

Faculty Representatives Termly Report

2017-18

Your Name: Jessica Tu

Your Faculty & Role: Bartlett School of Planning, Faculty Representative

Faculty Priorities:

One of the largest student issues is the lack of available space within the library. This is hardly a new phenomenon, but is still a relevant issue year upon year. When discussing this with students, there is clear antagonism against students that opt to reserve spaces for over an hour within the library by leaving personal belongings, which was discovered by providing surveys to students.

In addition, the main concern was whether there was already appropriate space that was not particularly available to students within the faculty. As an example, some students were particularly concerned about available space in the Architecture building and if it was available due to communication issues, as found through the Lead Departmental Representatives.

Meetings in the Faculty:

In some meetings with Faculty, one factor discussed within the Library Committee was the monitoring of the computer clusters below Central House, which were often unattended and taken up by belongings. As this area was under the Bartlett and not the Library administration, the Share the Space scheme was not enforced in this area.

Another meeting which was particularly important was the Faculty Teaching Committee, where student attendance and Lecturecast were discussed. With regards to student attendance, the issue of some students arriving late and then leaving early was highlighted as unfair, as they were able to mark down as having attended despite only showing for half of the lecture. This was considered disruptive to students attempting to listen to the lecturer, yet constantly interrupted by students walking in and out of the lecture space. This has been highlighted, with some consideration being given to electronic measurement using a passcode or through the discretion of the lecturer.

The second issue was with Lecturecast, which students felt would have been helpful considering the size of the lecture (making it difficult to hear) or with regards to international students (with some cultural transition issues) which made it valuable. This was being addressed as a part of the Connected Curriculum Project and was hoped to be enforced across the Bartlett as soon as possible.

Meetings with the Union:

Within the union, some of the priorities raised have been concerning social rights, such as motions supporting the University of London workers. Students are hoping to campaign against unfair and unjust working conditions. Most are kept on lower wages and have since been forced to go on strike. In response, the Union Council hopes to support campaign action in favour of the workers, something broadly agreed upon within the meeting.

Other comments: