



## Vice President Academic Affairs Report March

### **Suggestions – F.Lux on Library Computers**

F.lux is a program that adjusts a display's colour temperature according to location and time of day. The program was designed to reduce eye strain during night-time use and reduce disruption of sleep patterns, but can be customised or turned off should the user not wish to use it. As Student Leaders, we support this idea, as we feel it would only be of benefit to the students. This programme is already installed on machines for computer science students. For this reason, this SUGesstion was fast – tracked. Since my last report, the ICT have had issues installing the standard edition of the program, and are now exploring the possibility of using a corporate version.

### **Suggestions – Plotter in AAD west 4<sup>th</sup> floor**

A SUGesstion was submitted to have a plotter installed on the 4<sup>th</sup> floor of AAD West. Since my last report I have met with Drew Cook, Directory of ICT on this matter. The possibility of installing a plotter will be explored at the next Apogee Print Board meeting, whereby the university discuss supply needs with our printing stockists.

### **Rep Forum:**

On Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> March we held our penultimate rep forum of the year! We had multiple sessions from our student services and wellbeing team, highlighting all the different services available! We also had our advice centre discuss extenuating circumstances and how to apply for them. This is important as many students are currently handing in assignments and exams. I have also given an update on the responses to the consultations we submitted to the Office for students, alongside briefing reps on our upcoming campaign!

## **Office for Students Launch**

On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> March I attended the Office for Students Launch in London, where the chair and chief executive of the OfS gave us information on some changes they had made since the consultation period. From it, we have some MASSIVE wins!

- “Student Engagement” is back in the Quality Code! – A core practice will now be that ‘the provider actively engages students, individually and collectively, in the quality of their educational experience.’
- ‘Students receiving Value for Money’ remains a key objective, however they are going to do further research into ensuring there is a student focused understanding of this concept.
- The OfS has now appointed its student panel, which will play a central role in facilitating student engagement, advising the OfS’s Board and senior team, and holding them to account. The panel will support the OfS in developing a comprehensive student engagement strategy, and refining it over time.

If you would like to hear more, you can see the full response to the consultation here:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/office-for-students-regulatory-framework-for-higher-education>

## **The Academic Rep Reception**

On Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> of March, we held our annual Academic Rep Reception. This is an opportunity for all of our reps and all academic to come together, and celebrate the hard work that has been achieved over the academic year. We had an amazing turnout to this event, with over 120 staff and students joining us. Throughout the evening, we heard from Deputy Vice Chancellor Julian Free CBE on the future and importance of academic representation. There were small activities placed around the room which allowed students to give their thoughts on representation, and what academic opportunities they would like to see in the future from the Student’s Union.

## **Less Stress – More Success!**

The Student Leaders will be running a joint campaign from 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> April called Less Stress – More Success! This campaign aims to help students remain calm and be successful during busy assessment times! We will be taking a day each, focusing on events specific to each role. I will be taking Monday and focusing on academic offences, and how to avoid them. There will also be referencing hot desks available at the library, workshops on how to complete extenuating circumstances and prizes to be one.