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| **Plymouth Business School – Laiba Nasir** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| * I plan to meet up with the course reps after Christmas Break * I plan to book 1-2-1 with VP Education and Student Voice * I plan to attend all meeting, FTLQC, SSLC and TLQC |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| * Introduced myself to Course-Reps * I attended training from SU to improve myself with delivering of speech * I attended the TLQC meeting on 4th December. The minutes of this meeting was send to me which highlights the relevant points. * Business School organised a focus group and invitation was sent out to all course Reps but it was cancelled due to the coursework load and deadlines were nearby * Me and Alice sent out emails to course reps to invite them to the focus group * I attended the final semester meeting in SU * I had a feedback from the Economics Course Rep and the feedback was positive and they were happy with how SU is approved the Economics society. It gives the students a chance to meet people who study on their course |
| **What I plan to do before the next meeting** |
| * Welcome students and course reps for the new semester by email * Try getting feedback from the Course-reps * Attend meeting on 18th Wednesday 2019 |
| **Other updates** |
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| **Law, Criminology and Government – Ellie Massie** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| * Ensure a smooth transition for students * Help remedy student issues * 2021 Graduation Plans (rumours have been going round at the last year to graduate on the Hoe will be 2020, I will query the students and if this is an issue affecting the first year start plans to keep it at the hoe, keep it at the location the university plans or compromise depending on student opinion however, this will extend to the other schools) * Any campaigns I or any other rep intends to complete |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| * THINGS IVE DONE * Set up 1-2-1 with Maya and Student Voice discussing the way forward * Set up an email group with ALL of the School’s representatives * Also set up an additional Facebook group for school representatives * Had a meeting with Johnathan to arrange the Student and Staff Liaison Meeting and a meeting for all the representatives to meet up a week before. * Attended all required meetings |
| **What I plan to do before the next meeting** |
| * THINGS IN PROGRESS * Attend meetings before the Union Council Meeting * At the SSLM, I will discuss with the students and staff a set time slot every term where feedback can be given. * THINGS I AIM TO DO BEFORE THE NEXT UNION COUNCIL MEETING * Talk to the Programme leaders and ask them if we can put the contact information of their reps on their module pages * POSSIBILITY: Each Rep makes a physical and virtual business card displaying their information which can be placed in COOKWORTHY (CAN BE DISCUSSED IN THE SSLM) * POSSIBILITY: In Cookworthy, put pictures of the student reps up, displaying their name and subject. * Talk to the Reps of the school and sort any problems they may be having regarding their role, student issues or campaigns they may want to go forward with. |
| **Other updates** |
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| **School of Nursing & Midwifery – Lucie Compton-Cashmore** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| Annually I intend on ensuring that the psychological well-being of student nurses is maintained consistently. I understand that being a nursing student can come with difficult challenges and can often present distressing situations when out on placement, so much of my work will be based around this. I understand that the NMC code revision has seen a huge change to the nursing curriculum, so I intend to work closely with staff and students to help make the transition as easy as possible. Fortunately, my cohort will be the first to experience the new curriculum when going into stage 2 in September 2019 so I will be able to work effectively with the reality of these changes. As a student information officer for the Royal College of Nursing I hope to liase with students about the range of opportunities available to them in their life long careers and guide them in whatever scenarios may arise during their time as a nursing student. I hope to run my own campaign; the “can we talk” foundation which I am hoping will be a successful student/staff led monthly drop in session for students who may have had a distressing experience whilst on placement – however, this is still in the early stages. Another aim of mine is to work closely with the students on the Truro and Exeter campus’ as I recognise that their academic experience can be somewhat different to that at the main Plymouth campus. I have already had a long meeting with the Truro course representatives and I will discuss this further later in my report. |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| As I was co-opted into my role at the beginning of December 2018 this is my first report. I had wanted to focus this on first year students and the first semester. I generated a survey online and asked all first-year students to complete it. This survey was to help me understand what experiences students were having and the hope that the feedback can be used to give the best possible experience for first years with the new curriculum. I intend to discuss these results more in depth with the senior staff within the School of Nursing and Midwifery and at SSLC meetings however please read a summary of my findings.  Induction week – Overall students felt happy with the information however feel it was stretched out un-necessary and could have been compacted into shorter days. Many students felt that induction week would have been good for getting on with some online work as there is SO much to do on this degree. Learning more about the actual course rather than the uni as a whole would have been useful. Midwifery students widely stated that the induction week was aimed more towards nursing and a lot of it didn’t apply to them.  Well-being services – Not all students aware of these services however those that have used them spoke with high praise.  First modules – NRS403 ways of knowing was widely criticised as “pointless” and “unhelpful”, especially the WeLearn platform. Nursing students all said the module should be more focused on their area of nursing and for them to learn more in depth about the profession and course with lectures also helping with the many many online work that was also required. The module largely mixed the nursing groups and many students have said they would have preferred to just work on their area of nursing. Students all said tutors were very supportive with the first written assignment however feedback was very poor and basic and did not give students the tools they needed to improve. Face to face feedback has been requested largely throughout cohorts. The biology module many students have said was far too fast paced and found the home learning difficult. An overall better use of time in the first semester to make it more focused on the area of nursing and more time for biology, feedback and more nursing focused lectures was largely popular in the survey. For midwives, there were more positive comments for the first modules mid113 and OSCE with lots of comments such as “fantastic” and “amazing”. The structure and support was highly praised and midwives overall felt that the feedback really supported them to move forward academically.  PALS – Mixed reviews. Some students spoke very highly of PALS and said the provision really helped, other students have felt they are disorganised and have not been helpful.  Sabbatical Officers, Union Council, policies and campaigns – A majority of students were unaware that any of these services were available. This is something that could have been incorporated into induction week. Most students were unaware that they were able to create campaigns and policies and did not know of the sabbatical officers or how to connect with them to enhance their student experience.  Course and School Reps – Most students aware however it was largely agreed that the reps were chosen too late into the course and should have been done in the first weeks. Many students have said they would have liked a student vote on who their course reps got to be.  Placement – Again, mixed reviews. Some students felt very well prepared and knowledgeable where as others felt there had not been enough preparation. Many students felt there was not enough support in using pebble pad or eOar and this should have been focused on more – again many suggestions of this being incorporated into induction week.  General comments - There were many comments about the rooms not being ideal for the seminars and lectures and that this was an ongoing problem.  The issue of attendance was repeatedly brought up with registers not being taken and many students not turning up. Obviously as a nursing degree you are required to do a set amount of theory hours to register and there are concerns throughout that attendance is not monitored closely enough and more effort needs to be made to ensure students aren’t “slipping through the net”.  In the general comments section, as also mentioned above, there was a lot of negative comments from the first module NRS403. Many students found it unhelpful and just a “time filler”. I understand the curriculum is being re written and I hope to give this feedback to the management team to help next year’s first semester to be differently.  Timetabling was a huge issue being mentioned in the general comment section. Timetables were all over the place and changed a lot. However, after speaking with Francis Thompson who is re-writing the mental health nursing degree he has ensured that students are in on the same set days each week. I am unsure however if this is how it will be across all the nursing degrees but it will be fed back.  Online learning was another major issue for many students. They feel that there was too much of it with at least 5 different platforms of work to complete. Many students have said that they feel this work could be incorporated into the first module to make a much better use of time and make it a lot less stressful experience.  I attended a meeting with the course reps at the Truro campus about their academic experience. The meeting was very successful and we have arranged for this to be scheduled on a regular basis. Again, points were raised which I will discuss here but I will also be bringing up in more depth at SSLC meetings and with the senior staff within the school.  Students at the Truro campus feel they are not getting the same academic experience as those on the main Plymouth campus and there have been some concerns. The Truro campus students feel that their access to services is very limited and their contact with university provisions is very little. Many people who study at the Truro campus are mature students with families and feel that it is not always easy to make a trip to Plymouth to use the services.  Here are some issues that arose concerning facilities   * No writing café at the Truro campus. Although this has been discussed many times, Truro students feel they are missing out on something that will hugely benefit them. Students said that even if once a month a writing café was set up in the library for them to use it would help them very much. * Lack of contact with the union council and sabbatical officers. Whilst Truro students appreciate that everyone is busy and there is a distance to travel, they feel they do not know the sabbatical officers and they feel they are missing out by being unable to attend union council meetings. As mentioned above. We have arranged for myself to meet with the Truro reps once every semester. We discussed the option of one sabbatical officer attending this meeting with me so they can be included. There was also a discussion of setting up skype so they can virtually attend the monthly union council meetings. * Lack of well-being and disability services. Reps said that if they needed to access any provisions they would be required to travel to the Plymouth campus and have found it frustrating that these services are not readily available to them as they are for Plymouth students. As an option, it has been discussed that again, a monthly session could be set up so any students needing these services are able to use them. * Lack of societies, sports clubs and social events. Obviously, the campus is much smaller, however the area is shared with the peninsular medical school whose students could also be missing out on these facilities. Truro college is also very close by and works in partnership with the University of Plymouth. The option of clubs and societies at Truro college University being shared with the knowledge spa students could be very beneficial and an option I think could be discussed between the two organisations! A lot of students are very familiar with the campus and degree staff at Truro College after carrying out an access course there. * The café at the knowledge spa reps have said is often closed meaning they cannot get any lunch or that the choice of food there is very poor and unhealthy. Students at the Truro campus feel that something as simple as a healthy lunch or just access to some food should be a basic thing that is provided but it is not! They said that this is because the café has been taken over by Treliske hospital. I think it is very important that the university ensure that students always have access on campus to healthy, fresh food as we do at Plymouth.   In relation to the above issues, Truro students again do appreciate that there is a distance to travel, however they feel they are paying the same as all nursing students for their degree yet are not receiving the same experience. I do think that a fortnightly or monthly drop in session that consisted of one member from the well-being service, one member of staff to run a writing café and one member of union council could attend and be present in either the library or a booked room would hugely benefit the Truro students. The idea of these provisions being available permanently was of course hugely appealing to the Truro students however they understand that for the university to provide this would be a big task but an option I do not think should be ruled out!  A separate issue from facilities on the Truro campus was the issue of attendance. Course reps expressed concerns that many students were not attending lectures and that the use of skype was being abused. Students are increasingly not attending but attending via skype and the Truro course reps were concerned that this was going to see students qualify with insufficient knowledge to be a safe practitioner. Students are also not attending at all and this is not being picked up on. Those that do not attend often end up leaving the course. Truro course reps again expressed that there was a lack of support available for these students. There was also the concern that students were turning up just to register and leaving and not attending the seminar/lecture.  The guidelines set out by the NMC council state that in order to register as a nurse you must attend 2300 hours of theory and 2300 of practice and Truro students feel this is not being met by some students. They would like tighter rules on attendance. A register to be taken at the end of a session to ensure all students stay and attend and that attendance be monitored closely so that anyone who is failing to attend can be support appropriately and that the use of skype attendance only be in very exceptional circumstances.  As mentioned above, these issues are going to be discussed more in depth with senior staff members of the SNAM and at the next SSLC meeting. |
| **What I plan to do before the next meeting** |
| Before the next meeting I plan to attend the next SSLC and TLQC meetings and a school rep meeting. I also plan on creating another survey for students to fill out regarding placement as placements begin on the 7th of January for 12 weeks so it will be great to get some feedback on this.  I also intend on raising the points above personally with the SNAM at the next TLQC and the senior management within the school. |
| **Other updates** |
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| **Peninsula Medical School – Kat Paton** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| * Improve integration between medical school students and the university and SU * Advocate for fairer assessment marking * Boost awareness and support for students suffering from mental and physical illness * Support students living at home and commuting |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| * Chaired SSLC (21/11) and followed up the issues raised * Attended union council (27/11) * Attended medical school TLQC (11/12) * Hosted course rep meeting (19/12) and followed up issues raised   + SSU Feedback   + Placement issues   + Changing notification of pass/fail   + Delay in information on the DLE * Arranged working groups * Corresponded to address the issue of provider non-attendance * Following up intercalation issue * Following up technology issues with AMK |
| **What I plan to do before the next meeting** |
| * Follow up remaining issues that were raised at course rep meeting * Check for updates on the intercalation issue * Review results from the communication survey and take action on any ideas that have proven popular * Review information on number of commuting students   + Liaise with PT mature officer re engagement with these students |
| **Other updates** |
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| **Peninsula Dental School – Celia Diez Alonso** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| * Maintain effective communication with students, other reps and university staff. * Collect feedback from students to ensure they are receiving good quality education and having a good university experience. * Represent the Dental School's students in the different meetings I will attend, making sure the students' opinion is heard and taken into consideration. |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| * Attended 1-2-1 meeting * Contacted the Dental School course reps to introduce myself and agreed to send me updates twice a term. |
| **What I plan to do before the next meeting** |
| * Keep in contact with the course reps. * Attend Union Council meeting. * Attend the dental school SSLC and TLQC meetings. (If I can't attend any of these meetings then submit a report with the student feedback to be covered during the meeting). * Collect feedback from the students. |
| **Other updates** |
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| **School of Biomedical Science – Humaira Ahmed** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| * Hold regular course rep meetings, which I will chair myself.   This way any issues or concerns can be raised and dealt with.   * Improve student satisfaction by ensuring all individuals are happy with how their course is going e.g. speaking to students directly or by holding questionnaires. * Ensuring all individuals have access and know how to access additional resources that would enhance their learning environment. * Be able to improve IT within the University e.g. raising concerns about the Plymouth University app and what can be done to sort this. * Be the source of communication between students and staff bridging the gap. |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| Since the last report was written I have attended:   * Attended a Biomed TLQC meeting (Wednesday 7th November 2018) * I organised a School Representative meeting with the Biomedical science course reps on Thursday 22nd November 2018, however, due to a low number of attendees this was turned into a drop in session in the library. A number of individuals came and spoke to me regarding issues and concerns they had regarding their course. I advised them on the appropriate members of staff to speak to and since then they have had their problems solved. * Attended an SSLC meeting (Wednesday 28th November 2018) * Attended a Faculty TLQC meeting (Wednesday 28th November 2018) * Approved the minutes for the SSLC held on 28th November. * Attended my student voice 1-2-1 meeting (Tuesday 11th November 2018) where I received advice on my role and planned out my next steps. * Attended a SSLC meeting (Wednesday 12th December 2018) * Attended a TLQC meeting (Wednesday 12th December 2018) * Approved the minutes for the SSLC held on 12th December. * The Facebook chat that I set up is being used by course reps and has been found to be a good portal of communication. This has also opened up the opportunity for course reps to message me directly to organise a meeting to touch base or to discuss advice on how to pass on information to individuals on their course. |
| **What I plan to do before the next meeting** |
| * I will choose a Biomed deputy school representative, who is knowledgeable of the process and is happy to attend any meetings in case of my absence. * Hope to have a meeting or get in contact with the SSLC organiser to go through Agendas, ensuring the meetings don’t over run. * PALS, Lab Plus, and other relevant resources will be constantly mentioned to pupils in lectures, PALS sessions etc. so they can make the most of them. |
| **Other updates** |
| Upcoming meetings:   * Union Council meeting (Tuesday 29th January 2019) * SSLC meeting (Wednesday 13th February 2019) * Faculty TLQC meeting (Wednesday 13th February 2019) * Biomed TLQC meeting (Thursday 14th February 2019) |

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| **School of Biological and Marine Sciences – Millie Green** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| To set up and run student drop in sessions, ideally I would like to have Peer Assisted Learning Schemes (PALS) in place within the school.  To host a social event for stage 4 students to bridge the gap between those who have done a placement year and those who have not.  To promote the importance of volunteering within the school. |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| Held meeting with course reps and sent out minutes  Created a Facebook group for course reps.  Booked the little room in the SU for a stage 4 social event.  Discussed PALS in a Faculty meeting.  Course rep matters:  Contacted library staff for help about referencing and library books, sent out information to course reps to share.  Contacted LABplus about equipment availability.  Sent out link to lecture recording software. |
| **What I plan to do before the next Union Council meeting** |
| Look to collaborate with another part-time officer.  Run another course rep meeting.  Follow up running of PALS. |
| **Other updates** |
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| **School of Computing, Electronics and Mathematics – Dominic Need** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| Engage with each of the areas of my school, ensuring I get feedback from each area to represent the school equally. To do my best to make sure the students are getting what is advertised. |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| Attended the faculty tlqc, which was a great chance to put some of the feedback I’d been receiving into context for the faculty. Also attended the school TLQC.  I’ve also planned meeting with every section of the school for late January, so I can get the course reps feedback on a larger scale and start to find more common problems throughout the school.  I’ve had meetings with numerous staff about more local issues popping up for course reps and have supported some courses in getting deadlines extending when not complying to university policy.  Additionally to this there’s been an unusual amount of complaints from the Stage 2 in the Computing section of the school about how their first semester was ran – I’ve arranged a student led meeting with the help of Luke Lamplough, this will be an open meeting to course reps and students to find the core of the issues to ensure the best fix for the issue is found. |
| **What I plan to do before the next meeting** |
| Have meeting with each section of the school to get feedback to take to the TLQC’s and see if there is anything that can be fix in the interim.  I plan to hold a student meeting for the Stage 2 computing cohort – and investigate the results of the meeting and have meetings with the relevant staff following this meeting.  I also plan to investigate the absence of PALs for the second-year students in the school, as far as the faculty was aware it was happening it is however not running. |
| **Other updates** |
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| **School of Engineering – Julian Harding** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| * Work with course reps to ensure modules are well structured and students have enough academic support * Improve students’ opportunities for industry relationships – e.g. field trips to local engineering companies and/or guest speakers/workshops from engineers in industry * Develop interdisciplinary links with other schools within the University * Ensure students get the opportunity to contribute towards the planning and facilities of the new Engineering Building * Develop much needed links between the School of Engineering and the University and UPSU |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| * Further discussion with selected members of school staff and industry, highlighting need for better relationships with industry. * Verbal confirmation that students WILL have a key say in new engineering building facilities and design. However, this stage is unlikely to start until the end of the academic year. |
| **What I plan to do before the next meeting** |
| * Meet with course reps in SSLG meetings within school (this has yet to happen as I was not invited to the previous meetings!) * Create a suitable method for students with the SoE to relay suggestions for both course structure and the new building. |
| **Other updates** |
| Attended Union Council – nothing specific raised or brought up regarding SoE.  1-2-1 meeting with Maja (VP Education) soon to be confirmed.  Due to clashes with lectures or site visits, I have been unable to attend STLQC, FTLQC, Programme meetings (Mechanical) or SU AGM! This is an issue that will be raised in my 1-2-1 with Maja |

**After Deadline**

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| **School of Psychology - Zoe Turbill(Higgins) -** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| I have held focus groups with students, 1-2-1 meetings with students, staff and reps.  I have held a community event for all psychology students and staff. I have set up a face book page. Managed to get the minor psych students added to the mailing list for all events within the department.  I have also become a campaign champion for womens aid |
| **What I plan to do before the next meeting** |
| I plan to collaborate with Tilda for a campaign for safer, healthier relationships.  I plan to hold another community event. With the aim to bring the whole body of Psychology students inc minor together.  I plan to continue holding focus feedback meetings. |
| **Other updates** |
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| **Institute of Education – Jasmine Hammond-Hart** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| * Ensure all students of the Institute of Education feel they are receiving the high quality of education they are expecting. * Be an excellent spokesperson for the school I represent. * Create relationships with other school representatives that may in turn create interdisciplinary collaboration and insights. * Ensure that any changes or issues that have arisen from students/course reps have been discussed with me and facts have been checked before taking them to VP Education/Union Council. |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| I have attended 2 drop in sessions with Maja and also had meetings with course reps from each year. I documented some points made at these meetings and will be meeting with the relevant people to discuss any issues that could be resolved. I have had a 1-2-1 meeting with the student voice team to ensure I am on the right track and have another booked in. |
| **What I plan to do before the next Union Council meeting** |
| **Have a meeting to ensure I am completing my role correctly.** |
| **Other updates** |
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| **School of Humanities & Performing Arts – Paige Williams** |
| **What I plan to do for the year** |
| For this year I hope that I can make sure that the views of students throughout my school have their voices heard and ensure that their views are represented to the best of my ability. |
| **What I have done since my last report** |
| As I am new to the role, I have not had the chance to do much since being elected as the school representative at the end of last year. However, since the start of the new year I have attended School Representative training along with policy proposal training and report writing training. These have now given me the tools to begin conducting my role effectively and the support I need to begin working. |
| **What I plan to do before the next meeting** |
| Before the next meeting I hope to have made initial contact with the course representatives that I will be working with and get a first understanding for the courses and the types of issues/ positive feedback that I will be presented with.  I also hope to get in contact with the relevant faculties that I will be working with. And, gather information about the relevant meetings (dates and such) that I will have to attend so that I can plan my approach and prepare for these accordingly. |
| **Other updates** |
| I was wondering if it would be possible to talk to other school representatives about how they meet with their course representatives to gather some ideas about how I might approach this myself. |

Reports not received

Plymouth Business School - Alice Thornhill

School of Health Professions - Grainne Hussey & Neil Roberts

School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Sciences - Amber Elliott-Jarvis