The CEC is asked to:

i) note this update.

1. Background

1.1 The Module Delivery (Print and Online/Onscreen) research project was started in 2015 and findings from the pilot study were submitted to the CEC at the November 2015 meeting. The themes of study habits (annotation, revision and retention) and how students use online/onscreen and print delivery are now being explored in greater depth as we start on the next phase of the research project.

1.2 Applications for a larger survey were submitted to the Student Research Project Panel (SRPP) and the Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC) and received the approval of both. The next section details plans for the launch of the survey, the analysis of responses and the presentation of findings.

2. Project Updates

2.1 The research project being undertaken has two main arms. A survey will be launched by the University’s Survey Office and the Student Research Forum will be opened to invite comments on different aspects of module delivery.

2.2 The survey will be launched using the Qualtrics system, and will target a demographically representative sample of 2000 students. The demographic variables include age, gender, disability, qualification intention and socio-economic group. The sample will be generated by the University’s Survey Office.

2.3 The questionnaire for this survey has been designed to encourage participation and lead to a good response rate. A total of 10 questions have
been designed to invite feedback on the different uses to which students put online/onscreen and print delivery, and to identify OU platforms where students may have shared their views on module delivery. These questions are currently being refined to enhance feedback, and will be submitted to the SRPP for final sign-off.

2.3 The start and close dates for the survey will be confirmed after SRPP’s final sign-off. The survey will remain open for three weeks until mid-April. Once the raw data is received from the Survey Office, analysis will focus on factors that influence students’ preferences for different kinds of module delivery.

2.4 The findings from the Module Delivery research will be presented at the Officers’ Team Meeting in May 2016, with a full report submitted on Wednesday 18 May, 2016. These findings will also be presented in different formats such as infographics, short articles and reports. Opportunities to share these findings during Conference 2016 are being explored.

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