

PGR (MRes/PhD) GRADUATE STAFF-STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of the GSSLC Meeting held on

19th October 2022

Present: Adam Di Lizia, Pablo Beker, Lucia Ashley, Natalie Deven, Caroline Proctor, Manuel Bagues, Jackie Hanes, Cora Neumann, Davide Sansone

Membership of the Committee:

- Welcoming of new members (Davide)
- Issue brought up by Lucia about having a rep. for Year 3 and Year 4 of the PhD

Election of Chair and Secretary

- Adam will move from Secretary to Chair
- Davide will be Secretary

Minutes of the last meeting (4th May) and Annual Report from the previous cohort

- Nothing to discuss

Resources

- Jackie introduced herself, mentioning she had two meetings with MRes year 1 students; she also said she did not receive feedback from them.
- Moreover, Jackie wants to ensure that all students are aware of the new Library Search engine accessible via different devices and a new library specific for economics.
- Caroline specifies that for any IT problem it is strictly preferable to contact the IT office directly (via e-mail).

Matters Arising

- Natalie got the following queries from PhD students:
 - "Information about securing info environments": care needs to be taken for PhD students handling sensitive data. An option could be to move those people affected by this to individual offices, but a better second option would be to talk with Caroline and see what it can be done
 - "Financial regulations": all related issues are directed to a new person, not yet trained for this; Natalie points out that most of the problems regard PhD students not properly following the regulations (i.e. not using key travel and/or purchasing very expensive flights); she also says that it's vital to follow those regulations as closely as possible. Cora says that she will let the students know and she mentions there were quite a lot of delays, that's why some students did not wait and did not abide regulations. Natalie can emphasize the regulations online. Manuel says things are improving over time.

Teaching and Learning

- Nothing to discuss

Assessment and Feedback

-Nothing to discuss

Student Engagement

-Nothing to discuss

Equality Diversity

-Nothing to discuss

General Matters

-Lucia has been mailed by Nick about "weekly attendance measures"; Manuel says that post covid we are getting into a bad equilibrium: people are not getting back to work in person. Faculty cannot be forced to come on campus, he says; for Ph.D. students, something must be done, since it is also a positive externality. That's why the monitoring attendance has been set up: people have to show up 3 days a week, and any other long absence has to be declared. Manuel points out the importance of accountability for the university's employees, Ph.D. students included. Natalie adds that the department has to fight every year to get space for offices for PG, and an attendance report might be a powerful asset in this sense.

-Why were office doors replaced by some others with glass to look inside the room? Natalie believes this is a benefit and does not see the problem in it; Manuel says it's something that is more and more common in all departments, for both faculty and PhDs.