

Lancaster University
Fylde College
Syndicate Meeting Tuesday 15th January 2013
Fylde Common Room 1.00 p.m.



Apologies ; Katy Beth Heaward, Jordan Finneran

Attendees; Frank Wareing, Jackie Williams, Denise Rutledge, Oli Monks, David Summers, KatyBeth Heaward, Aveline Cruickshank, Jamie Rogers, Ricky Dunn, Mathew Ikediashi, Simon Clarke, Stacey Spencer, Akshay Ravi, Emma Herron, Mandy Chetwynd, Chris May, Grace Thomas, Kerry Fenton, Heather Willes, Shelagh Walsh

1. Welcome to new JCR

The Principal welcomed the new JCR team to the meeting and explained the differences between the role of the Syndicate and the College Management meetings.

Syndicate meetings would give the students an opportunity to hear what was being discussed at Senate and would give them an opportunity for representation via the college Principal and the Senate Representative for the college (currently Mr David Summers, Deputy Librarian).

The new JCR was as follows:-

President: Simon Clarke

VP Welfare: Jamie Rogers

VP Socials and Events: Christie Hutchby

Chair: Joe Short

Academic Officer: Matt Triggs

International Officer: Omar Anwar

Female Welfare Officer: Christina Meyer

Male Welfare Officer: Sam Parry

Socials and Events Officers: Arron Mallinson and Robyn Challinor

Treasurer: Katy-Beth Heaward

Publicity Officer: Arielle Planchette

Communications Officer: Jordan Finneran

2. Principal's Report to Syndicate for the year ahead.

- Role of Colleges in the University's strategy. The Principals would be attending a meeting with Vice Chancellor during the coming week. Fylde Principal would be delivering a presentation to the VC outlining the current and future roles that the colleges contribute to the student experience at Lancaster
- New College Constitution. There was now a standard template for all college constitutions. To these each college could add their own statements regarding college ethos and how their college aimed to serve the student body. The Principal said that he was keen to increase student representation in general and as such had included in the Fylde Constitution an increased attendance of students to Syndicate. Upto 15 students would be invited to Syndicate and it would be the JCR's responsibility to appoint these. These would not have to be JCR Exec members, indeed it may be useful to increase 'minority' membership such as Off campus first years, and it would also be good to see more international students involved at this level.

- Specific themes: internationalisation, student welfare and discipline, student employability, alumni relations. The Principal said that all these areas would continue/start to play a major role in the direction of the college.

It had been noted with concern, that there appeared to be a spate of more serious disciplinary situations across campus which were involving the police. It was suggested that maybe some JCR welfare campaigns could be used to good effect here.

Internationalisation would remain a priority concern for the college. By continuing to provide inclusive social events, by supporting scholarships for international endeavours (charity work, LUSU Involve trips) and by looking at enhancing the welcome/care that students are given on arrival and throughout their first year at Fylde it was hoped that the College could support the internationalisation aims of the University.

Employability would be encouraged by helping support with Lancaster Award and other CEEC initiatives.

The Principal would also be looking at increasing contact/relationships with Fylde alumni as a potentially rich source of mentoring/career advice for current students.

3. Senate

Information on forward schedule of business

Question on notice to the VC: development of Lancaster's Chinese campus

Items for Discussion

- University Strategy – of interest here was Senate Effectiveness and the potential reduction of College representation at Senate. It was likely that college Principals would continue to serve on Senate but that the additional college representative may not. There would be a focus group...
- National Student Survey – the Pro VC for Colleges, Mandy Chetwynd explained that the NSS was open to final year students and was an important tool for identifying issues across the University or within the Faculties. Senate will be asking for feedback from the results from the Faculties. Lancaster is doing well being placed 5th nationally with 80% plus satisfaction across the board.

The Survey brings to the fore things like the usefulness of criteria used for marking, feedback from staff and effectiveness of teaching.

Mandy Chetwynd also mentioned the Lancaster Student Experience Survey which is open for 1st and 2nd years and asked that all be encouraged to complete the survey. The Survey looks at non academic issues on campus and in the past has shaped the new sports centre, the learning Zone and college bar refurbishment. Participation is therefore important!

- Membership of Council
- Revised College Constitution. As above.

Items for Report (selected)

- Council Reports on strategic options for Lancaster's development. The Principal said that Lancaster was potentially at a turning point in its development. Lancaster has been deemed 'small and excellent' for a long time in terms of research excellence. The University would be looking to ally with similarly aged and sized institutions to increase national standing. There would also be information about the international situation
- College and Student Experience Committee report on student employability

4. Bars?

Next meeting : Tuesday 5th March