

## **Postgraduate Officer – March Report**

**Name: Issy Smith**

### **Section 1: General Update**

- \*Easter break - 1.5 weeks off, only 1 week to comment on (in March) since last update\*
- PGTAs, Mature Students, the PG(T/R) Experience are all still key priorities at the moment.
- I will be joining the UCL delegation in May going to China to promote UCL and the SU, but also principally speak to PG offer holders and help to strengthen partnerships with Chinese universities.
- Upcoming conferences/events: UKAT (personal tutoring), NUS, RGSU Residential

### **Section 2: Sabbatical Officer Priorities**

**1) Research, Masters and Mature students have an inclusive programme of events and activities; feeling valued as members of our community and supporting their wellbeing.**

Not much update from last.

Upcoming workshop in April with SU staff on PG priorities for the next year.

**2) Research and Masters students have a respected voice and are able to make informed choices, to better their education.**

Not much update from last.

Meeting with key Mature student actors approaching. Aim is to fill the network positions and work towards a plan for next year and support of mature students. On this, I also would like to secure more support and resources for our networks generally.

**3) Students are financially supported in their time of need, so that they are able to achieve their potential.**

No update from last.

**4) Students who work know their rights and are developed, rewarded and recognised by their employer.**

Not much to update from last.

Will look to do a special edition of the PG newsletter for PGRs, including a campaign on PGTA rights and contracts at UCL.

### **Section 3: Attendance at important Union meetings and events**

#### **1) Union meetings attended and main outcomes**

Education Report - gaps in current research identified, topics firmed.

NUS Delegates briefing - filled in on the upcoming NUS conference. Policies to be discussed and itinerary.

PGT/PGR focus groups - answers to be collated and utilised to inform upcoming SU staff workshop on priorities.

### **Section 4: Attendance at important UCL meetings and events**

#### **1) UCL meetings attended and main outcomes**

LMS Education and Student Experience board - primarily discussed the 'free pass' system.

Disciplinary panels x2

Academic misconduct panels x2

Academic Board Statute 18 group - questions just sent to HR to get clarity on processes and outcomes of Statute 18 proceedings (complaints/misconduct procedure for staff)

University Mental Health Charter Oversight group - Grand Challenges update provided (includes looking into ADHD referral pathway) as well as presentation of principles.

### **Section 5: What progress have you made on your assigned policy proposals?**

#### **Policy: Commitment to harm reduction**

No update.