

Date: 24 June 2019

Time: 12.30-14.00

Location: SALC 10

*Lunch will be provided*

## AGENDA

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1. **Welcome and Apologies**
2. **Minutes of the UG Academic meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and** (Paper 1a)
3. **Matters arising from the UG Academic minutes and Review of Action Tracker** (Paper 1b)
4. **Minutes of the UG Wellbeing meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019 and** (Paper 2a)
5. **Matters arising from the UG Wellbeing minutes and Review of Action Tracker** (Paper 2b)
6. **Reports from Department Student Representatives:** (Paper 3)
  - 6.1 **Physics**
  - 6.2 **Life Sciences - Biochemistry**
  - 6.3 **Life Sciences - Biological Sciences**
  - 6.4 **Mathematics**
  - 6.5 **Chemistry**
7. **Standing Items**
  - 7.1 **Curriculum Review** - update from DUGS and Dept. Reps
  - 7.2 **Feedback on Assessment**
  - 7.3 **NSS Action Plans**
8. **Chair's business**
9. **Any other business**
10. **Dates of Future Meetings: tbc**

# Imperial College London

## Faculty of Natural Sciences Undergraduate Student Staff Committee

Date: Wednesday 13 March 2019

Time: 12.30-14.00

Location: HXLY 341

### MINUTES

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#### Present:

Donald Craig (DC)	DUGS Chemistry
David Evans (DE)	DUGS Mathematics
Robert Forsyth (RF)	DUGS Physics
Kasia Kmiecowskiak	FoNS Administrative Assistant
Emma McCoy (EMcC)	Co-Chair & vice-Dean (Education) FoNS
Rebecca Middleton (RM)	Faculty Education Manager
Stuart Haslam (SH)	Senior Tutor, Life Sciences
Yuan Chen	Chemistry- Year 1 Rep
Michaela Flegrova (MF)	RCSU Vice President (Education)
Lorenz Hoffmann (LH)	Chemistry - UG Departmental Representative
Theana Johnson	Life Sciences- Biochemistry - Year 3 Rep
Timothy Marley (TM)	Physics - UG Departmental Representative
Rohan Mehta	Life Sciences- Biochemistry - Year 2 Rep
Alexandra Mihailescu	Physics - Year 3 Rep
Albert Muljono (AM)	Life Sciences- Biology - UG Departmental Representative
Mika Smith	Physics - Year 2 Rep
Mark Thomas	Physics - Year 3 Rep
Alix Vermeulen (AV)	Maths - Year 1 Rep
Isabelle Zhang	Life Sciences- Biochemistry - Year 1 Rep

#### Apologies:

John Seddon	Faculty Senior Tutor
Huw Williams	DUGS Life Sciences
Isabelle Esain-Garcia	Life Sciences - UG Departmental Representative
Shervin Sabeghi	RCSU Vice President (Welfare & Wellbeing)

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

MF welcomed the attendees to the meeting and apologies, as above, were noted.

#### 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 14 November 2018

The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the previous meeting.

#### 3. Review of Actions

The action tracker was reviewed and the following completed/ updated actions noted:

##### 2017/18

**Actions 6** and **11** were noted as complete.

##### 2018/19

**Action 1** – DC asked the DUGS how their departments manage to have longer periods of time between results being released and the resits for those students who fail:

- **Physics** – RF reported that the re-sits take place end of August and the exam board meets one week later.
- **Life Sciences** – SH reported the period between results and resits is approximately 5 to 6 weeks; the re-sits take place end of August and the decision is taken as soon as possible.
- **Maths** – DE reported that the exam board meets end of June, re-sits take place end of August and the results are released around 20<sup>th</sup> of September. He added that the Department of Mathematics deals with the visas via other means.

***ACTION: RM to collect the comments on re-sits from DUGS and to share it as a good practice.***

#### **4. Reports from Department Student Representatives:**

##### **4.1 Chemistry**

LH reported the following:

- There are issues with boarding the Shuttle bus by students who need to travel between South Kensington and White City campuses to attend lectures or labs as there is not enough space at peak times. The 4<sup>th</sup> year Rep who is working on this issue, had established that generally six people are left out in the first three journeys of the day. Department representative had suggested that perhaps another smaller shuttle bus should be added. In response to that, RM said that this issue had been raised at the faculty level and there are ongoing discussions taking place to resolve this problem. EC added that the GradPad residents think that if they had been provided with the accommodation, the College should also provide the transport. She stressed that the shuttle bus had been provided for work purposes and not as a commuter bus for students living in the GradPad.

***ACTION: LH to send the data regarding the shuttle bus to RM and RM to pass on to the Faculty Operations Officer.***

- The study space and computer room in White City had been made available, with positive feedback from students.
- The idea of going paperless at the Department of Chemistry had generally received a positive feedback.

##### **4.2 Life Sciences- Biochemistry**

AM briefly outlined several matters:

- The department, with the support of the RCSU, had made strides on a new common room for Life Sciences students. The works would possibly start at the beginning of the summer and finish by the next academic year (July/August 2020).
- Modules for third years should be more coordinated to end at the same time, as there is disparity amongst end dates.
- A point to collect feedback from Erasmus students had been arranged in order to gauge how they are doing/fitting in at Imperial.

##### **4.3 Life Sciences – Biological Sciences**

The Life sciences Dep Rep sent the following report:

###### *FIRST YEAR*

- Communication – Y1 students are not willing to fill out surveys due to the amount and the open-ended nature of the questions. In students' opinion, the open-ended questions are considered as not approachable and could be a major limiting factor for the number of responses in surveys. Therefore, the MCQs are preferable, and first year academic reps will adapt the type of questions when sending out future surveys.
- Exam revision – high number of attendants in revision lectures had been observed. First year academic representatives noted that topics such as feedback, career choices and mental health, which are considered of high relevance, could be scheduled for after exams period, and strictly cover course content in the revision lectures. It had been suggested to

upload to blackboard the material that would be covered in revision lectures. In addition, the mock exam practice and practice papers had been extremely successful and students had commented that it would also be convenient for them to have more self-testing resources on blackboard.

- General feedback – Y1 students who attended Peer-Assisted Learning sessions had found them useful and essential. However, the attendance had been low, hence academic reps will be encouraging more students to attend. He added that students had mentioned the importance of the detailed and concise feedback on coursework as it helps them to improve for future assignments.

#### *SECOND YEAR*

- Timing - Y2 students find the timing of coursework submission extremely challenging which in some cases, had been affecting the mental health and the academic performance of the students. There is a very big step between first and second year, especially in terms of coursework and practicals overload. The department noted that stress levels in second year are expected to be higher than in first year but that the academic content cannot be sacrificed. To partially resolve this issue, Wellbeing Representatives are organising several events to improve students' mental health.

#### *FINAL YEAR*

- Final year students are overall extremely happy with the modules content and quality of teaching. A few suggestions were done to improve the internal organization of few specific modules, and students were highly encouraged to express their opinions in SOLE for improvement for future years.
- Final year projects have just started and everyone is enjoying their topics of research (literature/lab). No concerns had been reported to final year reps regarding the final year project allocations.
- Students appreciate the organisation of career events by the department (eg. Postgraduate study talk).

#### *DEPARTMENTAL REPORT*

- Incentives for NSS survey completion and finalised paperwork for Curriculum Review had been discussed with the DUGS and Biological Sciences Departmental Academic Representative.
- Feedback had been collected not only from Imperial-based students but also from students currently doing their year abroad/industry or Erasmus in the department. Their opinion is being taken into account in the Student Staff Committee Meeting and they are highly satisfied with the support they are receiving from the department while performing their years in industry/abroad/Erasmus.
- A solution has been finally found for the Life Sciences Common Room situation and the department is currently sorting out the details at College level.
- FoNS Prizes for Excellence are currently being discussed and the list of nominees would be soon presented to the department.

#### **4.4 Mathematics**

AV reported the ongoing issue with regards to the lack of microwaves and confirmed that students had been told it was not possible to put a microwave in the Maths common room due to ventilation/ health and safety issues- although mixed messages have been received on this. She reported that it had been suggested to place a microwave for Maths students in the SAF building but this would be too far away. There had been also plans to provide microwaves in the Senior Common Room, but the committee agreed that this would not be practical due to a large number of students in the SCR during lunchtime. MF added, that if the microwaves were provided in the SCR, the ICU would need to arrange cleaning. Considering that other departments have microwaves in their buildings, RM will investigate the reasons of not permitting the microwaves in the Huxley building.

On a slightly different note, the Dep Reps asked about the pizza vending machine. In response to that, TM said that this proposal was almost withdrawn due to the high financial risk, but at present, there are still plans to go ahead with installation of such machines.

#### 4.5 Physics

The Physics Dep Rep reported the following:

- Curriculum Review: Sessions were held in Level 8 Common Room asking staff and students to rank the learning outcomes of courses.
- Lecture Theatre 2 refurbishment: Schematic was approved on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> March. Student Reps visited the University of Leeds on 6<sup>th</sup> March to view the teaching rooms there and decide on the best effectiveness of the layout proposed in Blackett building. TM said that in general the rooms in Leeds are well designed. Their layout could be well used for both group work as well as for more didactic teaching. However, some concerns had been raised such as lack of blackboards/whiteboards, some desks were facing the wall and some seats did not have desks.
- Furniture: Spaces on level 1, 2 and 3 are being updated. He had visited the Orange Box showroom and tested furniture to make better use of the student space in Blackett. The level 1 furniture had been thrown into flux due to the lecture theatre refurbishment.
- Computing Suite: The Blackett computing suite is being renovated in the summer. The suite will now (hopefully) include more seats, bookable booths, and break-out space.
- Python on Problem Sheets: Lloyd James proposed a Student Shapers program to include python-based questions on problem sheets. This was well received, but caution should be taken when setting the number.
- SOLE response: was largely very low. Students would like to completely switch to Qualtrics and subject-specific surveys doable in-lecture. EMcC reported that this had been reported at the recent Faculty Education Committee and work on updating the SOLE is underway.
- Wellbeing Week Breakfasts: Simon Bland had lead the charge on organising breakfasts during the departmental Wellbeing Week. Students could also participate in yoga and meditation sessions.

### 5. Standing Items

#### 5.1 Curriculum Review (CR)

RM reported that the CR paperwork for all undergraduate programmes had been approved by the Faculty Education Committee and had been sent for approval to the Programmes Committee which meets on 26 March. Once approved, the paper work will be considered at the QAEC meeting on 10 April. DE added that some regulation issues that might affect students still need to be resolved.

#### 5.2 Feedback on Assessment

The Chemistry Dep Rep noted that a number of students receive their feedback with a delay. The Physics Dep Rep reported that often 99% of the coursework is being marked on time and only 1% is not. Consequently the coursework can't be returned to the rest of the cohort. MF said that majority of students would appreciate if they were informed about delays in receiving the assessment feedback. In response to that, EMcC said that all departments have an assessment feedback turnaround monitoring system in place and added that quality of the feedback is most important and that sometimes it is challenging to provide constructive feedback within set deadlines, depending on the piece of work in question.

#### 5.3 NSS Action Plans

RF reported that various events are being organised for Physics students (including MRes) as part of the NSS Action Plan. The Physics Dep Rep added that the department will provide breakfast for students during exam sessions.

DE reported that the Department of Mathematics is organising 'Outduction' sessions for final year students. In addition, the department ensures the transparency about the exam setting and scaling and the staff is open to explain various aspects of the examination process to students.

### 6. Chair's Business

- FoNS RCSU survey – MF tabled the RCSU Survey results. She reported that the response rate had been high (~800 responses). The questions had been similar to the NSS and the results shown that the students’ satisfaction expressed in both surveys is comparable. . The committee would not recommend conducting such survey each year, but suggested reducing the number of questions and keeping the free text option. RM noted that from her experience the comments made in the free text are most helpful when analysing survey results. They are all carefully scrutinised and form a basis for taking actions and making improvements.
- I-Explore update - MF briefly explained that the I-Explore Modules would consist of a broad range of cross-College modules grouped into four categories, two of which already exist (but which would be expanded), and two of which are entirely new. These would include Horizons Modules. All I-Explore Modules will be offered for degree credit attracting 5 ECTS, except languages that remained at 7.5 ECTS. More details about the I-Explore can be found here:  
<https://wwwf.imperial.ac.uk/blog/learning-and-teaching-strategy/2018/08/29/developing-i-explore-modules/>
- Annual Monitoring Reports - MF reported that last year, students were not clear where the Annual Monitoring Reports had been published. Since this is still an issue, RM will contact DUGS and find out whether they shared the UG Annual Monitoring Reports via Balckboard or other online media and ensures that DUGS contact the Student Reps and let them know the exact online location of the reports.  
***ACTION: RM to contact DUGS and find out whether they shared the UG Annual Monitoring Reports via Balckboard or other online media and ensures that DUGS contact the Student Reps and let them know the exact online location of the reports.***
- Microwaves in common areas – see item 6.4

**7. AOB**

EC reported that Albert Muljono will take over her role as the RCSU Vice President (Education) in the next academic year.

**8. Dates of Future Meetings:**

FoNS/ College	Committee	Date	Time	Room
FoNS	UG Academic Student Staff Committee	Monday 24/06/19	12.30- 14.00	TBC

## FoNS UG Academic Student Staff Committee Actions 2018/19

Item/ Reference	Action	Owner	Meeting Date	Update/ Notes	Progress
<b>FoNS SSC Meeting 13 March 2019</b>					
6.	RM to contact DUGS and find out whether they shared the UG Annual Monitoring Reports via Blackboard or other online media and ensures that DUGS contact the Student Reps and let them know the exact online location of the reports.	Rebecca Middleton	13/03/19	Emailed all DUGS, responses as follows:  <b>CHEMISTRY:</b> 'The Chemistry Annual Monitoring reports are available on Chemistry Blackboard in ChemCentral→Director of Undergraduate Studies→Annual Monitoring Reports. I don't think I've sent an email to students, but rather have mentioned it at various meetings... I'll let the Dep Rep know now.'	Pending
5.	LH to send the data regarding the shuttle bus to RM and RM to pass on to the Faculty Operations Officer.	Lorenz Hoffmann	13/03/19		Complete
4.	RM to collect the comments on re-sits from DUGS and to share it as a good practice.	Rebecca Middleton	13/03/19		Complete
<b>FoNS SSC Meeting 14 Nov 2018</b>					
3.	RM to check the existing College policy on what teaching activity is permitted in the first week of term.	Rebecca Middleton	14/11/18	Response from Director of Student Services:  <i>'There's no rule at the moment, as long as whatever is timetabled doesn't clash with the Union's Freshers' Fair or welcome talks on the Monday.</i>  <i>The Deputy DSS will be undertaking a review of</i>	Complete

**Paper 1b**

Item/ Reference	Action	Owner	Meeting Date	Update/ Notes	Progress
				<i>Welcome Week / Induction this autumn, so after consultation, the position might change.'</i>	
2.	LH to forward the email he had received regarding Panopto access to RM. RM to discuss with the Chemistry DUGS and the Learning Technology team.	Lorenz Hoffmann	14/11/18		
1.	RM to RM raise the matter of the time between results being released and resits for those students who fail with the Chemistry DUGS and to report back to the next meeting.	Rebecca Middleton	14/11/18	To be discussed further at next meeting.	Complete
<b>CARRIED OVER FROM 2017/18 FoNS SSC Meeting 20 June 2018</b>					
11.	EMc and NH to follow up progress regarding the discrepancy in the Imperial Bursary payment amount with Malcolm Edwards.	Emma McCoy/ Nazia Hirjee	20 June 2018		
6.	AS to contact Alan Spivey to discuss whether it might be possible to revisit the proposal to redesign space in SAF to create a shared common room area, and to emphasise the view that space should be prioritised for those departments which currently have none available.	AS	08 February 2018		Action Complete - but to be followed up

## Faculty of Natural Sciences Undergraduate Wellbeing Student Staff Committee

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Time: 12.30 – 14.00

Location: SAF 120

### MINUTES

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#### Present:

Shervin Sabeghi (SS)- Chair	RCSU Vice President (Welfare & Wellbeing)
John Seddon (JS)- Co-Chair	Faculty Senior Tutor
Chris Ford (CF)	Maths Senior Tutor
Stuart Haslam (SH)	Life Sciences Senior Tutor
Ingo Mueller-Wodarg (IMW)	Physics Senior Tutor
Stephen Connolly	Life Sciences Undergraduate Liaison Officer
Sai Yoghananthan	Student Experience Coordinator, Mathematics
Michaela Flegrova (MF)	RCSU Vice President (Education)
Roland Rousselot	Maths Wellbeing Dep Rep
Seoyeon Lee	LS (Biology) Wellbeing Dep Rep
Anna Mossop (AM)	Physics Year 2 Wellbeing Rep
Lei Shen	LS (Biochemistry) Year 1 Wellbeing Rep
Rebecca Middleton (RM)	Faculty Education Manager, Faculty of Natural Sciences
Kasia Kmiecowskiak	FoNS Administrative Assistant

#### Apologies:

Pietro Spanu	Life Sciences Senior Tutor
Amelia Baron	Chemistry Student Experience Officer
Emma McCoy	Vice-Dean Education
Becky Neil	ICU Deputy President (Welfare)

#### 1. Welcome and Apologies

SS welcomed attendees to the meeting and apologies, as above, were noted.

#### 2. Minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2018

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

#### 3. Matters arising from the minutes and Review of Action Tracker

The action tracker was reviewed and updated.

**Action 1** – RM reported that services supporting students' wellbeing had been set up at the White City. Detailed information could be found on the following website:

<https://www.imperial.ac.uk/student-hub/white-city-service/>

**Action 2** - SS had found out that in 2015/16 Felix used to publish about 6-7 editions that contained a section on student wellbeing. He would like it to be re-introduced from next academic year.

MF reported that the RSCU Survey had been conducted and that the response rate had been high (~800 responses). The questions had been similar to the NSS and the results shown that the students' satisfaction expressed in both surveys is comparable. A number of comments had shown that students experience considerable stress during their studies at the College. MF will write a

joint report based on the collated answers and comments to see what support could be provided. She added that unfortunately, there is no quick solution to reduce the stress that students experience, but new activities/services could be put in place. She reported that in around June time, drop-in session would be arranged for students to discuss the issues raised in the survey in more details with Student Welfare Reps. RM said that this is a very good idea as often comments do not reflect clearly the real meaning of the issues. Therefore, it would be useful to explore them further at the June drop-in sessions. RM added that students' satisfaction at the Faculty of Engineering is greater and it would be useful to find out the reason behind it. MT and SS plan to write a summary of the issues raised at the June drop-in sessions and they will circulate it to the committee. They added that information that could possibly reveal students' identity will not be disclosed.

***ACTION: MT and SS to circulate the summary of the issues raised at the June drop-in sessions to the committee.***

#### **4. Reports from Department Student Representatives:**

**4.1 Chemistry** – no Student Reps were present.

#### **4.2 Life Sciences- Biochemistry**

Biochemistry Student Rep reported that various events had been arranged by the department. These include Easter Egg Hunt event for example.

#### **4.3 Life Sciences- Biology**

Biology Student Rep reported that:

- The temporary common space had been arranged for Biology and Biochemistry students
- It would be useful to have a generic Wellbeing Rep email address that Life Sciences students could use to obtain advice or discuss their issues.

***ACTION: SS to chase the ICU regarding setting up the Life Sciences Wellbeing Rep email address.***

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#### **4.4 Mathematics**

Maths Student Rep reported that:

- More events had been arranged by the department. These included:
  - Sessions advising students on matters such as student's loan or renting accommodation, followed by refreshments (pizzas).
  - Wellbeing Fair (included breathing exercises)
- The department still had not been provided with microwaves. In response to that, RM said that this issue had been looked into. One of the reasons for not providing the microwaves could be the H&S issues. This was originally consulted with Stefan Hoyle (Faculty Head of H&S) who had advised that the microwaves could be placed in the Huxley building. However, since his expertise is to deal with lab H&S, the best person to contact, is the Huxley Building Manager.

***ACTION: SS to follow up the microwaves issue and investigate the reasons of not permitting them in Huxley building.***

RM reported that the Department of Mathematics is organising 'Outduction' sessions for final year students.

#### **4.5 Physics**

Student Rep reported the following:

- The department had been working on introduction of the Wellbeing Strategy, improvement of work cultures in the department and the sexual health awareness as

well as increasing the department activities between staff and students. As a result various events had been organised, some in Hyde Park.

Puppy Event had been organised by the Faculty of Engineering with an assistance of a charity. It had received very good feedback from students. Therefore, she proposed to arrange a similar event during the exam session for FoNS students. The committee supported this idea, but also noted that such event must imply a number of H&S issues. They agreed that if the FoE had been granted permission to organise such event, the FoNS could arrange it as well. SS suggested having it during 3<sup>rd</sup> term if possible and to ask the RSCU to sponsor the event. AM agreed to share the FoE event planning and risk assessment documents with RM and SS.

***ACTION: AM to share the FoE Puppy Event planning and risk assessment documents with RM and SS.***

On behalf of YA, IMW reported the following events/activities are being organised:

**Department Led 2018/19:**

- Year 1, 2,3 and 4 Teas - Term 1 and Term 2
- Weekly Restorative Pranayama – Term 1, 2 & 3
- Research Frontiers – Series of twelve lectures & refreshments 50 -150 students
- Undergraduate Physics Seminars – 5 seminars and lunch, Term 1 and Term 2
- Physics in Industry – Term 2, 1 lecture
- Research Interfaces Party –Term 2
- 3 min UROP Competaition– Term 2
- Physics Help Desk–2 hrs/week, Term 1, 2 and 3
- Student Drop-in Q&A desk – 1 per week Term 1, 2 & 3
- Student well-being week – breakfasts and yoga, 11-15 March

**Student Led 2018/19 (supported by the Department):**

- Joint Undergraduate Physics Research Conference (UCL hosted) – January 2019
- Board games night – January 2019
- TPP Event –Eastside bar, Problem Solving Quiz & drinks, 4th February2019
- Pancake day –5th March 5<sup>th</sup>2019
- Student Minds Q&A desks–Terms 2
- Leavers’ party –March 2019

**5. Standing Items**

There were no standing items to discuss.

**6. Chair’s business**

SS will be stepping down from his role as the RCSU Vice President (Welfare & Wellbeing). His role will be taken over by Peter Hull SS added that normally the last UG Wellbeing SSC meeting in the academic year would be chaired by the new chair, but since Peter would not be able to attend SS will chair on his behalf.

IMW noted that the counselling services especially during exam sessions are not sufficient. He reported that the Department of Physics considers hiring external on-call counsellors. In response to that, RM said that the College had been already looking into this issue and that the Student Counselling Office had recruited more staff. However, the problem with finding the physical space as there are not many rooms across the College that are suitable for the counselling purposes. She offered to find out the details of a local charity that her colleague works at as they might provide some assistance.

**7. Any other business**

SY asked whether any departments had their own fund to support students with disabilities. No department currently has a specific fund for this.

**8. Dates of Future Meetings:**

Summer Term: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019, 12.30-14.00

## Faculty of Natural Sciences UG *Wellbeing* Student Staff Committee Actions 2018/19

Item/ Reference	Action	Owner	Meeting Date	Update	Progress
<b>FoNS Wellbeing SSC Meeting – 19 March 2019</b>					
6	AM to share the FoE Puppy Event planning and risk assessment documents with RM and SS.	AM	19/03/2019		Complete
5	SS to follow up the microwaves issue and investigate the reasons of not permitting them in Huxley building.	SS	19/03/2019		
4	SS to chase the ICU regarding setting up the Life Sciences Wellbeing Rep email address.	SS	19/03/2019		
3	MT and SS to circulate the summary of the issues raised at the June drop-in sessions to the committee.	MT/SS	19/03/2019		
<b>FoNS Wellbeing SSC Meeting - 12 December 2018</b>					
2	SS to contact the editor of Felix to find out more details on the Welfare section.	SS	12/12/2018	SS had found out that in 2015/16 Felix used to publish about 6-7 editions that contained a section on student wellbeing. He would like it to be re-introduced from next academic year.	Complete
1	RM to contact Hannah Bannister to find out what services run at the White City and what system could be put in place to pass the information to students.	RM	12/12/2018	<a href="https://www.imperial.ac.uk/student-hub/white-city-service/">https://www.imperial.ac.uk/student-hub/white-city-service/</a>	Complete

## Physics Department Report 2018/2019

- NSS Score for the physics department was extremely low from last year's leavers. This acted as a strong inspiration for many members of the department who are now committed to improving the student experience.
- Michele Dougherty and Luke White have been invaluable in pushing large changes to the department. Such changes include:
  - Rework of the Blackett Computer Suite
  - Upgrades of the furniture in high traffic areas
  - Rework of Blackett Lecture Theatre 2
- After consultation with Michele we have introduced new efforts to improve the student experience. These include:
  - 'Teas' in terms 1 & 2 for each academic year with staff
  - Mid-course surveys to allow for more timely feedback
  - A welcome party at the beginning of term 1
- Carl Paterson has led the Curriculum Review and has ensured that students are consulted at every stage
- SOLE has been less popular than ever. It looks archaic next to the more focused mid-course surveys.
- Discussion in the last SSC of withholding Panopto if attendance of a lecture is lower than some threshold.