

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

## **Minutes of the GSSLC Meeting held on**

**4<sup>th</sup> November 2020**

Present: Keremcan Gey (Chair), Andrea Guerrieri D'Amati (Secretary), Immanuel Feld, Omiros Kouvavas, Srinjoy Sen, Dennis Zander, Cora Neumann, Jeremy Smith, Jennifer Smith, Maryanne Heafey, Pablo Beker , Lucia Ashley

Apologies: Helen Riley, Stephanie Redding

### **1. Membership of the committee**

The committee welcomed its two new members from the first year of the MRes.

### **2. Election of Chair and Secretary from Student Members of the Committee**

The committee elected Keremcan Gey and Andrea Guerrieri D'Amati as its new Chair and Secretary, respectively.

### **3. Minutes of the meeting held on 29th April 2020 (attached)**

Nothing to discuss.

### **4. Annual Report from previous cohort**

Pre-sessional Math: Feedback from Pre-sessional math course was discussed. From the module leaders' perspective, they receive little direct feedback as this module is not formally evaluated; on the other hand, the 1<sup>st</sup> year MRes students felt that the module was well-structured.

PRES results: A separate meeting to discuss these results will take place later this term.

## **5. Matters Arising**

Approach to Covid-19: student reps asked whether there are any new updates on department/university approach to newly announced national measures. Jeremy believes face-to-face teaching will continue as planned but reduced where possible. He also pointed out that the Vice-chancellor will make a statement in the next few days.

Lockers in the new MRes workroom: Maryanne will follow up with Colin and update the students.

## **6. Teaching and Learning**

GTA contracts: GTA complained about delays in receiving contracts and sudden changes in the hours allocated. Jeremy replied that this was due to changes in the design of contracts by central administration, and he will liaise with relevant staff and provide explicit guidance about the way hours are allocated.

## **7. Resources (Library/IT)**

Use of printers: students can still access printers, but Department advises to come to campus only when strictly needed.

Availability of IT personnel on campus: best way to contact IT is through the department IT mail address. Maryanne will send more details about this.

## **8. Assessment and Feedback**

MRes Feedback: Manuel Bagues has set up meetings with the MRes students to ask for feedback on the course. Some issues were raised, such as the availability of workrooms for MRes students, but these were promptly resolved by Manuel and Maryanne.

## **9. Student Support and Guidance**

Nothing to discuss.

## **10. Student Engagement and Voice**

Student engagement during pandemic: Department tried to increase students' engagement with the rest of the faculty/research groups, but there still is room to improvement. Some suggestions were given, such as using Discord servers or Gather Town; it is then up to the Reps to share these ideas and gather some more ideas from their cohorts.

## **11. Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity**

Maryanne informed the committee that the Department intends to apply for Athena SWAN in April 2021.

## **12. Any other business**

Nothing to discuss.