

NOTES OF MEETING OF DEANARY CONNECT

Chairperson: A/P Chang Tou Chuang

Date: Monday, 6th February 2012

Time: 3:00pm - 4:30pm

Venue: AS7, Level 1, Seminar Room B

S/N	Issues Raised	Response/ Remarks	Follow-up
1	CNM Internship	<p>The internship is worth only 8MC, of which 4MC goes to major while the other 4MC to U/E. Students are not allowed to read other modules while on this internship as they need to take LOA.</p> <p>Student suggested increasing the amount of MCs; allow 8MCs to be mapped to the major; or to allow students to read modules concurrently.</p> <p>Post-Meeting Note: The spread of the MCs is due to the curriculum structure of internship programmes.</p>	
2	Career Development	<p>Unlike Biz, FASS does not focus as much on career development.</p> <p>Prof Chang replied that FASS does hold such events; however student uptake is not favorable. He also recommended FASS Mentorship Programme and FASTALK.</p>	
3	Preclusion of ISM and HT	<p>Students taking Department ISMs are precluded from HT. It was suggested that the preclusion be removed so that students can pursue their interest instead of reading major modules which fall outside their interest.</p> <p>Samuel replied that the modules read in the honours year are meant to be in depth training in one's major in preparation of graduate school. There needs to be sufficient grounding in one's</p>	

		honours training.	
4	Compulsory release of tutorial grades	<p>Students requested compulsory release of tutorial grades, in order for more transparency. This is so that they are able to justify their grades.</p> <p>Prof Chang discussed with the students the positive implication of accountability; the negative implication of grade comparison; and also the possible effects on the dynamics of the tutorial groups.</p>	
6	Feedback for lecturers/tutors	<p>Students suggested that a concurrent feedback system be implemented so that lecturers know how to adjust teaching practices in order to suit the cohort in the semester rather than after. One suggestion was to implement the feedback system via smart-phone applications. From the lecturer's perspective, Prof Chang was concerned that if the feedback is too negative, it would be extremely disruptive and the lecturer's morale would be affected.</p> <p>From the discussion, most students are not open to approaching their lecturers to offer feedback. They also stated a fear of their grades being affected by their feedback, and that graduating cohorts are apathetic as they will not be affected in the following semesters. Prof Chang encouraged students to approach these lecturers if changes can be made to improve teaching, i.e. lecturers to slow down or speed up their lessons.</p>	
7	Grants for competition	<p>Student feedback that we do not have sponsorship for student competitions.</p> <p>Samuel commented that current funds are used mainly for academic purposes, and these competitions are not academic in nature.</p> <p>Prof Chang suggested that FABS look into future grants for competition.</p>	
8	On campus accommodation	<p>Student feedback that local students be given priorities for residences as they contribute more to campus life.</p>	

		<p>Prof Chang responded that local students have alternate accommodations, but exchange students are limited in this manner. Hence exchange students have priorities for accommodations.</p>	
9	Minor	<p>A query was raised on the reason why there is a module code for American Studies but not a minor.</p> <p>Prof Chang replied that for a minor, there needs to be sufficient modules available, and due to insufficient lecturers with expertise in the niche area of American Studies, we are unable to offer the minor.</p>	