

Student Dean Forum Term 2 23/24: LCF Media & Communication			
Date of forum: 20/02/24	UAL Staff in attendance: Jessica Bugg, School Dean Annamarie Mckie, Associate Dean of Student Experience	Arts SU Officer in attendance: Katwamba Mutale, LCF Officer	Arts SU Staff in attendance: Emily Sellon, EQC Lee Anderson, EQC
Number of student reps attending: 12			

Theme:

Deans, College Officers, and Student Reps were asked for any points they wished to raise on the agenda in advance. Topics raised included: update on the accountability framework and course approvals, feedback on Eastbank building, and decolonising the curriculum.

Topic	Update from UAL staff/ Feedback from Course Reps
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Accountability Framework and School Updates

Jessica Bugg gave an update to reps on the Accountability Framework and Reapprovals:

- The framework aims to improve courses with low student satisfaction scores.
- Courses are ranked based on student satisfaction as either red, amber, or green. Those in the red and amber get extra support to put initiatives in place to improve student experience.
- Courses with interventions in place, include:
 - Critical practice and fashion media
 - Working on understanding identity of course and resourcing
 - Creative direction for fashion
 - Has made huge improvements in student satisfaction scores, although there are gaps in year 2 completion
 - Fashion styling and production
 - Satisfaction issues in year 1, but year 2 scores have risen
 - PR and communication
 - Pockets of dissatisfaction in year1 and 2
 - MA Fashion Curation and Cultural Programming
 - Working on balancing practice and theory

Jessica outlined the course reapproval process, which involves checking courses based on student feedback and external feedback.

School particularly focusing on:

- Remapping employability across curriculum
 - Introduced a DPS year for next academic year
 - Integrating theory and practice – choice between a 40-credit piece of writing or a 20-credit piece of writing with a critical framing of practice
- Social purpose
 - Elevating climate, social, and racial justice
 - Highlighting what's already in curriculum and any deficits
- Post grad
 - moving to a 12-month model
 - Introduced electives
 - Embedded research methods and theoretical frameworks throughout all units

Decolonisation	<p>LCF Officer Katwamba Mutale is working on a toolkit on decolonisation of the curriculum and the attainment gap.</p> <p>Katwamba asked students how familiar they were with both concepts. While a couple of reps had heard of them, most were unfamiliar with these concepts. A few had them mentioned in their courses, particularly decolonising the curriculum in the context of course reapprovals. Some reps shared instances that met the definition of decolonisation, for example learning about fashion from non-western cultures.</p> <p>Katwamba provided an explanation of both topics and shared that as part of his work as officer he would like to advocate for a more consistent approach to these initiatives across the colleges.</p> <p>Jessica Bugg shared the attainment gap data for SMC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Home White student attainment: 78%• Home Black student attainment: 67%• Difference of -11%• Best in the college, but still have work to do on it <p>https://www.arts.ac.uk/about-ual/equality-and-diversity/ethnic-representation-index#:~:text=awarding%20gap%20(the%20difference%20between,20%25%20reported%20at%20several%20universities</p> <p>Annamarie shared an overview of the formal processes where both decolonisation and the attainment gap are addressed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reapprovals, course monitoring, and teaching observations each year.
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Eastbank update
and feedback

In Gavin Jenkins' absence, Jessica Bugg shared updates from the building.

- Wi-Fi: aware of drop out spots throughout the building, and it's being monitored.
- Temperatures: temperatures have improved since before the winter break.
- Drinking fountain issues have been resolved, available next to the bathrooms on each floor.
- Lighting remains an issue, lighting staff coming in 19th Feb.
- Lifts are being monitored.
- Canteen costs: Annamarie Mckie and Arts Su working on this. Arts SU has plans to organise a meeting with catering company to hear student feedback.
- Disruption in open spaces: work on this is ongoing, if reps have concerns about layout of rooms let Course Leader know.
- LEV:
 - Photography:
 - Black and white processing will be available from 21 Feb and colour from 26 Feb. In absence of spaces, connected with professional dark room and processing. Dark room is being worked on by staff.
 - Hair and Makeup:
 - LEV that was installed didn't function but has been fixed.
 - Performance, Hair and Makeup, and Photography will have access to spaces for the 2 weeks over Easter.
 - Aware that courses have been significantly impacted and will be looking at extended submission dates.
 - Pop up photography studios will be available to students outside prioritised courses.

Rep feedback:

- Temperatures in the rooms, both overly warm and cold temperatures.
 - Medical incident in 824 due to the warm temperature. BA Costume Design during open studio time.
 - Windows won't close or not allowed to open due to high winds.
 - 604
- Lighting:
 - Dark lighting in heart spaces.
 - Spotlight in open computer space that shines directly in eyes when sat at certain computers.

Action Log for School Dean & Students' Union

Actions for School Dean /UAL Staff	Update on Progress
Jessica to prioritise and feedback on temperature concerns, particularly considering medical incident.	
Deans to share info on student committee and student representation on Building User Group.	
Arts SU to share info on meeting with catering staff when available.	