

Agenda for student voice meeting- 08/06/22

Attendees

Sarah McDonald – Course leader (minutes)
Lesley Saunders – Deputy Head of Dept
Susan Wakefield – Head of Department
Richard Clark – SIM lead – Lead for Doncaster
Rachael Clayton – L5 manager
Karen Dolman – Library staff
Rachel Barron – SIMS lecturer
Elly Akhavan-Hezaveh – Placement's co-ordinator
Liz Perry – Head of placements team
Nicola Woodhall – Sim and clinical skills
6 course reps in attendance

Introductions

Prior to the arrival of the head of department, the deputy head of department and the placement team, we had a welcome and introductions then started with an update by the library team

Library update

- CICW ML's are Julie and Pat.
- There are still support sessions running on a Weds.
- Referencing ad ref works sessions on-line will be once a week. Library chat is still available. We are sending updates on a Friday from the Library team
- Academic skills sessions through the summer but will be pulled back. Feedback form RC to say that one of his students has been very well supported by the library staff.
- Karen advised students to get support for research module at level 5 as this helps for the TAP module as well.
- Jones book for TAP – now have multi-user license now so should not have any access issues.

What is going well- SW

- Sept 19 – group has gelled together, good support from AA's
Not so good – placement hours and communications
- positives – support AA's are given to students
Not so good - Anxiety on placement hours etc and communication
- Positive any interactions either in lessons etc , like AA's
Negatives – not enough contact hours, communication etc.
- Gelled together, faced difficulties.
Not so good - some emails are not returned in timely manner. Particularly from tutors. SW – asked NF to give details regarding this.

Problems with Myepad, some having problems accessing Myepad. LS – Myepad was introduced just before the pandemic. This can be picked up with Kath Warren as placement lead, LS will take this to Kath.

- Enjoyed the face to face teaching
Negatives – placement related.
- Sept 20 child morale is low at the minutes, lots of assignments clumped together.
Was a lot of placement and now a big block of campus learning.
Not many positives from this cohort.

Placement hours- 40 minutes

Students are asking for a clear catch-up plan to ensure hours are met. There was chat about using holiday hours beyond what has already been suggested for the summer. Is this still a potential?

- Liz, Elly and Lesley and Susan — students are at different stages of placement they need to complete, so they are not sure how they are going to get those hours, we haven't seen a plan to make up these hours, are there other holidays that can be used?
- SW – Strategies for making up hours – include bringing teaching forward so this freed up placement time, this did cause some problems as this caused a split in the training plan when implemented.
- Other strategies were to use holiday, and this was not met with lots of offers. Susan asked the reps why this was not chosen? L6 – it was childcare and assignments amongst other reasons. Unfair to use own time and give this up to catch up on placement. L5 – childcare was an issue and was short notice for those who had booked holiday. SW – asked the students to think about what holidays they may want to use to make up these hours as this will be part of the catch up plan moving forward.

Can students request placement areas they may not have had experience in yet / or something they've particularly been interested in?

- LP – most important is to secure placements for as many students as possible. If we do at some point have enough placements and this may be a possibility.
- AI L4 Ad– some placements are not satisfying – is this quantity of quality? SW – we are still moving students if areas are not satisfactory. Link Lecturers are in the areas and the students can raise this with the link lecturer. JM explained that sometimes it helps to sit with the PA and the student and the link as they can help with this.
- LP stressed the importance of filling in evaluation forms
- LS – some students have been placed in their final placement in where they have a job. ER – placement team are saying this may not be possible. ACTION – Liz will look into this. SW – placements are audited for a specific number of students and sometimes the placement area agrees to take the students, but the allocations are complex and sometimes it may not be possible to place students in their place of employment.
- LP is working on clearer communication with the students.

When will we find out about opt-in placement during summer vacation periods?

- Placement team will try to give 3 weeks notice so students can make time to make any arrangements required.
- For Sept 20 – Action for Elly to get that information out to the cohort via SMC

How do the university ensure students are not given repeat placements?

- MM – number of students that have had repeat placements. One MH student has had a repeat 3 times of the same placement
- EA-H – asked for details so can chase this further.
- This shouldn't happen. LP – PEMS is a new system and data is being inputted currently, it is hoped that once it is fully up and running that it will be accurate and stop the repetition of placements.
- SW – MH students are particularly impacted as MH placement capacity appears to be impacted by the pandemic. It is taking MH services to transition out of the pandemic regionally.

Placement assessment dates for defer / refer students are still unclear. What are the expectations here?

- LS – Complexity in assessment dates as some students who have not had placement will be affected by this, or those with shorter placements. We then sometimes have to change the assessment dates or have more than one assessment date. There are a number of students trailing into the next year, this is not usual outside of the pandemic. Defers were not usual in the past and we have to allow 4 weeks for reassessment.
- RC to include terminology and understanding of defer/refer in the level 5
- AI – the amount of time to be assessed is a minimum of 4 weeks. If someone is off sick and does not complete the hours, this may mean that the student would defer.

L6 placement, what is going to happen to those who haven't had a placement allocation as yet?

- L6 students, there are some without a placement – the placement team are still looking at this. There is a meeting tomorrow to discuss this. SW reiterated that the students are not forgotten about and we are still working on their allocation.

Simulated hours- 10 minutes

How will simulated hours fit in and what is occurring with this?

- LS – 300 hours are still part of the recovery standards. NMC gave HEI's the opportunity to apply for the extra 300 hours. A business case had to go into the

University, and this was agreed. This was then approved by the NMC, so this just needs finalising and then we can start planning these further hours.

- This should help towards the hours These are going to be incorporated onto the course.
- MM – with 600 hours for Sept 2020, where will the 300 extra hours be? LS – from Sept 21 it may be possible to get all the 600 hours into the programme. From Sept 22 – incorporate 3-4 weeks of simulated placement which will form part of consolidation placement to introduce to leadership and management.
- ER – Sept 19, where do they stand to enable the cohort to qualify? LS – we could offer some more simulation hours, not all the 300 hours unfortunately.
- Susan and Lesley will be looking at the training plans and looking at where simulated placement can fit in.

Support- 10 minutes

Can the university offer any additional support, in terms of prep / understanding expectations for management placement? Students have reported feeling underprepared for this

- Potential for extra sim learning in level 6 to help with this?

Any insight into the expectations of next year, and what students can do to prepare?

- Placements team are working on communication and working on the processes. Move to more on-campus from September so students can drop in. LP will be sharing some information about this.
- EA-H – The placement team have been short staffed and have listened to feedback from the students there have been problems covering emails and phones. Trying to do some digital drop ins. Placements team want the feedback to come before it becomes a bigger problem. SW – the placement team are wanting to work more closely with the students to improve experience.

Finance- 10 minutes

Can the university / trusts offer any support to parents needing childcare, as it can be particularly costly over Summer Holidays.

- ER – mentioned about potential support for childcare. There is also a hardship fund available. SW asked for ER to see if this fund is available to apply for and if not, can the students come back to Susan or Sarah so we can look into this further
- AI – has found the process to be difficult as it is a huge form. The process is difficult. Is there support to help with the filling in of these forms? LS – will ACTION this and look at speaking to the department involved and see if there is help.

Students are wanting a clear explanation as to what may happen in terms of student loans if the course is extended.

- SW to contact someone from the team that are experienced in this to come along to the next student voice. SMC to invite SW to next meeting?

What worked well? 30 minutes

- When asked about positives of academic support this year, a number of students mentioned the E&E support sessions were very positive and helped prepare them for the assignment.
- Most of the cohorts expressed the support from their AA's was good and that they enjoyed the learning and the quality of teaching.

Any other business

- Sept 20 – some timetable changes change to AAC last minute, had quite a few emails during holiday, can we not send emails in the holiday unless needed. SMC will speak to CMT and level managers/module leaders
- Sept 20 – not really had contact from their academic advisors whilst they have been on placement. Can the AA please check in?
- Sept 20 – MH students with placements in the summer and timely release of placement allocations
- AI – Assessment questionnaire and feedback – ACTION – SMC can chase this with Lucy Kirkham and see if there are plans for implementing these changes.
- Amy asked if the department head could speak to the students again. Would it be helpful for the leadership team to have a q and A etc?
- SW to come back to another SV meeting. We can look at continuing to work together