



Issue 10 – Thursday 22nd October
2015

The following items have been discussed at the most recent SPEP Meeting:

Student Non-Compliance and Misconduct

The School of Sport and Exercise Science dealt with two cases of student non-compliance/ misconduct last Academic Year.

The two case outcomes for last year were as follows:

Student Non-Compliance: The student failed to show for referrals, so will have graduated with a fall back award.

Student Misconduct: The student completed a campus based placement, and continued onto graduation, although this is not a model they wish to replicate in the future as it has had implications on staff time allocation.

The School sought advice from Dr Graham Sherwood, and as a result they have updated all of this year's pre

Introduction

The Science Placement and Employability Panel consists of Academic and Support Staff representatives who meet regularly to discuss Placement and Employability matters arising within the Faculty. The SPEP Newsletter has been devised to report back the matters discussed and keep all Faculty of Science Staff up to date.

placement information (module guide, presentations, paperwork etc.) to ensure that students are clear on the rules and implications.

Health and Safety Update

We would like to wish Dr Jerry Bird well in his confirmed role as the Health and Safety Officer for Natural Sciences.

Good Practice: 'Rate Your Placement' Feedback

Dr Zoe Knowles from the School of Sport and Exercise Sciences has introduced a compulsory 'Rate Your Placement' Feedback sheet for 6001SPOPSY and 7035SPOSCI students to submit alongside the Code of Practice Appendix 4 document.

All students must complete the mandatory feedback questionnaire in order to be eligible for assessment. Since making it compulsory, the response rate has increased from 40% to 100%.

The completed questionnaires are sent to Katie Lawrence to formulate into a report for Academic Staff and External Examiners. Student feedback comments are used in the module handbook under a 'you said, we did' section to demonstrate module improvements. The feedback directly relating to the placement is extremely useful enabling the School to make decisions about the placements they wish to continue working with.

The Rate Your Placement feedback also helps to mitigate lack of responses for PG Module Appraisals. Module Appraisals are expected to be completed before PG students have finished their placement, so students are unable to reflect upon the whole process through them.

Author of the 'Rate Your Placement' Feedback: Katie Lawrence. If you have any questions please contact the Placement Learning Support Unit, email:

SciencePLSU@ljmu.ac.uk

or tel: 0151 231 2079

Code of Practice Paperwork vs. Erasmus Paperwork

For those students doing an Erasmus placement as part of their Work Based Learning module or Professional Training year, they must complete the Erasmus paperwork alongside the Code of Practice Paperwork.

Erasmus paperwork queries: Jayne Kerwin, email:

J.E.Kerwin@ljmu.ac.uk

or tel: 0151 904 6470

Code of Practice paperwork queries: Placement Learning Support Unit, email:

SciencePLSU@ljmu.ac.uk

or tel: 0151 231 2079

Blackboard Health and Safety Module... Watch this space!

As a result of ongoing discussions regarding a mandatory health and safety module for students to complete prior to going out on placement, it appears this idea may be possible. The funding has been approved... we are just awaiting confirmation of project details. Should the project go ahead, then a working group will be set up to discuss ideas.

Good Practice around the Faculty

External Engagement

Katie Evans is engaging in an 'Employers Lunch' to meet providers suitable for placements.

Science Placement Learning Support Unit

Students from both the School of Sport and Exercise Sciences and the School of Pharmacy and Biomolecular Sciences have commented on the excellent standard of advice and support they have received from the Unit. The CV support from the Unit has been complimented by students and staff.

Natural Sciences Academic Co-ordinator

The Meres and Mosses Group have £4000 to pay for an Academic Placement Co-ordinator to start 2nd November, 1 ½ days a week, for one year. The role will evolve around placements, attending networking meetings etc. Sarah Dalrymple welcomes any ideas to pass on.

Sharing Practice event with Natural Sciences

Hayley Fallon (Careers Advisor, World of Work Careers Centre) organised a 'sharing practice' event for different programme leaders and support staff to collaborate and discuss their work, which Jamie Fearn found extremely useful and attendance was good.

Resources for Placements

Academic members of staff have commented on the pressures of securing more placements, to support the increasing numbers of students on Work Based Learning modules at UG and PG level, the lack of school specific resources and students no longer self-sourcing. Also, with the £9000 tuition fees, academics have been promoting elite placements to prospective students to meet higher student expectations, yet there are not enough elite placements to offer. These resourcing issues have been raised within the Faculty.

Name Change: Placement Learning Support Unit

The Faculty's World of Work and Skills Support Unit has changed its name to the Placement Learning Support Unit (PLSU). This is to avoid confusion with the World of Work Careers Centre, and reflect the work that they do.

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Should you have any information you wish to feed back to the Science Placements and Employability Panel, good practice you would like to share or any input with regard to the items mentioned above please contact your School Representative or Katie Lawrence.