**Meeting with MA Ensemble Theatre student representatives, St Barnabas Church Hall, Dalston, Wednesday 9 November 2016, 5.00pm**

**Present:** Gabriela Chojnacki, Natalie Craigie, Niamh Dowling, Andrew Walker

Introductions were made.

The student reps were guided through the Student Rep pack, particularly the sections detailing what is and is not appropriate for reps to be raising on behalf of fellow students. Emphasis was placed upon the support that could be provided by Student Services and the SU for the role of the student reps.

**Action:** AW to ensure that the SU exec makes contact with the MA students.

Some discussion took place of the College’s application for Taught Degree Awarding Powers, although it was emphasised that the current cohort of MA students would be graduate with a degree from The University of Manchester.

Students were asked about their experiences of working and studying in the space at Dalston. The student reps indicated that the MA cohort very much valued the opportunity to occupy their own space and felt that the facilities available were appropriate. They confirmed that induction activities had taken place involving both the College Librarian and the VLE Development Manager.

It was noted that the wi-fi access was rather limited. It was not possible for more than a small number of individuals to be online in the space at any one time.

**Action:** AW to raise with ICT Manager.

Whilst the heating in the space was fine at present, there had been a couple of occasions when the heating had not come on during a teaching session.

**Action:** ND to arrange for a number of heaters from College to be made available for stand-by purposes.

In discussing the students’ contact hours the student reps indicated that the students benefitted from occasional sessions when they were left to work without tutor support. This it was felt enabled them to bond further as a group and develop skills such as resourcefulness. The students were very positive about their experiences on the programme to date.

It was suggested that it might be appropriate for students to opt to spend some time on-campus. However, the student reps were keen to point out that not all of their colleagues would wish to do so.

**Action:** ND to ensure that some placement-related opportunities were made available to MA students on-campus.

The development of the College’s draft strategic plan was discussed and hard copies considered. It was agreed that an electronic copy would be circulated so as to enable students to discuss this further.

**Action:** AW to circulate electronic copy of the strategic plan to Gabriela and Natalie.

Discussions also took place regarding student rep vacancies on other College committees. It was agreed that it would be particularly useful for a postgraduate student rep to sit on Academic Development Committee and the School of Performance Board.

**Action:** ND to provide student reps with further details of future meetings of these committees.

Gabriela and Natalie were thanked for attending.

Meeting closed 5.50pm.