

LANCASTER UNIVERSITY

Furness College Syndicate

*A meeting of the Furness College Syndicate took place on **1st November 2018** at which the following persons were present:*

Senior Members:

Jo Dickinson, Andrew Gibson, Kevin Huggett, Rebecca Killick, Jiaxuan Li, Marjorie Lundgren, Natalie Miller, Wlodek Tych (Chair).

Junior Members:

Joe Fundrey, Jess Gonzalez-Green, Will Groarke and Justin Hon.

Apologies for absence were received from:

Abby Chamberlain, Martin Ennis, Olga Gomez-Cash, Beth King, Graham Rand, Chris Russell, Becky Sheppard and Taryn Whitford.

The Chair welcomed the newly elected JCR Social and Events Officer and new Senior Members.

FUA/2018/01

Minutes

Document: FUA/2018/06/18

The minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2018 were accepted as an accurate record.

FUA/2018/02

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

FUA/2018/03

Senate

The Chair informed Syndicate is a sub-committee of Senate, which is the academic authority of the University and has primary responsibility for the academic work of the University, both in teaching and in research, and for the regulation and superintendence of the education and discipline of the students of the University. Agendas are available on the website. There were no items to report, which relate directly to the College.

FUA/2018/04

Reports

a. JCR

The JCR reported Welcome week had run smoothly with only a few incidents. It was felt all students were involved with the events in particular Chill Factor. The Chair informed positive feedback had been received about the JCR and Reps particularly on arrivals day by parents and families who felt reassured by the support and welcome received.

The JCR are finalising preparations for the 15-hour event with over 200 tickets sold. The Chair and Dean stressed the importance of being representatives of the College and University, and to ensure welfare and ground rules are established to avoid any trouble and to be careful during the 15-hour period.

The JCR informed they are starting a new sporting initiative, wheelchair basketball. The initiative was welcomed by Syndicate.

b. Principal

The Principal spoke on the Rep System and how this produces a solid, caring atmosphere within the College system, and one where students wish to give back which is evidenced during the interview process. Having SCR and JCR involved in the process reinforces the supportive atmosphere and culture within the College. The SCR are working on developing the Rep system further by creating a new post of Deputy Senior Advisor, whose remit would be lead and develop the current training. Any feedback on the Rep system and Assistant Deputy Dean was welcomed.

c. Dean

The Assistant Deans informed the majority of incidents had been welfare and behaviour related which the FurCAT team deals with. Two fines had been issued to date. The Dean reminded very few cases had been received which required intervention from the Deanery in comparison with other Colleges. It was however felt that this may change over the coming months. Thanks were extended to Reps and JCR for doing a good job in their supportive roles and encouraged them to keep going.

d. Senior Advisor

The Senior Advisor thanked the JCR for the success of Welcome Week and in particular the VP Welfare and Campaigns Officer for the Welfare Breakfasts. Positive responses to welcome week had been received and in particular the on-going role of the Reps with lots of evidence of referrals to the FURCAT. In terms of referrals, this is up on previous years and has been a mixture of high and low level cases. It was felt that early intervention by the Reps in helping students has been greatly appreciated. The Senior Advisor observed students are becoming more aware of the support available but most relate to JCR and the Reps. The Chair reminded the JCR and Reps to remember they are full-time students and to keep a balance between their roles and academic studies.

e. Accommodation Manager

The Accommodation Manager noted ensuite accommodation underwent redecoration and re-carpeting this summer and curtains were replaced with blinds. A project request has been submitted to have low-level windows partially obscured for privacy and block names and/or college logo to be incorporated. There are no further plans for refurbishments as Furness will be the host college for summer vacation residence. The Housing Fair will be taking place on 15th November, which is an opportunity to meet LU approved landlords and other guests. Further information is available on the Accommodation [website](#).

f. College Manager

The College Manager outlined the following activities and events.

Staff Survey: Opens on the 5th until the 30th November and takes approx. 20-30 minutes to complete. Capita Surveys and Research run the survey and the University will make a £2.50 donation for every completed survey to either St John's Hospice or Look After Your Mate Training.

Inter-College Staff Quiz. Senior Members are competing each week and are currently in fourth position; the final is in week 10.

Inter-College Competitions. These take place over terms one and two, starting with the Debating Challenge and calls have gone out for the University Style Quiz.

Christmas Wine Tasting. Friday 7th December 2018 at 7pm in Furness TV Room. Tickets available via the [Online Store](#) (£12.00).

FUA/2018/11/01

Winter Ball. Tuesday 11th December 2018 at 7pm at the Netherwood Hotel. Tickets available via the [Online Store](#) (£35.00).

Jam-in-Furness. Friday 22nd March 2019 at 7pm. Free event.

Canal Cruise. Tuesday 11th June 2019 at 7pm. Tickets available via the [Online Store](#) (£15.00).

Open Days: Furness College Open Days will take place on Saturday 7th September 2019.

50th Celebrations. Friday 5th, Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th July 2019.

FUA/2018/06

Date of next meeting

The next meeting of Syndicate will be held at 1:00pm on Thursday 19th February 2019 in the Furness TV Room.