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Academic Board Meeting

2.00 pm on Wednesday, 19 June 2019
in 1B27 - Technopark, SE1 6LN

Agenda

No.	*Time*	*Item*	*Pages*	*Presenter*
9.		Student academic outcomes	3 - 8	SW

Date of next meeting
2.00 pm on Wednesday, 13 November 2019

Members: Pat Bailey (Chair), Asa Hilton Barber, Ian Albery, Craig Barker, Janet Bohrer, Kirsteen Coupar, Sajjad Hossain, Paul Ivey, Nelly Kibirige, Janet Jones, Sarah Moore-Williams, Jenny Owen, Shushma Patel, Lesley Roberts, Warren Turner and Shân Wareing

In attendance

Apologies Patrick Callaghan and Tony Roberts

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Paper title:	Academic Outcomes
Board/Committee:	Academic Board
Date of meeting:	19th June 2019
Author:	Richard Duke – Director of Strategy & Planning
Sponsor:	Professor Shan Wareing – Deputy Vice-Chancellor & Chief Operating Officer
Purpose:	Identify the BME attainment and progression gap for LSBU students.
Recommendation:	The Board is requested to note the report.

Academic Outcomes –Paper for Academic Board – June 2019

Introduction and Context

This paper focuses on the academic outcomes of LSBU students in the context of the following lenses:

- Attainment Gap compared to the sector and by LSBU School;
- Grade Inflation, comparing LSBU to the sector and considering the impact of ethnicity;
- Completion by expected time period, whilst also considering the impact of ethnicity.

These are important issues from an internal and regulatory perspective. Two of the OfS's four priorities are 1. Tackling disadvantage and 2. Improving student outcomes. Through mechanisms such as TEF and the monitoring of the LSBU Access & Participation Plan, these priorities will be reviewed and inform the institution's OfS risk rating and relevant to LSBU's place on the OfS register of providers.

The 2020-25 Access & Participation Plan will targets in relation to narrowing the attainment gap, as well as it being probable that the group will have KPIs relating to attainment gap and outcomes as part of the 2020-25 Group Strategy.

These outcomes are also vital in terms or LSBU moving to a group structure, and progressing against group priorities around impact in terms of access to opportunity and student success. The 2018-20, and subsequent 2020-25 Education Strategy has equality and inclusivity at its core, as well mechanisms to address the gap.

For the purposes of this report, ethnicity is focused on BME/White, though it is acknowledged there is a wide variation of outcomes for students within the BME cohort.

Key Findings

- Attainment gap for LSBU was 14.3% in 2017/18, a 5.3 percentage point improvement compared to 2015/16. In 2017/18 this was the second lowest attainment gap amongst London Moderns (only Kingston had a smaller gap at 13.4%). Table 1.
- At LSBU School level, there is an inconsistency of outcomes in relation to the attainment gap. In 2017/18 the School of Health & Social Care had the narrowest gap at 6.1% (a 10.4% percentage point movement compared to the previous year) and the School of Applied Sciences the widest at 26.6%. Table 2.
- LSBU has followed sector trends in relation to grade inflation, with a similar to sector trend in firsts and 2:1s, over the previous six years. LSBU however, awards fewer good honour awards overall, due to a smaller proportion of students compared to the sector being awarded 2:1s, and a corresponding increased number being awarded 2:2s. Table 3.
- All schools have shown an increase in the number of firsts awarded between 2012/13 and 2017/18, with the most marked increase in the School of Built Environment, which showed a significant increase in 2017/18. Table 4.
- Between 2012/13 and 2017/18, BME students have increase their proportion gaining firsts by 11 percentage points, compared to a sector movement of 9 percentage points. For white students this is reflected by a 12 percentage point increase for LSBU students and 11 percentage point increase for the sector. Table 5.
- When analysing full-time first degree students (on three year programmes), it was found that of students that embarked on their studies in 2015/16; 57.6% of students attained their

expected degree within the expected timeframe. This was a four percentage point improvement on students that began study in 2013/14. Table 6.

- When analysing students attaining expected awards in expected timeframe, there was significant variety of outcomes between schools. Engineering had the lowest score at 43.7% and Health & Social Care the highest at 71.5% for students that embarked on their studies in 2015/16. Table 7.
- In terms of expected outcomes, there is a 6.9 percentage point gap between white and BME students at Institutional Level. Table 8.

Attainment Gap

Table 1 – BME/White Attainment Gap 2015/16 to 2017/18 by London Modern

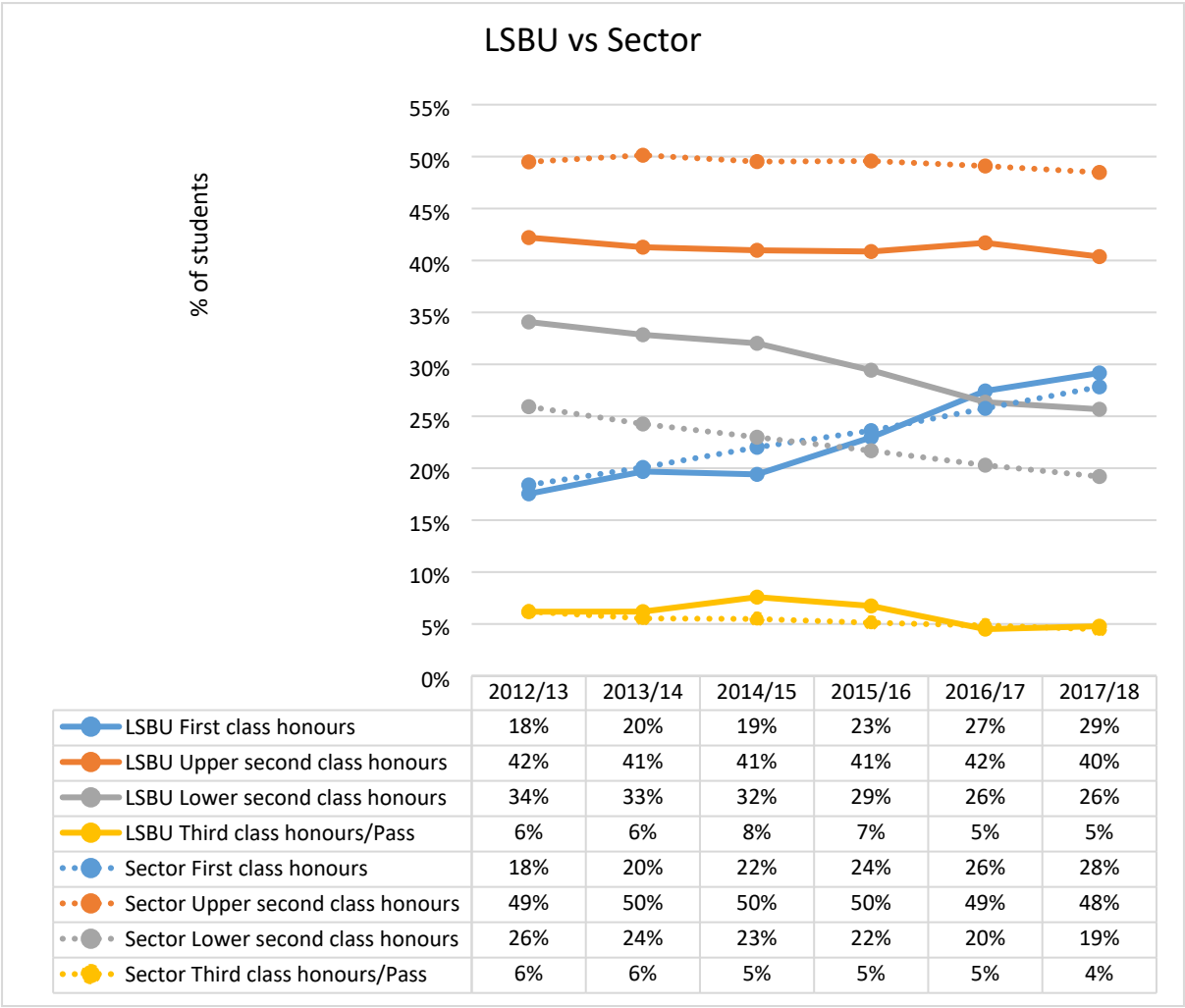
London Modern Institution	2015/16 Gap	2016/17 Gap	2017/18 Gap	Three Year Improvement
Ravensbourne University London	29.6%	23.9%	20.7%	8.9%
The University of West London	27.9%	21.1%	19.9%	8.1%
London Metropolitan University	33.4%	31.5%	27.5%	5.9%
London South Bank University	***19.5%***	***20.1%***	***14.3%***	***5.3%***
The University of East London	25.5%	25.0%	21.0%	4.5%
Kingston University	17.4%	12.3%	13.4%	4.0%
Middlesex University	17.4%	17.8%	14.7%	2.7%
The University of Greenwich	16.3%	17.1%	16.2%	0.1%
The University of Westminster	17.5%	14.3%	21.0%	-3.5%

Table 2 - BME/White Attainment Gap 2015/16 to 2017/18 by LSBU School

LSBU School	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	Three Year Improvement
School of Applied Sciences	24.3%	21.3%	26.6%	-2.3%
School of Arts & Creative Industries	20.1%	21.2%	8.0%	12.1%
School of Built Environment & Architecture	24.7%	19.7%	18.1%	6.6%
School of Business	-3.4%	11.3%	14.1%	-17.5%
School of Engineering	30.1%	16.0%	14.1%	16.0%
School of Health & Social Care	16.5%	18.4%	6.1%	10.4%
School of Law & Social Sciences	32.3%	23.2%	22.3%	10.0%

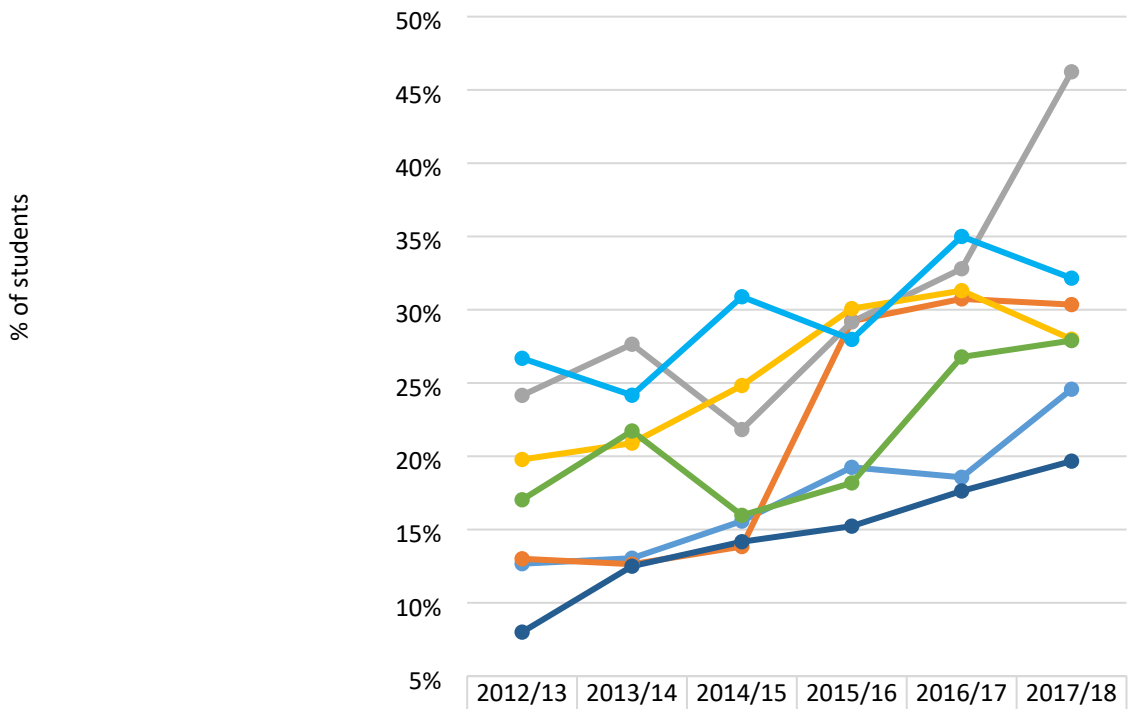
Grade Inflation

Table 3 – LSBU vs Sector Proportion of UG students by Degree classification 2012/13 to 2017/18



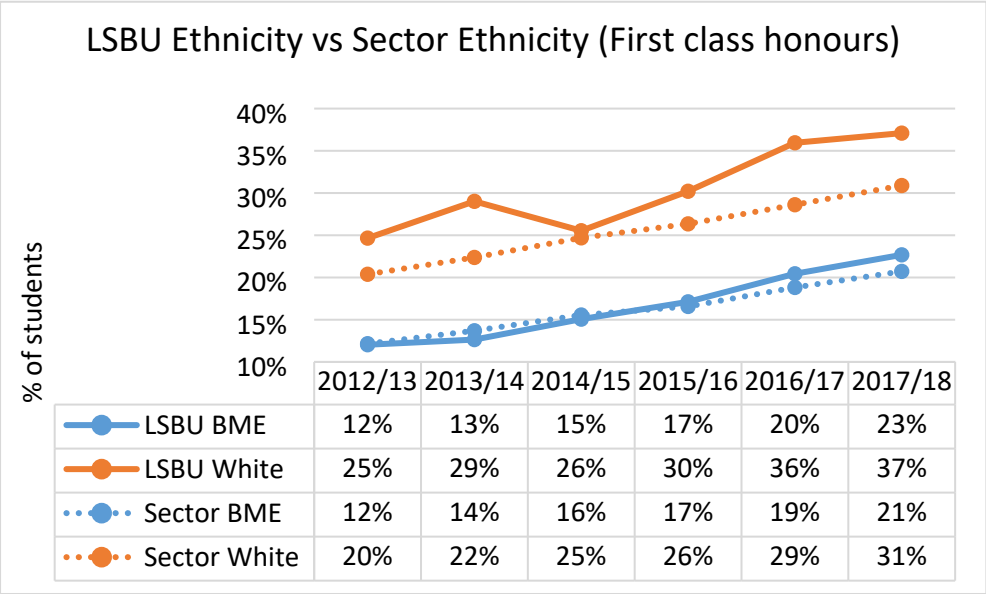
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
LSBU First class honours	18%	20%	19%	23%	27%	29%
LSBU Upper second class honours	42%	41%	41%	41%	42%	40%
LSBU Lower second class honours	34%	33%	32%	29%	26%	26%
LSBU Third class honours/Pass	6%	6%	8%	7%	5%	5%
Sector First class honours	18%	20%	22%	24%	26%	28%
Sector Upper second class honours	49%	50%	50%	50%	49%	48%
Sector Lower second class honours	26%	24%	23%	22%	20%	19%
Sector Third class honours/Pass	6%	6%	5%	5%	5%	4%

Table 4 – LSBU School Proportion of UG students Attaining First Class awards 2012/13 to 2017/18



	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
School of Applied Sciences	13%	13%	16%	19%	19%	25%
School of Arts and Creative Industries	13%	13%	14%	29%	31%	30%
School of Built Environment and Architecture	24%	28%	22%	29%	33%	46%
School of Business	20%	21%	25%	30%	31%	28%
School of Engineering	27%	24%	31%	28%	35%	32%
School of Health and Social Care	17%	22%	16%	18%	27%	28%
School of Law and Social Sciences	8%	13%	14%	15%	18%	20%

Table 5 – LSBU vs Sector proportion of UG students Attaining First Class awards 2012/13 to 2017/18 by Ethnicity



	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
LSBU BME	12%	13%	15%	17%	20%	23%
LSBU White	25%	29%	26%	30%	36%	37%
Sector BME	12%	14%	16%	17%	19%	21%
Sector White	20%	22%	25%	26%	29%	31%

Table 6 – LSBU Full Time, First Degree students achieving an expected degree outcome within an expected timeframe

Academic year started	First degree with honours
2013/14	53.6%
2014/15	57.7%
2015/16	57.6%

Table 7 – LSBU Full Time, First Degree students achieving an expected degree outcome within an expected timeframe by School

School	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
School of Applied Sciences	49.7%	51.5%	55.1%
School of Arts and Creative Industries	51.6%	60.6%	61.4%
School of Built Environment and Architecture	55.8%	53.6%	48.7%
School of Business	52.3%	53.1%	48.4%
School of Engineering	48.3%	51.4%	43.7%
School of Health and Social Care	62.3%	68.5%	71.5%
School of Law and Social Sciences	47.1%	50.6%	53.9%
Overall	**53.6%**	**57.7%**	**57.6%**

Table 8: Proportion of students that exited with an expected award by ethnicity (BME/White)

Ethnicity (BME/White)	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
BME	50.4%	54.2%	54.6%
White	57.3%	62.0%	62.7%
Overall	**53.6%**	**57.7%**	**57.6%**