

Student Dean Forum Term 2 21/22: Fashion Business School			
Date & Time: 17/02/22 13.00-14.00	UAL Staff in Attendance: Liz Gee, Dean Shingi Sibanda, Senior Employability Educator Mirela De Lacerda Barbosa, Graduate Futures Enterprise Consultant	Arts SU Officer in Attendance: NA	Arts SU Staff Facilitator: Charlie Souter – Phillips Rachel Wornell
Course Rep in attendance: 16			
Mural Link: https://app.mural.co/t/artsstudentsunion1479/m/artsstudentsunion1479/1644315283524/aba78bca0adb412c56ef2cca89f24f36e437946b			

Theme:

Course reps were asked to provide feedback from their courses/cohorts on topics centred around the themes of Employability, creative attributes, careers and entrepreneurship

1. UAL Careers & Employability Service
2. Employability & Enterprise in the curriculum
3. Organized activity & initiatives around Employability
4. Employability advice & support for International Students

Topic	Feedback from Course Reps	Response and Suggested Solution
UAL Careers & Employability Service	There is a lack of 1:1 availability.	SS: Lack of availability is a capacity issue but looking to host sessions on campus to see more students. You can get in touch with the inbox and get the same support asynchronously. 1:1s via the Graduate Support Hub are also available for 2 years post-graduation. MD: There are eight slots per day from Tues-Thurs. The coming month's slots are released on the moodle page 10 days before the end of the month, that's a good time to book.

	<p>It would be good to be connecting with corporates and hearing about available opportunities.</p> <p>As a first-year rep it was hard to get feedback on this top. Very little response when asking other students. Might be that they don't know about the opportunities available. If they did respond, it was to say they knew of it but not what C&E actually do.</p>	<p>SS: Arts Temps are looking to recruit a new member of staff so that they can restart the newsletter and send out opportunities directly. In the meantime, Shingi's team will be doing the signposting to opportunities.</p> <p>LG: There is in-school work e.g research assistant posted on Arts Temps as well as external job opportunities.</p> <p>LG: The Grad Futures team should be visible to students from the get-go.</p> <p>ACTION: LG to request Grad Futures team are integrated into "Introduction To" first year first block unit across FBS to enhance awareness then reminders at Year 2 and Year 3 inductions.</p> <p>SS: This is a challenge for the central team, so they must do a lot of promo and comms. If interested in hearing more, suggest signing up to the C&E newsletter.</p> <p>MD: Aware that Grad Future moodle pages are overwhelming. First years heard a presentation during the Big Welcome, but aware you're hearing a lot of info at that time. You should be auto enrolled in the FBS newsletter.</p>
<p>Employability & Enterprise in the curriculum</p>	<p>Support and advice on CVs/ employability varies from lecturer to lecturer. This impacted people's assessments in the People Management Unit as marks were given to students based on their CV and LinkedIn page. It felt unfair.</p> <p>What are the implications of choosing a placement vs taking up an alternative brief.</p>	<p>LG: Individual lecturers will always have their own preferences, go to the Grad Futures team for best practice. Summative Assessment of CVs etc has been removed from the course during the re-approval process.</p> <p>LG: If you already have a job you can choose the alternative brief. It shouldn't be any more days on campus and isn't any better or worse than choosing a placement.</p> <p>ACTION: LG to ask Unit Leader to share information with students on the alternative brief, including what it entails and what days you'd be expected on campus. DONE</p>

<p>Organized activity & initiatives around Employability</p>	<p>It would be good to have a cohesive development programme of Grad Futures workshops which a cohort would attend together. This would help create a community feel.</p> <p>There are lots of very tailored sessions, it would be good to go one step back and do something like “creative career brainstorming”, where you can work out what your values are, where your skills lie, and work out what you want to pursue.</p> <p>Fashion management: Never had a talk from a manager or person working in a big corporate.</p> <p>Fashion Management year 2: Students want more networking events with industry professionals in person (career fair or talks). Would motivate, inspire, give confidence to students.</p>	<p>LG: Not sure if that would work as they are organized so that they can be “pick and mix”.</p> <p>SS: This does exist – but our services are not designed that way because there are so many people on so many courses with different timetables and interests. If you want information on a structured programme, get in touch with Shingi.</p> <p>MD: Have tried similar things, but people drop out and there are timetabling issues.</p> <p>MD: Great idea! In the meantime, there is a video of the Brand You workshop, which might touch on some of this, and suggest checking out the creative attributes framework which can help you find out what you want.</p> <p>SS: Agree it’s a good idea. Also have a padlet with recordings of previous sessions you might be interested in.</p> <p>LG: Enterprise management unit is about to start in year 2 – the lecturers are industry experienced in enterprise and small business, not large corporates, but still with management experience.</p> <p>ACTION: LG to tell Course Leader Ayshen that students feel there isn’t enough firsthand industry contact built into the curriculum. DONE</p> <p>SS: C&E will be including more industry collaboration in the upcoming masterclass series, so keep an eye on the what’s on page.</p> <p>LG: We have tried to organize these things in person in the past, but there has been low attendance. Look at the Fashion Means Business talks – organized by Hannah Middleton – as they are great opportunities to connect and network. There are also lots of extra-curricular opportunities, so look at</p>
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		<p>the opportunities shared via moodle and email.</p> <p>ACTION: Student Reps to identify subject areas they would like us to source a speaker on</p> <p>MD: Summer Graduate Futures Careers Conference will be in person (with digital elements) – will also be trialing some in-person workshops in term 3.</p>
Employability advice & support for International Students	<p>MA international student – don't feel like as an international student that you have a lot of connections with industries so can't access placements and work after graduation.</p>	<p>SS: C&E can provide tailored support to international students. Currently working on a guide for summer term for international students. Student services can support you with visa related information. Going forward, ads on websites are being updated so it's clearer whether/ how international students can get involved.</p> <p>MD: The Grad Futures moodle page has guides on how to work in different countries. Book in a consultation and workshop – can support with visas and startup costs. Placement teams manage international opportunities too.</p> <p>LG: We are looking at how we can link students with international alumni to open opportunities, but as we have alumni in over 50 countries, it isn't easy</p>
Any other business	<p>MSc student rep noted frustration that their feedback does not benefit them, only future students. LCF is good at reacting to feedback about wellness issues and is enacted immediately, but with course issues, the changes can only be made for the next year.</p> <p>LG: The quality processes at the university mean that it is hard to change anything at a course level quickly. We can tinker around the edges, the planning of a course takes a year and a half. As we have advertised the course as X, under consumer law that is what we need to deliver. But we do take it all feedback into account.</p> <p>LG: People to come to Liz with suggestions and ideas for what could be run at school level – ready for your input.</p>	

Action Log for School Dean, C&E, & Students' Union

Actions for School Dean	Update on Progress	Response to students
LG to get course leaders to share information with students on the alternative brief, including what it entails and what days you'd be expected on campus.	Done	This is relevant to IEP unit. Alternative brief released and we also crafter FBS internships following your feedback.
LG to speak to the Grad Futures team to send out some comms to first years.	In progress	Graduate Futures representatives to attend inductions or have a session embedded into units running early in term each year
LG to tell Fashion Management course leader Aiyesha that students feel there isn't enough firsthand industry contact built into the curriculum.	Done	As re-approved curriculum is rolled out there will be new opportunities for speakers to be embedded in units
Actions for Students' Union	Update on Progress	Response to students