Action point document from the

SSLC meeting on 23rd February 2016

Building issues

- Some plug sockets in the Physical Sciences workroom are broken.
 RESPONSE: We understand that this has now been fixed.
- Some computers in the fifth floor workroom cannot be switched on.
 RESPONSE: The broken computer has now been reported. In future, please report any I.T. issues in the workroom directly to the departmental office, PX566 (next to Rashida's office).
- The fifth floor workroom gets very warm: could a fan be put in there?
 RESPONSE: We suggest that all of the windows are opened on hot days.

First year issues

- Can the deadline for STACK and MasteringPhysics quizzes (Saturdays at 11:55pm) and written problem sheets (Mondays at 11am) be made the same? Having fewer deadlines would be simpler.
 - ACTION: MP will discuss with the lecturers concerned.
- The two integration worksheets for Maths/Physics are harder than the first three
 worksheets in the sense that they mostly cover material which has not been met at school.
 Can the sheets be released a little earlier, so that students have more time to attempt them?
 It was also noted that the line and surface integral sheet comes after these techniques are
 being used in PX120.
 - ACTION: In subsequent years tutors will be explicitly reminded to offer to help with the worksheet material in the tutorial the week before the worksheet is handed in.
- The lecture material for PX149 in the second term consists principally of worked examples, with only a little background and motivation. Some students reported using mostly other sources to prepare for the exam.
 - RESPONSE: This comment has been passed back to the lecturer. Many students report that having a large number of examples to work through makes the subject less abstract and therefore more accessible. We are also pleased that these lectures are being recorded for the first time this year.

Second year

No issues.

Third year

No issues.

Fourth year

 High Energy Astrophysics has no module website and therefore no online material. Some report finding the notes on the board unclear, and a lot of the material is delivered only orally, and not written down.

RESPONSE: The lecturer on this module has decided not to release lecture notes.

- Could all modules with more than one lecturer have a module feedback form for each lecturer, rather than just one feedback form for the whole module?
 RESPONSE: We will consider this for next year, for modules which are 15 CATS or more.
- Some felt inadequately prepared to read a large number of academic papers for their
 project, and unprepared on how to structure the project report. Some thought that the
 guidance given on the module website was more minimal than they had been expecting.
 RESPONSE: All students are encouraged to discuss such issues with their supervisor, who will
 be happy to go through this.
- Would it be possible either to move the deadline for the submission of the final report into the Easter vacation, or else (re)move some of the lectures in the week that the report is due to be submitted?
 - RESPONSE: We would be concerned that extending the deadline into the vacation takes time away from exam revision. The evidence from the marks is that students traditionally perform rather well on their projects when compared with exams! There are other issues too: for instance, this year, the first week of the vacation is Holy Week, when many staff will be away; and a later deadline reduces the amount of time for marking and moderation before vivas.
- Where can the university regulations on degree classification be found on the university website?
 - RESPONSE: The classification regulations are located at http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/physics/current/teach/general/assessment/conventions (Any physics student who has passed 48 CATS in PX- and MA-coded modules in the previous two years will automatically satisfy regulation 3.)
- Which exams are in which exam season?
 RSEPONSE: In the undergraduate handbook at
 http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/sci/physics/current/teach/physics/year1/progress/
 and similarly for the other year groups.
- Can the lecture notes for QTIPS be made available?
 ACTION: MP will ask the lecturer who delivered this module last year.