

Board of Management

Learning, Teaching & Student Experience Committee

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 21 November 2023
Paper No.	LTSEC2-B
Agenda Item	4.2
Subject of Paper	Students' Association Update
FOISA Status	Disclosable
Primary Contact	Leo Subido/Josh Taylor
Date of production	12 November 2023
Action	For Discussion

1. Recommendations

For the Board to discuss the Students' Association (SA) recent survey on disputes.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this paper is to provide an overview of survey results from the Students' Association survey on students' feedback regarding the current dispute.

Please note that the survey results concluded before the announcement of further industrial action, which may have an impact on questions around retention & relationships. Both ELT and EIS-FELA were given the raw data and the Students' Associations overview of results.

3. Consultation

The Students' Association, as the representative body of students at City of Glasgow College, gathered feedback from students about their experience of the current dispute between the college and EIS-FELA, which has resulted in ongoing strike action.

The aim of the survey was to obtain a better understanding of the disputes' impact on the learning and teaching experience, relationships within the college and student retention.

Key Insights 4.0

Overview of results 4.1

The Students' Association launched the survey, which was completed by 507 students between the 5th of October and the 25th of October.

Following is the breakdown of responses to the questions asked in the survey.

Understanding of Industrial Action 4.2

We asked new and returning students "Do you understand what the local dispute is about?" The students were allowed to respond with multiple answers.

The most frequent responses to this question were:

- Redundancies
- Course contact time being reduced
- Increase in staff salaries

64 students reported that they didn't have enough information about the reasons staff were striking. 20 reported they are confused as to why staff are striking.

Impact on relationship 4.3

We asked students for feedback regarding the impact on their relationships with lecturers, college staff, their cohort, and their sense of belonging at the College.

Relationship with Lecturers

- 41.2% reported a negative impact on their relationship with lecturers
- 20.7% reported a positive impact.
- 38.1 % reported there was no impact.

Relationship with other College Staff

- 30.7% reported a negative impact on their relationship with college staff.

- 9% reported a positive impact.
- 60.3% reported there was no impact.

Students' sense of belonging

- 63.5% reported a negative impact on their sense of belonging at the college.
- 6.3% reported a positive impact.
- 30.2% reported no impact.

Retention 4.5

We asked students “Have the local strikes had an impact on your motivation to study at City?”

- 67.8% of students intended to finish their course
- 9.5% reported they have not been impacted by the strike action
- 22.9% of students were looking for work, a course elsewhere or are planning to return at a later date. This percentage translated to 116 students.

SA next steps 5.0

The Students' Association are meeting with both EIS and college management in the following weeks. The SA has called an emergency meeting with Student Parliament (due to take place 16th of November).

Out of the 507 students that responded, 83 students have agreed to participate in potential focus groups. As stated above, the survey was conducted before the announcement of further disputes. The aim of the focus groups would be to gather information on the effects of the continual disputes that couldn't be explored in the survey.

We have reached out to the National Union of Students to support these potential focus groups.

A visual overview of the survey can be found [here](#).