

Officer Report

Introduction

November 2021, the Postgraduate Research Office Adetunji, being his first month in office and as a first year PhD student at the university, he focused on meeting PGR students face-to-face and via social media platforms to understand their needs and how the PRR officer can help.

The feedbacks from PGR community.

Accommodation – This is one of the critical being faced by my postgraduate research community as a bigger percentage of them are married and have families and securing places has been a difficult one. I shared my personal experience with Isabella in one of our meetings. I made a recommendation that the university should prioritize accommodation for students that are married/children.

Funding – As we are all aware, funding is a vital aspect of undergoing a research programme and several PGR students are finding it difficult to access funding. Part-time jobs and placement within the universities would be of great help. I have provided some useful information I can. I recommend that the university should have a place and more GTAs for research students.

Courses – There are a few courses that complaints and feedbacks were received on. **BE368-7-AU FINANCE RESEARCH TECHNIQUES USING MATLAB**, few students were not able to use the matlab app via software hub. **BE953-7-AU RESEARCH METHODS IN FINANCE: EMPIRICAL METHODS IN FINANCE**, many students complained that the course is one-way traffic and not very interactive. Also, the accent of the lecturer makes it difficult to understand the course.

Goals For This Session

- To create more memorable events for members of the community.
- To help strengthen the bonds within the community.
- To gain constant feedback from the community at all times.
- To provide a proper explanation of what communities are to all students on the university social media pages.
- The Essex Business School PGR community is holding their festive event today, 6th December, 2021 online and then on-site at the Colchester canteen.

What have I been up to?

- I have been actively promoting all events on the University of Essex social media page.
- I have had SCO catch-up sessions with the VP Community and Engagement.
- I have had meetings with the VP International and my coordinator.
- We had a postgraduate students mixer and it was a successful one.

What to expect next semester?

- To be able to provide more support for the PGR community.
- To create more fun events for members of the community.

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Month: November