all resources for capacity and safety reasons. Some of these resources are very tightly mapped to the teaching and learning outcomes of courses. We don't want to displace other students.</li> </ul>

Reps Agenda Point #3:	AOB
Feedback:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rep from Graphic Communication Design (1<sup>st</sup> Year): We would like more industry exposure and guest lecturers, getting a better sense of how the industry works through the courses we're on.</li> <li>- Rep from Fashion Pattern Cutting (1<sup>st</sup> Year): We had a talk from two people in industry yesterday which was super informative and interesting!</li> <li>- Rep from Graphic Communication Design (1<sup>st</sup> Year):: We have a lot of guest lecturers and tutorials with them, so we get external support from professionals beyond our tutors. Personally, I would have appreciated at the time when starting the course more clarity around funding for the course (as I live in Northern Ireland, I am not entitled to London weighted funding). More support and guidance with this would have been appreciated. My parents just met the financial threshold, so I was ineligibile but only just.</li> </ul>
Reply / Update:	<p>Reply from Dean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We're always trying to get more industry and external guest lecturers' people onto our courses, and this is something we continue to work on, including working with recent graduates and alumni.</li> </ul>