

**Mattersey Hall**  
**Student Faculty**  
**3:30pm Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> October 2017**  
**Minutes**

**Present**

*Faculty & Staff*

Robin Routledge (Chair)  
Catherine Shiells (Minutes)  
Glenn Balfour  
Steven Jenkins  
Peter Cavanna  
Rebecca Foulds-Hopkin

*Students*

Christopher Hopkinson (L6)  
Tristan Wade (L6)  
Curtis Lowe (L5)  
Nikita Watkins (L5)  
Kofi Gyan (L4)  
Sarah Hulbert (L4)

**1. Welcome**

1.1. RR welcomed the new student reps.

**2. Revised format of SFMs**

- 2.1. RR indicated the revised format of SFMs, and noted the key areas around which discussions might take place.
- 2.2. Student concerns focused around the following:

**3. Quality of learning environment: Student Conduct in Lectures**

- 3.1. CL commented that level 5 lectures have been good so far. However, NW commented that some students in level 5 are being disruptive.
- 3.2. KG and SH stated that similarly in level 4, certain students are disrespectful and talk during lectures.
- 3.3. It was agreed that while lecturers were prepared to take action to ensure an ordered lecture, this might be more effectively done through peer pressure.
- 3.4. We will continue to monitor the situation and consider it further at the next BoS and/or SFM.

**4. Quality of learning environment: Wi-Fi**

- 4.1. Student Reps all stated that the Wi-Fi in the teaching centre and residential centre is poor. SJ to speak to Simon Weir about how this can be resolved.

**5. Workload and assessment: TH6352 Workload**

- 5.1. CH commented that Level 6 students are struggling to keep up with the work given for TH6352 New Testament Theology. Students have been given a reading plan to read the whole of the New Testament in the Semester and articles to read in preparation for lecture discussions.
- 5.2. RR explained that for one 20 credit module, 200 hours of study is expected. This breaks down into 40 hours of lectures, 80 hours of background reading and 80 hours of assignment work. Whilst other lecturers may not make

specific reading demands, it is assumed that students will do reading ahead of lectures, in addition to research and preparation for assignments.

**5.3.** CH and TW will take this back to the Level 6 students. The SFM will review this at the next meeting.

## **6. Wipeboard Pens**

**6.1.** TW stated that working wipeboard pens are not always available in the classrooms. Student Reps were asked to check each day that working pens are available.

**6.2.** GB suggested that full-time faculty are given a pack of pens to use.

## **7. Mattresses**

**7.1.** TW explained to the board that some students are complaining of back problems due to the mattresses. Some students state that their mattress is uncomfortable and some mattresses are also over 20 years old. SJ and TW will meet to discuss this in more detail to pin down exactly which mattresses are causing problems.

## **8. Bookcases**

**8.1.** SH told the board that two students do not have a bookcase in their bedroom. SJ will see to it that these students have bookcases put in their rooms.

## **9. Breakfast**

**9.1.** NW stated that there is often no milk or bread in the morning for breakfast. This is because students are eating cereal and toast in evenings so none is left for breakfast. SJ to speak to Simon Weir about how this can be prevented.

## **10. Lunch**

**10.1.** TW commented that there is not much variety in the salad bar at lunchtime especially compared to last year. SJ explained that the budget for each lunch is £1.90. SJ has already met with Simon Weir regarding meals – Simon Weir explained that a lot of food is wasted as students request meals then don't turn up. RR explained that if quality and quantity of meals is to be increased then fees would need to be increased. This will be reviewed at the next meeting.

**10.2.** CL commented that the meals have been of a good standard overall this year.

**10.3.** SH commented that she feels she has been catered for very well as a vegan.