STUDENT ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVES

The CEC is asked to:-

i) receive a presentation from Natalie Read, Student Engagement Manager.

ii) confirm their involvement in project working groups

1. Introduction

1.1 Following the recent recruitment of Natalie Read as Student Engagement Manager, she has been busy scoping out a number of new pilot student engagement initiatives. Brief descriptions of the initiatives, as pasted below, were recently posted to the CEC forum with a call for volunteers to be part of the conversations that shape the new pieces of work alongside the Student Engagement Manager. This work will take place in online forums in conjunction with members of Students Association staff and will be guided and directed by Natalie who is looking forward to working collaboratively with us on these new projects.

1.2 Natalie is in attendance at the meeting to offer more detail around the initiatives and answer any questions that you might have.

2. The New Initiatives

I. Graduate Internships
This initiative is open to OU graduates - those about to graduate and/or who have graduated within the last 3 years. There are currently spaces for 6 graduates who would be paid to work at the OU. Units will need to bid for these places, making a case for why they need a university-paid intern working for them. Interns would be encouraged to support each other, and to take part in reflective exercises at the start and close of the internship to discuss their experience.
II. **Student Shadowing**  
Students will be given the opportunity to shadow members of OU staff for a day; this is also something that student representatives could apply for.

III. **Student Partnerships**  
Groups of students or student/staff teams to be given up to 15 days' paid time to complete a project. The project should improve the student experience in some way. This initiative will be launched in September 2017.

IV. **Student Ideas**  
The objectives of this project are to crowd source student-generated ideas that improve, support or enhance the student experience and run OU Students Association-led campaigns related to Student Association activities. The online platform has been customised and branded and will be ready for testing from early April. This is a six month project to be launched in July involving 2,500 students.

3. **The Working Groups**

3.1 Names of volunteers have been received in the Student Association Office and will be added to the appropriate working Group forums following this meeting. Further volunteers or changes to current arrangements should be notified to: wendy.burrell@open.ac.uk

**Wendy Burrell**  
**Deputy General Manager**