**Education and Student Experience Committee – summary of meeting held on 19.01.23**

1. **Clarification on resit fees**

The group clarified the position on resit fees as being:

* + Any student retaking part of a year will be charged a tuition fee proportional to the volume of credits (ECTS) that they are retaking (e.g. if you are retaking half the modules you pay half the fee). Retaking is where a student repeats the learning, teaching and assessment activities for a module in their entirety.
  + Any student who is resitting the assessment(s) for a module in the next year of study shall not be charged a fee (e.g. if a student fails a module in May 2022 but cannot take the resit of the assessment until May 2023 then they are charged no extra tuition fees). This also applies where an assessment(s) is deferred into a subsequent academic year due to accepted mitigating circumstances.

1. **Proposed changes to the graduation ceremony**

The Committee discussed a proposal from the Graduation Advisory Committee that College and President’s Medallists be recognised outside graduation ceremonies in order to allow the necessary time for ceremonies to focus on the experience for the College’s graduates.

The Committee made the following points on the proposal:

* Members recognised that priority needed to be given to student degrees at graduation.
* There was support for continuing to award the OSAAs at the ceremony.
* It is recognised that staff awards are less relevant at a student graduation ceremony, despite offering a valuable opportunity for students to show appreciation for the work of staff.
* Any future events recognising staff medallists should ensure that recipients feel fully valued and there should ideally be opportunities for students to show their appreciation.

The group noted that consideration should be given to what category of individuals should receive honorary degrees, ensuring that these individuals add to the ceremony from a student experience perspective.

The Chair noted that the Committee was not able to make a final decision on those elements of the proposal which did not relate to improving student experience. The Committee approved the proposal to go to University Management Board for consideration.

1. **TEF**

Strategic Planning were thanked for all their work on the College TEF submission and members of the Committee were invited to share comments on the document before submission later in January.

1. **Natural language programming tools in education and assessment**

The group discussed the possible use of natural language processing AI models, such as ChatGPT, in education and assessment and agreed the need for a College position to be established.

Members agreed that this technology should be viewed as an opportunity to innovate teaching and assessment rather than as a threat. AI can be useful as a way of generating ideas, as a point of comparison for formative feedback, and as a way of developing assessment which properly tests critical thinking.

A proposal will be taken to a future Senate meeting which outlines a suggested College position balancing opportunity and risk.

1. **Updates from other committees**

The Committee received updates from the following meeting groups:

* Student Experience Forum
* Teaching and Learning (Product) Board
* Student Lifecycle Administration Board
* QAEC
* Senate
* Student Activities Board
* Admissions Committee

The next meeting of Education and Student Experience Committee will take place on 16 February.