



# KE Meeting 2

## Minutes

Date: 6<sup>th</sup> September, 2016

Time: 18:00 hrs

Venue: Board Room

Attendance:

*Present:*

Martina Miggiani	Nico Muscat
Rebecca Stoner	Gillian Asciak
Ryan Falzon	Joshua Cortis
Valeriya Bonkova	Omar Shamala
Steph Dalli	

*Excused:*

Francesco Refalo	Andrew Muscat
Chantelle Abela	Luke Young
Denise Balzan	Kenneth Hili (PG)
Martina Cutajar	Duncan Muscat (PG)
Maria Dimech (GLO)	

*Absent:*

Clayton Axisa	Marya Camenzuli (PG)
Julian Bonello(PG)	Martha Marie Bartolo
Francienne Muscat (PG)	Felic Micallef
Michael Piccinino	Dalton Mangion
Dirk Urpani (PG)	Nathan Adams
Manuel Xuereb (PG)	Samiro Bartolo



Gayle Lynn Callus	Julia Aquilina
Maria Katrina Azzopardi	Martina Micallef
Thomas Bajada	Christopher Mallia
Tracey Sammut	Christian Cordina
Alexander Clayman	Anthony David Brincat
Brenda Lee Cutajar (PG)	Meverick Spiteri
George Zamit Montebello	Luke Mark Aquilina
Francesca Zammit	Jean Luc Portelli
Monique Dimech Genius	Deandra Cutajar
Stuart Vella Bonello	Robert Micallef
Rita Catherine Mangion Bianco (PG)	Carmel Theuma
Rachel Cauchi	Eman Mifsud
Karl Galea	Maria Azzopardi
Martha Marie Bartolo	Gabriella Calamatta
Matthew Bonello	Mark Borg
Nicholas Karl Buttigieg	Terry Duca
Bernine Caruana	Andrew Pisani
Patrick Gatt	Neville Decelis
Robert Dingli(PG)	Maxim Georgievich Nikitin
Elizabeth Borg Cardona	Analise Sammut

Meeting started: 18.15 hours

1. Approval of Agenda – Approved nemo con.
2. Approval of Minutes – Approved nemo con.
3. Arising Matters out of Minutes
4. Approval of Standing Orders



Last meeting Ryan Falzon suggested the final point about the online poll be added, so that this would correspond to the statute updated during the last Annual General Meeting (AGM). A vote was taken to approve the standing orders.

1 abstention.

8 in favour.

Standing orders approved.

#### 5. Student Representative Handbook

A brief explanation was given and any suggestions requested. Omar Shamala suggested that a soft copy draft should be sent out for student representatives to view it and check if there is anything they want to add.

Gillian Asciak briefly explained what a Student Request is and how it functions in the Faculty of Arts. These can be more effective than board meetings for small, particular matters as it would take too long to discuss them all at Faculty meetings. The Student Request Board consists of the Chair, who is the relevant professor, and 4 lecturers. The Faculty Board then discusses a general report and any problems arising from it.

KSU will look into this structure to see if this can be applied to different faculties. It was agreed that this might be easier on the students who may feel uncomfortable speaking in front of a whole Faculty Board. The difference between Board of Studies and Students Request was discussed, namely that the latter's weight in recommendations to the faculty board is stronger.

#### 6. Funds and Grants Subcommittee

A call was sent out for this subcommittee. The first will be held tomorrow at 6pm.

Gillian Asciak pointed out that this will clash with Events Forum. It was agreed that minutes will be sent out after this introductory meeting. This will be held at boardroom.

#### 7. Dissertation Workshops



As discussed last meeting, KSU are currently working on dissertation workshops. These will consist of collaborations with the library, as well as student representatives and organisations. The meeting for this will be next Monday at 6pm.

This will be held in the month of November, until the end of the semester.

Gillian Asciak asked whether anyone can suggest lecturers to give talks. This would be greatly appreciated and useful.

#### 8. Placement Feedback Forms

An email will soon be sent out to find out which students have placements, and which already include some kind of feedback. KSU is working on developing some kind of feedback form, which will work two-way between student and tutor.

A number of faculties which may consist placements were suggested including Law, Archeology, Commerce, Education, Health Sciences, Medicine, Psychology (an optional study unit) and Engineering. It was agreed, that these will be looked into.

#### 9. Online Past Papers

KSU are currently in the process of collecting online past papers on an online forum for each course, so these will be available and accessible to students. Feedback from the deans of faculties met with so far was positive, apart from most agreeing that they do not want MCQs to be online.

Ryan Falzon pointed out that the fact that MCQs are being recycled should make one question the quality of the exams. Quality checking of the papers was discussed, whether there is a system in place. The fact that the same questions are always appearing in the exams was also discussed. The university seems to be focusing on teach students how to pass the exam, and not to apply what is learnt. It was suggested that a a process of exam quality checking should be carried out by Senate. It was agreed that this will be discussed with the Rector by the KSU Education Office. The eventual goal is the assurance of Quality of exams.

Omar Shamala suggested that a sample be given, which is a recommendation from



Senate.

Valeria Bonkova pointed out that the individual lecturers in their faculty their pastpapers on VLE, and was wondering if we would need to ask their permission. KSU Education Office will speak to the Heads of Department.

#### 10. Follow Up Regarding Discrepancies with University Deadlines

This was discussed with the Rector and Registrar, following it being brought up during the last KE meeting. Their main reply focused on the fact that because all the students apply at the same time and these need to be allocated a report applying at once, they have a lot of backlog of work, and this needs to be sorted out by the beginning of September when they have to finalise room allocations. It was suggested that the deadline to choose study units and the exam publication be on the same day. The registrar will discuss this with her office.

Omar Shamala pointed out that the Statute for general Provisions for institutes and Centers, and the chairman has to ensure that final year results are out by the end of July. This was discussed and concluded that this point refers to Final Year Students.

#### 11. Other Matters

##### a) Physiotherapy Student Placement PR

- A brief overview about the PR was given. The Ministry of Education has informed us that they are working on this and will hopefully give us a reply soon.

##### b) Education Research Symposium

- The Oxford University has invited students to the Education Research Symposium, either as presenters or observers. This will be forwarded to student representatives, who can also circulate it to their students.

##### c) Graduation Speeches Board

- The call for this will be sent this week, so the board can be approved during the next KE meeting. A call for a board and speeches are both sent out. The applicants send in their speeches which are anonymized, and these are then marked on criteria, and are either accepted or rejected based on the score and other applicants for the same faculty.



- d) Last meeting we discussed that some rooms may not be comfortable and we decided we would ask our students which they felt were comfortable. Since the new student representatives will be elected in November, Omar Shamla suggested that this process would be shifted to November. All agreed.

Meeting ended at 19.00