NSS 2014 – Explanation of University and JACS3 Code Populations

Discrepancies between the numbers of students recorded on the response rates spreadsheets and subjects’ own information have led to some questions being asked in relation to data supplied. This is an explanation of categories used, and the data sources. There is also an explanatory note on the compilation of the NSS target list available on the Senate Office website.

1. NSS 2014 – Response Rates by College

The Subject Codes and Subject Names on the ‘Response Rates by College’ information are those used by the University. Each final year student will be included in just one GU Subject (Code & Name) so there is no duplication of numbers within this information.

2. JACS3 Response Rates

Ipsos-MORI maps the University’s Subjects onto up to 3 JACS Level 3 codes meaning the same student can be counted up to 3 times in the JACS3 report. For example, a student doing N4N3 (Accounting with Finance) will appear once in the GU College report, however, in the JACS report they will appear once under ‘Accounting’ and once under ‘Finance’.

3. Student Opt Outs and Small Class Sizes

Two factors affecting both GU Subject populations and JACS 3 Sample sizes are:

- Where students have opted out of the survey, the number of students in the response rate return will be fewer than number of students in classes. The number of ‘Opt Outs’ is indicated on the JACS spreadsheet, against the relevant subject;
- Where there are less than 10 students in a class, they will not be returned under the specific subject code in the College spreadsheets but will be put under ‘Other’ for data protection purposes. Likewise, if the JACS3 subject has less than 10 students in it, these students will appear under ‘Other’ in the JACS report.

4. Summary

The GU Subject spreadsheets should be accurate in terms of student numbers as submitted by the University in November 2013, for all subjects with more than 10 students.

JACS 3 Subjects cannot be directly related to GU Subject information. However, Schools will be able to identify which subject their students are included in.

Please contact jane.mcallister@glasgow.ac.uk if further explanation is required.