Response to mid-semester feedback

Thanks to all of you who provided mid semester feedback your comments are very helpful. Here is our response.

The most common comment was that you like the level of demonstrator support and that we should continue to provide this. We have no plans to reduce the number of demonstrators or the time that they work. The demonstrators are pleased that you find their efforts useful and helpful and thank you for showing your appreciation.

Several people commented on documentation and manuals some of this was specific to the two slit experiment and some more general and concerned the website and documentation in general.

We had some problems with documentation of the two-slit experiment because of the need to rebuild the lab after the summer refurbishment combined with a change over of staff. We apologise for this and believe the problems have been sorted out. John Loveday is in the process of looking at the website to ensure that it is as accessible as possible and looking through the provided documentation.

There were concerns expressed about subjective marking.

We have issued a new set of marking criteria which make clearer what is needed for the various grades and in particular define more objectively what is needed for grades A1, A2 and A3. We will also continue the practice of normalising individual markers’ means and of ensuring that students are marked by as many different markers as possible to even out any remaining subjective variation between markers.

Keeping labs open after 17.00.

We are afraid we can’t do this. Resources do not provide a means to have safety cover after 17.00

Provide an introduction to latex

Ross Galloway is looking into this. In the meantime there are example latex files on the wiki, and the website overleaf.com provides a free platform on which to run latex.

John Loveday

Edinburgh Nov 2018