

## GEOGRAPHY DEGREE PROGRAMME

### STAFF-STUDENT LIAISON COMMITTEE

27 FEBRUARY 2013

#### MINUTES

**Present:** Lynne Addison (3<sup>rd</sup> Year), Richard Bowman (4<sup>th</sup> Year), Jiajin Chen (2<sup>nd</sup> Year), Connor Ellis (3<sup>rd</sup> Year), Holly Gardner (2<sup>nd</sup> Year), Nick Hulton (Geography Degree Programme Convenor), Naomi Kennedy (Student Chair), Andrew MacLaren (4<sup>th</sup> Year), Beth Muir (Secretary), Eva Panagiotakopulu (Lecturer).

#### 1. Welcome

#### 2. Apologies

Faten Adam, Meredith Adams, Bridget Holtom, Rona Leese, Ashleigh McGrath, Dan Swanton.

#### 3. Matters Arising

##### *Social and Cultural Geography*

Students felt that it would be useful if a wider range of outside or non-academic sources were included in class and tutorial discussions.

##### *Geography in the Archive*

Nick confirmed again to the Student Reps that this course will now be running next year (2013/14).

#### 4. Teaching Programme Review (T.P.R.) remit questions

Nick thanked the Student Reps for their input given in person and by e-mail, and opened up the discussion to all Student Reps present at the meeting. Suggested areas for remit questions included the Personal Tutor system, fieldwork opportunities, the Year Abroad, the choice available in a Geography degree, and academic feedback.

Nick advised the students that Personal Tutors will be included in the University level remit questions; there will also be a change for joint honours students from 2014/15. From 2014/15 joint honours students will be able to take an Elective in place of an Options course. Pre-requisites for Electives will still be in place (e.g. students must attend the Bangor fieldtrip in 3<sup>rd</sup> Year to be eligible for Iceland). Nick confirmed the remit areas the students would like included in the T.P.R. at the end of the year.

##### **List of areas in order of preference:**

- Feedback and assessment patterns and how to make them more effective, including Personal Tutors (role and functioning of the Personal Tutor system).
- Academic communities, focussing on 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Year.

- The role of fieldwork.
- Can there be a greater unity/integration of Human and Physical Geography as a discipline?
- Year Abroad – function, access, support at Edinburgh. Direct school links with other institutions?

Beth confirmed that there will be an 'Open Meeting' running on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March for one hour – this will be an opportunity for all students to give their feedback. E-mail and poster reminders will be provided over the next two weeks.

## **5. AOB**

### **a. *Student Chair for 2013/14***

Nick expressed thanks to Naomi (Student Chair) and all the 4<sup>th</sup> Years who have been involved in the committee this year. Beth advised the Student Reps that she will e-mail them all requesting nominations for next year's Student Chair.