The CEC is asked to:-

i) **note** the update provided on the student consultative process

ii) **comment** on how we can fill the places on the student consultative structures for 2015-16

**Outcome of review of Student Consultative process**

The Student Consultative Executive meeting on 21 April 2015 received a presentation on the outcome and recommendations from the review project conducted by S U M S Consulting. It was very well received by all present, as the report clearly identified many issues that OUSA has raised and offered input on.

During the discussion of the recommendations, we secured agreement from the committee that a small working group be formed to undertake deeper consideration of each recommendation as to how they might be implemented. The working group members from the University are two representatives from the Student Consultation Office and an Assistant Director from an English regional office. Our representation on the group is via Nik Morris, Deputy President and two members of the OUSA staff team (Rob Avann, General Manager and Kate Snapes, Representation Officer).

Two meetings of the working group have been held at the time of writing, with a third planned in July, and it has been a useful process to work through the recommendations one-by-one as a group to consider how we might take these forward.

A number of proposals will be put back to the next meeting of the Student Consultative Executive meeting on 30 July 2015 for their consideration. This includes moving the English regional consultative meeting schedule forward in 2016 to take place between the end of February and the end of April. An online booking system for these meetings has been proposed, possibly Eventbrite which was used by OUSA for Conference registration in 2014.
There is unfortunately still some opposition to the idea of holding student surgeries as part of the English regional consultative meetings. Feedback from CEC members to support our position on these would be appreciated.

Concerns over whether the Postgraduate Research Consultative process is working have also been raised and this has been referred to the Student Consultative Executive for discussion. Currently, this is not coordinated by the Student Consultation Office but rests with the Research office. Only one consultation has occurred to date and a response is yet to be published. We understand that there is no clear mechanism at present for Research students to raise suggestions for consultation via this process and we have highlighted that this should be addressed.

Recruitment for students to join the process for the next academic year is underway.

**Consultative meetings in the Nations**
We have had agreement that the Student Consultative Executive will take much more of an oversight role on the meetings in the Nations in future, after the President raised concerns with the Director Students that the main focus of the Executive meetings has been on what is happening in England and, to a lesser extent, internationally. It is intended that the Nations will still have freedom to discuss issues affecting students locally, but there should be much more collaboration and coordination as many of the same concerns are coming up in all meetings.

**Online consultations**
Since the last meeting, a number of consultations have taken place on various topics including:
- The online student consultation forums
- Locations analysis
- Student communications
- Student Charter

**Online International Students Consultation**
At the time of writing, this consultation is currently ongoing and the forums have been very active with posts on all five topics: value for money; recognition of qualifications internationally; online/on-screen learning; group tuition and the open ‘any other business’ forum.

**OU SA places on Student Consultative structure for 2015-16**
We have been requested to nominate our representatives for each forum by the end of July 2015. The attached table (appendix 1) prepared by Kate Snapes, Representation Officer, gives a very clear up-to-date picture of how many places we have to nominate. Consideration from the CEC of how to fill these places would be welcomed.

Rob Avann
General Manager