

**MRes/PhD GRADUATE STAFF-STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE**

For the Graduate Staff-Student Liaison Committee Meeting to held on  
Friday 08 December 2023

**Minutes**

**Agenda**

- 1. Follow-up previous meeting**
  - i. 2nd year courses**
  - ii. Visa**
  - iii. Equality-diversity-inclusion document**
- 2. Matters Arising**
- 3. Teaching/grading**
- 4. Any other business**

**Minutes of the Meeting**

Follow up:

2nd year courses: Waiting for the course evaluation. Had a meeting with the 2nd years. Processing that. Department will try to incorporate these points, along with the current evaluation.

Advance payment of visa and healthcare costs: Department cannot pay it upfront due to technical issues. Cannot pay in advance of the exam board. Between MRes and Phd, there is a period when you are not enrolled. Department will try to speed up the process of reimbursement along with the first stipend. One option will be to have the exam board earlier. But the dates are already tight for the board. Department will see if there are other options. Streamline the enrolment process for the next year

EDI document: Meeting discussed about diversity of the application pool. Last year, dept reached out to the African School of Economics for candidates. Offered two candidates. Similarly, target 1/3rd of women. Lack of British applicants. Very few PhD students from socio-economic backgrounds. Need to go beyond first level of diversity. Are there horizontal inequalities? Gokul mentioned that Indian candidates are well represented but most of them come from similar socio-caste-economic backgrounds. Damiano mentioned about the AMP. Manuel suggested a lunch between the AMP team and the admission team.

Single points fo contact for Teaching and Research contracts. Contact for RA contracts: Margaret Nash. GTA contracts: Sarah Duggan

## 2. Matters Arising

Windows in rooms: Communication from the department was bad. Manuel promised to work on the communication.

Scholarships: Additional grant for ESRC scholars to make up for the additional work required.

Options on exams: Natalie mentioned that the department has tried all options.

## 3. Grading

First year students usually grade in the first year. There were confusion with respect to setting up new accounts/payments etc. A guideline document on what all are required to do to set up account. Tax issue.

## 4. Any other business

Jackei Hanes: Library is open during Christmas, with holiday hours. Add library and resources in the agenda.

Approval for the new building has come through. Expectation is to move in by 2028.

Department wants feedback from students on the spaces.

Meeting concluded at 1450. Next meeting will be at 26.01.2024



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