



## Student Voice Meeting 21 January 2016

### Present:

**Staff:** Will Sparrow (Chair)

Rosalind Birtwistle (Notes)

### Students: (17)

Abu Miah, Cameron White, Josh Brewer, Aronte Quashie, Lewis Bedford, Favour Nikolaou, Janis Cirss, Holly Meadows, William Keel, Kyle Malik, Asa Kabale, Helena Grase-Ziedina, Bethany Carter, Ellen Coulter, Elese Winzar, Ella Judge, Tyler Redgrave.

**Apologies:** No apologies were received.

The meeting opened at 12.30. Several representatives were new to Student Voice, and Will explained the purpose of Student Voice and delivered a small training session on roles and responsibility, explaining how the group provides feedback to the college decision makers about the student experience, about what works well, and what improvements which could be made. Will spoke about changes as a result of the last meeting including , more enrichment and general poster up on every floor, passing on comments regarding toilets and heating to the facilities team.

**Executive Question Time – speed dating** held on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The executive enjoyed their time meeting students, and sent their thanks to those who attended. Some changes are being made in response to students' comments, particularly regarding timetable problems.

### Notices:

Safer Internet Day will be on February 9<sup>th</sup>, and ceramic garden gnomes are being sent to each subject area. The gnomes are to be decorated in a manner which reflects the department, and returned to Rosalind. They will be photographed and uploaded onto the internet, and the purpose is to see how fast the image travels around different sites, and how many 'likes' and 'shares' it attract. There will be prizes for the group whose gnome is judged the best presented, and for the one which is best travelled. Will told the student about the success of the Shuttleworth horse pictures last year.

Pancake Tuesday is on the 9<sup>th</sup> February and there will be pancake races in college, with prizes. Further details to follow.

Student Voice Conference is on the 24<sup>th</sup> February in Shuttleworth. Will explained to students that this will be an all-day conference, with transport, lunch and snacks provided. He explained that the theme this year is 'British Values' and that we want their ideas as to how these could be integrated into college life. We plan to have a tree planting ceremony and various workshops. One rep suggested 'Bake-Off' as emblematically British, so it was agreed that cup-cake decorating (and eating) could be another feature of the day.

Equality and Diversity Month takes place in April, and some activities are already being planned.

### **Matters Raised by Students**

#### Heating:

The Tower block is uncomfortably cold, especially the Second and Fourth floors. Reps asked whether any supplementary heating could be made available. In contrast, the workshops were too warm.

#### Wi-Fi:

Reception is patchy and unreliable in some areas.

#### Seating:

There is insufficient heating in some areas; the ground floor of the Arts Block was mentioned (the space around the café). Students agreed that some cinema-style fold-down seating would be welcome.

#### Computers:

There are not enough computers in the Library and the Moodle room gets crowded. Further, updates are not always completed before the student gets to the computer so they have to wait until this is done before being able to log in and use the computer. Students have requested that where possible computers are updated by the staff when they tidy the Library prior to closing down.

Only a few computers have all the programmes required by IT students.

#### Food:

Some items at the Munch 'n' Mocha are good values, whereas others, eg branded drinks, are expensive. Sometimes combinations of food are dearer than if the items were bought as separate items. One representative suggested that the till-point should have a debit machine.

It was agreed that the next Student Voice meeting (apart from the conference) would focus on food in college, and that catering staff would be invited to attend.

The meeting closed at 13.15.