

1992 Assessment and Feedback passed 3 November

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Union Notes

1. The 2016/17 National Student Survey (NSS) results has shown a drastic improvement in turnaround times for returning coursework to students.
2. The overall satisfaction with Q8 ("feedback on my work has been prompt") at UEA has jumped up seven points to 70%.
3. The lowest overall satisfaction score in the assessment and feedback section of the NSS is now Q10 ("feedback on my work has helped me clarify things I did not understand") which is 68%.
4. Even with the turnaround time improvement for coursework, satisfaction scores for some schools still sit between 50%-60% such as BIO, CMP, CHE, HIS, PHA and LDC.
5. The improvements in promptness is thanks to consistent lobbying from UEA SU over the past year.
6. The current university policy on turnaround promptness is for work to be returned ideally within 15 working days and a maximum of 20 working days.

Union Believes

1. Timely feedback is essential is an essential component of learning.
2. It is clear that while UEA SU should continue to lobby to ensure work is returned ideally within 15 days, students concern also lie within the quality of their feedback.
3. This year UEA SU should place greater focus on ensuring feedback is of good quality and delivered in an accessible and creative manner.
4. Good quality, standardised feedback can be delivered through online marking, clear summary points and audio files to deliver accessible feedback.
5. Pushing academics to deliver coursework turnaround any quicker than 15 working days is unfair considering the pressures and workloads that teaching staff at UEA already face.
6. UEA SUs work on assessment and feedback should also include lobbying UEA to deliver all of these aims with individual exam feedback.

Union Resolves

1. To campaign for the implementation at UEA of the NUS's principles of student feedback, including that:
 - a. Students are empowered and given the tools and support to co-design their assessment methods in partnership with academic staff.
 - b. Assessments are planned across programmes to avoid clustering, including for joint honours students and that deadline dates are made available at module selection.
 - c. Assessments are planned so that all programmes have their workload spread fairly across the year, with a calendar of deadlines available before module selection and on-going discussions with students throughout the year.
 - d. Submission is electronic where possible, and feedback is provided online.

e. Feedback is returned within three weeks, including on summative assessments. Feedback timeliness above an institutional minimum standard is agreed in partnership between staff and students in Schools.

f. The opportunities to receive feedback are clearly explained to students at the start of the course, and students can choose the format in which they would like to receive feedback.

2. To lobby UEA to improve on the uptake of online marking by academics, so standardised and creative feedback can be implemented more effectively.
3. To mandate UEA SU to ensure course representatives get input into what quality feedback looks like on their course.
4. To lobby UEA to keep coursework return time within 15 working days.
5. To lobby UEA to introduce individual exam feedback.