

## INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION & HUMANITIES

### STUDENT STAFF COMMITTEE FOR NATIONAL MA EDUCATION

#### AGENDA/MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 30 JUNE AT 4.00PM VIA TEAMS

**PRESENT:** Nanna Ryder (Chair, National MA Programme Director), Elaine Sharpling (Programme Team), Alexandra Davies (Student Services), Nicola Price (Year 1 Student Rep), Rhys Davies (Year 2 Student Rep)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** L Morgan (Mins)

| Agenda Item                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Main Discussion Points                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Action Points | Timescale |
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| 1. Welcome and Apologies                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. .Apologies were received from Gwennan Couch (Library), Steve Morgan (IT), Gail Parker (Programme Team)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |               |           |
| 2. Minutes of the last meeting and update on action points<br><br><i>(using traffic light system to ensure feedback loops are closed)</i>                                                                                 | Minutes of last meeting were approved as a correct record.<br><br>All action Points: COMPLETE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |               |           |
| 3. Chair's Update<br><br><i>Including: significant University news; Academic Discipline/Cluster or Programme events or information; Academic Discipline/Cluster Quality matters – updates on reviews, validations etc</i> | <b>Exam Board:</b> The Exam Board was held on 15/06/26 and the following results were confirmed: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 3 further students passed their dissertation (1 Merit and 2 Pass) so total of 10 graduating on July 14<sup>th</sup> (11.15 ceremony)</li> <li>○ 13 students continuing with Part 2</li> <li>○ 25 students continuing with Part 1</li> </ul> |               |           |

| Agenda Item                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Main Discussion Points                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Action Points | Timescale |
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 5 students taking Interruption of Studies</li> <li>○ 1 student required to withdraw due to lack of engagement</li> </ul> <p><b>Term 3:</b> Induction sessions held and teaching ongoing for Term 3 modules. ARES and Dissertation teaching sessions have ended. Submission date for ARES and Term 3 modules is 27.08.26 and additional in-house tutorials will be offered to further support students. Submission date for Dissertation is 24.09.26.</p> <p><b>Recruitment and marketing:</b> Welsh Government funding has been approved for 8 applicants for the 2026-2027 intake. Further applications have been received and will be put forward for funding in due course. Numbers are slightly down on this time last year.</p> <p>Recent marketing activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Regular notices in the APLP newsletter</li> <li>○ Sharing of information at FE conference in Swansea</li> <li>○ Teams presentation to Powys secondary headteachers</li> <li>○ Teams presentation to Llanhari network and in-person visits to Pontarddulais and St Thomas Network lead meetings</li> <li>○ Teams presentation to Ceredigion headteachers</li> </ul> <p>There will also be an online post-graduate evening on July 22<sup>nd</sup> and plans are in place to raise awareness of the course at the forthcoming APLP Partnership days. However the best marketing comes from existing students so please share the message within your settings and your networks.</p> |               |           |
| <p>4. Review of Feedback Traffic Lights</p> <p><i>Opportunity to review and update traffic lights and discuss progress.</i></p> <p><i>This should result in traffic lights altering, being added to, or removed.</i></p> | <p>No traffic lights to update. Should anything arise from today's meeting then this will be circulated to the reps and updated via Moodle.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |               |           |

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| <p><i>Note: If there's something that is noted as red in your traffic lights <b>and it is not in your control</b> then you should notify the Academic Office.</i></p>                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |               |           |
| <p>5. Progress on Surveys Action Plan</p> <p><i>This is a live document which can be added to at meetings. This document must be agreed in collaboration with elected Student Reps.</i></p> | <p>Thank-you to all students who completed the PTES survey. There is no survey action plan for the programme at present</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |               |           |
| <p>6. Annual Programme Reviews</p> <p><i>Provide APR details for comment and review by student representatives as required by AQH Chapter 4.</i></p>                                        | <p><b>Periodic Review:</b> Anna Brychan, Nic Welton and Nanna Ryder attended the Periodic Review board on 25/03/26, chaired by Dr Osian Rees, Swansea University. Outcomes were as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a. No conditions</b></li> <li><b>b. 9 commendations:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The national collaborative model across seven Welsh universities is an international exemplar of innovative and effective collaborative practice and demonstrates strong sector partnership. The collaborative nature and dedication of the Programme Team has played a significant part in this respect.</li> <li>2. The programme demonstrates the value of using expertise from different institutions and across the sector. The use of national delivery teams and shared resources across institutions supports high-quality delivery, enhances the student experience and helps students build networks.</li> <li>3. The bilingual provision adds significant value and is vital to the development of the Welsh-medium workforce.</li> <li>4. The programmes support professional career progression, both in terms of immediate workplace impact and longer-term career advancement by developing reflective, research-informed practitioners capable of contributing to educational improvement at classroom, organisational, and system levels.</li> </ol> </li> </ul> |               |           |

| Agenda Item                  | Main Discussion Points                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Action Points | Timescale |
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|                              | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. The programme directly supports Welsh government priorities and contributes to developing a high-quality education workforce in Wales.</li> <li>6. The development of new pathways demonstrates responsiveness to emerging educational priorities and strengthens the overall relevance of the programme.</li> <li>7. Assessments are innovative and authentic, using a range of varieties that are based in professional practice along with an emphasis on dissemination</li> <li>8. Assessment and curriculum design demonstrates inclusivity, including EDI principles, dedicated curriculum content, decolonisation, bilingual provision, and flexible blended learning.</li> <li>9. The pastoral support and emphasis on student well-being.</li> </ol> <p>○ <b>3 recommendations:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Further explore opportunities for EdD student engagement in National MA to contribute to aspects of programme delivery, research mentoring or scholarly communities of practice</li> <li>2) Further fostering of relationship with Dysgu to continue: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the enhancement of the different pathways</li> <li>• opportunities for stackable microcredentials</li> <li>• promote educational research and funding opportunities</li> <li>• responsiveness to changing policies</li> </ul> </li> <li>3) Further review of the balance between Equity and Wellbeing within the Equity in Education pathway and requirements of the sector</li> </ol> <p>The team at National and at UWTSD are moving forward in addressing the recommendations.</p> |               |           |
| 7. Review of Module Feedback | Students have been asked to provide feedback at the end of the second National Saturday but response has been limited. The team will look at the                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |               |           |

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| <i>Review collected module feedback with the student reps and identify action points and progress.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | responses following the end of the Term 3 modules but this will be as a National cohort rather than at individual HEI level.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                                           |           |
| <p>8. Learning &amp; Teaching Matters</p> <p><i>An opportunity to discuss:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Good practice</li> <li>- Annual Programme Reviews</li> <li>- Innovative projects</li> <li>- Resources (library, specialist software, equipment and facilities etc)</li> <li>- Assessments</li> <li>- Feedback mechanisms</li> <li>- Work placements / work experience</li> <li>- Learning spaces (to come before or after resources)</li> <li>- Inclusive teaching</li> </ul> | <p><b>Student Services</b><br/>A full report will be available on Moodle containing all relevant information, opening times, useful links etc.</p> <p><b>Library</b><br/>A full report will be available on Moodle containing all relevant information, opening times, useful links etc.</p> <p><b>IT</b><br/>A full report will be available on Moodle containing all relevant information, opening times, useful links etc.</p> <p><b>Year 1 Student Rep</b><br/>Attendance at live sessions can be challenging due to work commitments, travel, and family responsibilities, making it difficult for some participants to attend or catch up on missed sessions.<br/>Participants highlighted the high level of tutor support, particularly the flexibility and understanding shown during changes in personal or professional circumstances.<br/>Tutor communication was praised, with participants valuing the ability to contact staff easily and receive timely support.<br/>The supportive nature of the course was seen as a key factor in helping participants balance work and MA study, encouraging them to continue.<br/>Feedback on learning resources was mixed. While some found resources easy to access, others reported that materials were spread across different platforms (e.g. Moodle, PebblePad, email), making them time-consuming to locate. It was noted that resource accessibility varied by module, although this was raised as an observation rather than a criticism.<br/><b>RESPONSE:</b> Thank you for your kind words regarding the support that's available. We acknowledge that all the students are working full time and the support needs to be flexible as well. So we do try our best to support whenever and wherever needed.</p> | <p>NR to upload to Moodle</p> <p>NR to upload to Moodle</p> <p>NR to upload to Moodle</p> |           |

| Agenda Item                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Main Discussion Points                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Action Points | Timescale |
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p><b>Year 2 Student Rep</b><br/> Echoed the points of the Year 1 rep with regards to programme support. All the information is on Moodle that is needed for the dissertation.<br/> <b>RESPONSE:</b> The support continues into the third year as well, because the dissertation can be quite lonely. There is a lot of work to do, but because all the sessions are recorded, students can catch up on those and you've also got your supervisor as well.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                 |               |           |
| <p>9. Enhancing learning</p> <p><i>An opportunity to discuss:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Co-curricular opportunities</li> <li>- Enhancement projects</li> <li>- Student Development</li> <li>- Employability</li> <li>- Learning Community activity</li> <li>- Field trips, site visits</li> <li>- Student-led conferences</li> </ul> | <p><b>Writing Retreat:</b><br/> This was held on 27/05/26 on the Carmarthen campus for Dissertation students and 3 attended. This is optional and attendance is low so a message will be shared with students to ask whether they want a writing retreat in August in preparation for assignment submissions.</p> <p><b>National Research Workshop:</b><br/> USW are hosting the National Research Workshop on 03/07/26 and 04/07/26 and 9 Dissertation students and two members of staff (ES &amp; NR) have registered their attendance. The Cabinet Minister for Education and the Welsh Language will be in attendance and will address the conference.</p> |               |           |
| 10. Any other business                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | N/A                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |               |           |
| 11. Date of next meeting                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | TBC in new academic year                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |               |           |

Once confirmed, please send a copy of these minutes to [studentvoice@uwtsd.ac.uk](mailto:studentvoice@uwtsd.ac.uk).