



Student Newsletter

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INTRODUCTION FROM THE REGISTRAR AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER



Mr James O'Kane

Welcome to the first edition of the Qsis Student Newsletter. This Newsletter, an integral part of the Qsis communication plan, aims to provide a broad insight into what Qsis can offer you as a student of the University, and also to provide you with a forum for your feedback and contribution.

Qsis has been developed to support the University in providing a single integrated source of information on all student and course related matters. It aims to enhance and improve your overall student experience from registration through to graduation, and all the important milestones in between.

The Newsletter will keep you updated on developments and activities taking place within the Qsis environment and will promote and encourage communication between users.

I would like to extend my thanks to the Students' Union, and those members of the student body, who have contributed to the production of this Newsletter. I sincerely hope that you find the Newsletter informative and of benefit to you as a student. The Qsis team is keen to engage with you, hear your feedback and gain your valuable input into Qsis developments going forward – details on how to provide your feedback are included on page 4.



WHAT DOES QSIS OFFER YOU?

60 Second Interview with Owen McMeel, QUB Student of the Year 2012



1. What were your first impressions of Qsis?

My experience this year has greatly improved from previous years. Now in the final year of my degree in Product Design and Development, I found Qsis much easier to use. Although I had some difficulty with timetable clashes, my School was great and helped me get through registration quickly.

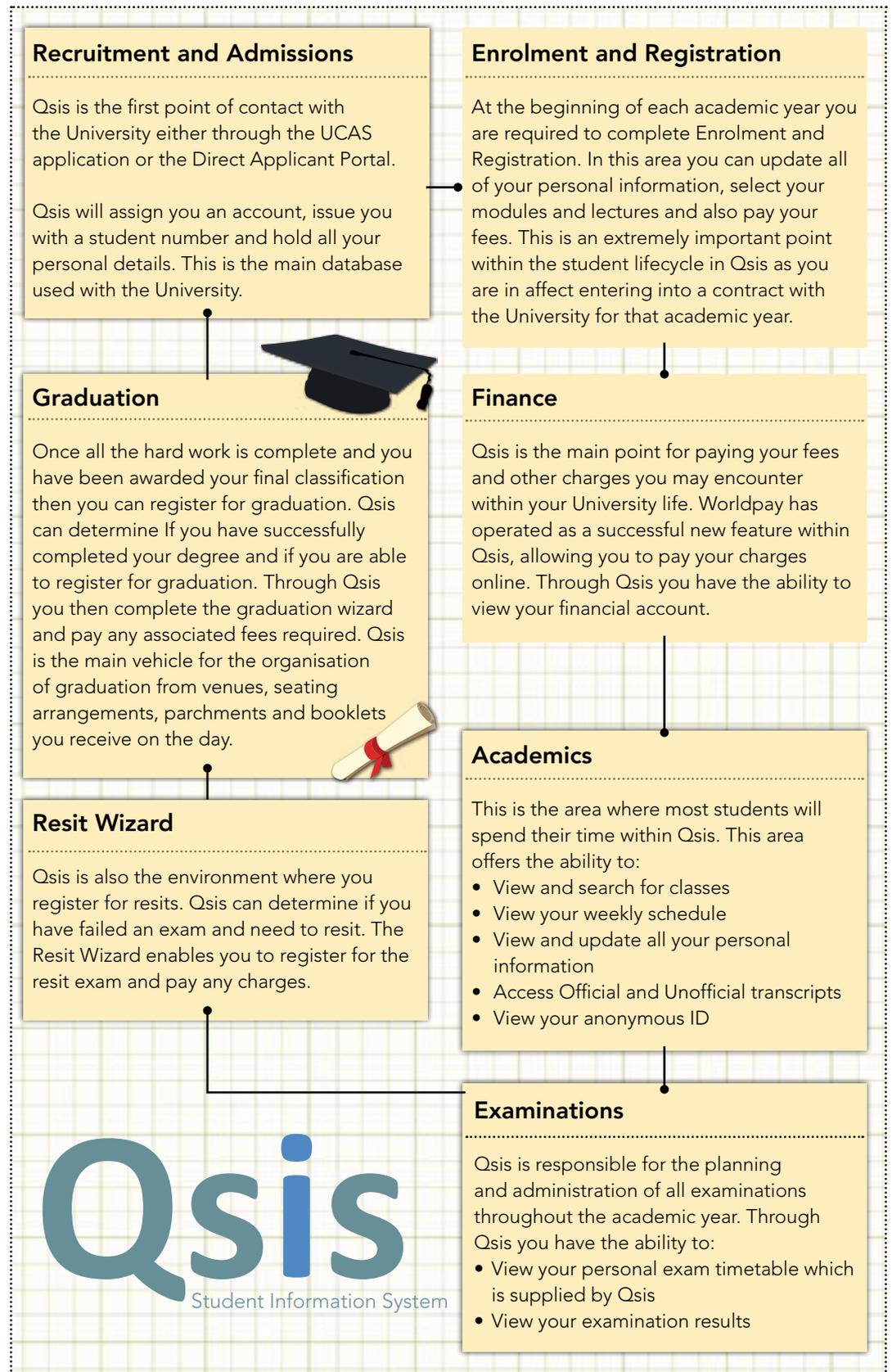
2. What do you like about Qsis?

I recently had a meeting with the Qsis team and found it very interesting to see what Qsis offers me as a student. There is a lot more within the system that I wasn't aware of and I was impressed by the continuous improvements that take place within Qsis.

3. What improvements would you add to Qsis?

I think the user friendliness and the Qsis interface could be improved to make the system more like Facebook or Google which students are used to interacting with. The module pages could also be improved by developing an interactive timetable, making it clear to students what modules they are required to take. I would also like to be able to view the current grade which I am sitting on and how this contributes to my overall degree classification.

Qsis is the main student information system used within the University and is the key source of all important student information. Qsis is a vital system for students, but what does Qsis offer you? The typical student lifecycle is illustrated below.



What's New In 2012/2013

Within the Qsis environment many changes have been made to improve the student experience. Below are a number of examples showing the major changes which have been implemented this year so far.

Class Enrolment and Clash Checking



The screenshot shows a grid representing a student's timetable. The columns are labeled 'Monday', 'Tuesday', and 'Wednesday'. The rows represent different time slots. Several cells are highlighted in green, indicating clashes. The clashes are labeled with course codes and weeks: SPA1001 W001 Wks: 2-6,8-12; SPA1001 T001 Wks: 1-6,8-12; SPA1001 W002 Wks: 2-4,8-12; SPA1001 T002 Wks: 1-6,8-12; SPA1001 W002 Wks: 2-4,8-12; SPA1001 T002 Wks: 1-6,8-12; and FAD1001 T01.

This year Qsis adopted a new feature, "Check for Clashes". In previous years many students expressed confusion and difficulty choosing modules and lectures. This new function allows you to add an initial class to your timetable and every time you select another module, lecture or tutorial you can check for clashes.

This function proved to be a major success in this year's E&R period and from a student's perspective made the process faster and less stressful.

Financial Registration

This year saw the development of a new Student Financial Framework which provides a consolidated guide on all matters which have an impact on tuition fees and associated charges.

The main difference this year concerns how fees are calculated, including the fee increase for students from Great Britain (GB), i.e. England, Scotland and Wales.

The University has also introduced the ability to pay fees through Worldpay which provides the option of paying tuition fees online. This has proven to be very successful during E&R 2012.

To read the full details of the new Student Finance Framework, please click [here](#).

Moving your inbox to The Cloud

Welcome Website



This year a new Welcome Website was implemented giving students one main entrance site for all queries regarding Welcome Week. From the student survey feedback, 65% of students rated the Welcome website as either "Very Good" or "Good".

Have a look at the website [here](#)!

Cloud Email

An exciting new development this year is the project led by Information Services to migrate student email to the cloud, using Microsoft Office 365. This new service will give you 25Gb of mailbox space – about 500 times bigger than your previous limit! This will greatly aid student communication and take the pressure off you in terms of managing your email quota. Undergraduate and Postgraduate Taught students are being migrated to the new service first, and this process is well underway.

Office 365 also provides web-based Office applications (Word, Excel, etc.); file storage/sharing; and communication tools for instant messaging, etc. Information Services plans to introduce these services once the email migration is complete.

[Find out more!](#)

Enrolment and Registration 2012

Feedback from both the online and exit student surveys has been very positive this year. The majority of students rated their overall experience of Enrolment and Registration as Very Good (48%) and Good (40%). Below are some comments from students;

"I am the Queen of Qsis, registration is done! Bring on final year!"

"Registered on Qsis in under 3 minutes. What are people moaning about? It's a registration WIZARD! You have magic on your side!"

"Qsis registration finished in no time, easy, rage for everyone else. My experience with Qsis was much better than last year's."

"My experience with Qsis was much better than last year"

"Qsis gets easier to use each year, Roll on Final year! "

"In my undergraduate I remember queuing up 2 floors of stairs in Elmwood to get my student card updated. Qsis is much better!"

The Welcome Website is great! Registration is now completed!

"Finally registered don't want to see Qsis again for a long time!"

"5 hours; 21 minutes on the Qsis website and I'm losing the will to live!"

Student Survey Prize Winner

For participating in the feedback surveys, students were automatically entered into a competition, with the chance of winning an iPad.

Congratulations to **Erin Higgins** who was selected as the winner of this competition and a big thank you to all participants for your invaluable feedback.



Sinead Carvill (Left), Qsis Student Advocate and Erin Higgins (Right) competition winner.

Key Feedback

- * 72% rated the helpfulness of staff/student helpers as Very Good.
- * 80% rated the financial element of registrations as either Good or Very Good.
- * 71% rated the Overall E&R wizard as Ok or better.
- * 88% rated their overall E&R experience as either Very Good or Good. Compared to 66% in 2011.

NEXT ISSUE

- * Examinations and Qsis
- * Graduations and Qsis
- * Student Group Interview
- * New Developments

FEEDBACK

If there are any stories or issues you would like to see in the next issue please email: qsisnewsletter@qub.ac.uk

Further Information Please Contact:

Sinead Carvill

Qsis Student Advocate
Student Services & Systems
Student Guidance Centre
Queen's University Belfast
BT7 1NN

Tel: 028 9097 3056

Email: qsisnewsletter@qub.ac.uk

For more information on Qsis or Student Services & Systems please visit our [website](#).

