INSIGHTS FROM THE STUDENT EDUCATION PANEL: IMPACT OF CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT

LSE

ADDRESSED TO

- Estates Division
- Director of Student Experience
- Department leaders

CAMPUS POST COVID-19

- Purpose of and relationship with campus has changed due to Covid-19 impacts

  - Many students experienced and still experience hybrid teaching and meetings, which created the need for spaces on campus that fulfil these requirements

  - The continuing rise in living expenses in the UK makes access to campus harder for many students and prevents them from engaging in activities on campus as they might have pre-covid

A CAMPUS FOSTERING COMMUNITY

- Overall the feeling on the campus is positive, welcoming and approachable to students and staff

- Current open spaces are welcoming and has provided an easy space to unwind - for eg. benches around library, the pubs, Lincoln's inn fields

- Breaks barriers between professors and students by offering efficient spaces to engage with and connect both in lecture halls and outside of classrooms

SENSE OF BELONGING

- **Access vs Authority:** It is not clear which study spaces or open spaces are allowed to be accessed openly - without permission etc

- **Power Dynamics:** Varies from UG to PG to PhD and between various departments. For eg. - with seniority comes more confidence to access and utilise the campus spaces

- **Mixed Perception:** Feelings about classrooms / lecture theatres differs amongst students. For eg. non-standardised infrastructure in different buildings (different layouts and facilities in old and new spaces); round tables in seminar rooms (helpful for groupwork, but difficult when teacher stands in one place out of many students' view-line) etc.
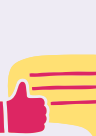
MOST LOVED SPOTS

- Library Floor, Silent Zones and LSE Life
- CBG and Marshall Study Spaces

UNDER-UTILISED SPOTS

- Cafes like Plaza, Denning etc
- Library Group Study Rooms - perceived to be damp and dingy
- CBG & NAB Open Terraces - lack of awareness

CALL TO ACTION

- *Install clear signage and authorisation to help students utilise all available space efficiently and with more confidence*

- *Curate conducive spaces within department buildings to facilitate in-department peer group studies and induce frequent informal/formal interactions with professors, deans, etc.*

- *Provide infrastructure to support student's technological needs like digital working - for eg. ensure working plug sockets, ergonomical seating etc .*

- *Develop a more accessible feedback/grievance mechanism to enable everyone to register feedback, complaints or suggestions regarding campus*