

SOAS Annual Student Diversity Report 2012-13

Executive Summary for Parts 1 - 3

prepared by the Diversity Advisor

The student data supplied annually by SOAS to the Higher Education Statistical Agency includes at least four self-reported diversity variables for each eligible student.

Part 1 the descriptive data

Part 2 deals with the data which compares SOAS to the rest of the HE sector.

Part 3 has a small number of other reports relating to diversity issues.

The main text and charts section of the report appears as Appendix G2 for the Equality & Diversity Committee 20 May 2014.

Part 1: Descriptive statistics per programme of study

Section 1A (see Table 1A): Domicile - frequencies

In 2012-13 some 5663 students were registered on SOAS programmes (n = 5657 in 2011-12) therefore an increase of 6 students from the previous year.

2662 (47.0%) students were on under-graduate programmes

375 (6.6%) students were on UG Certificate or Diploma programmes

58 (1.0%) students were on PG Certificate / Diploma programmes

1637 (28.9%) students were on post-graduate Taught Masters [PG-T] programmes

931 (16.4%) students were on PG Research [PG-R] programmes

The SOAS students can also be described by their domicile:

2977 (52.6%) UK (home) domiciled students

869 (15.3%) EU students

1817 (32.1%) International students

Chart 1A: All SOAS students registered in the 2012-13 session separated by type of programme and by domicile (UK, EU & international)

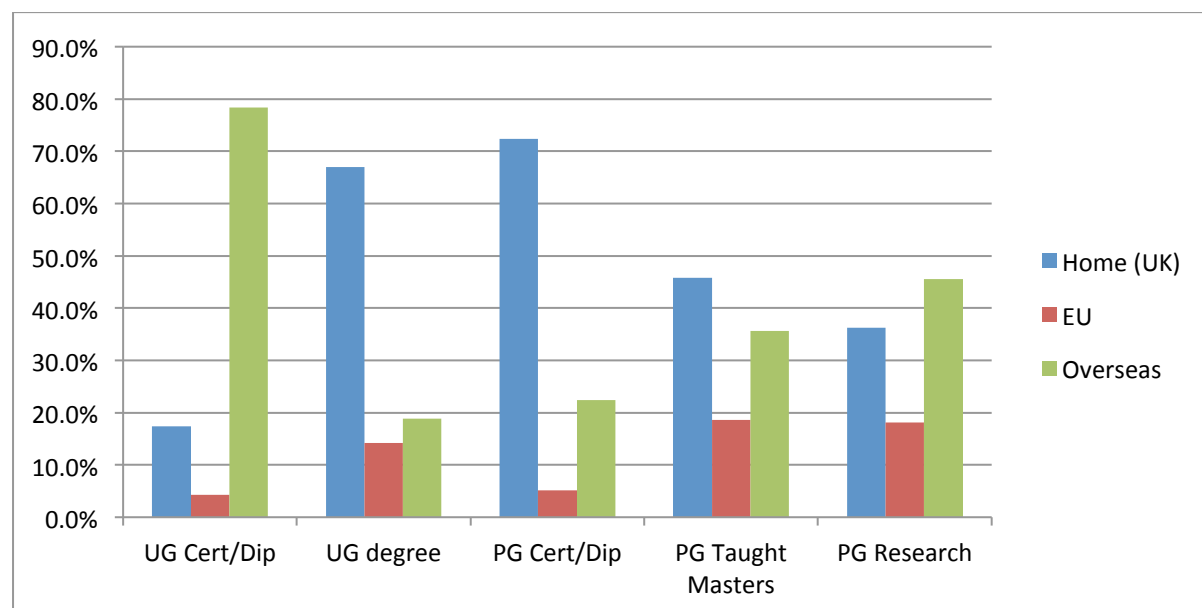


Table 1A: All SOAS students registered in the 2012-13 session separated by type of programme and by domicile (home UK, EU & International)

Programme type x domicile	Home (UK)		EU		Overseas		All students	
	Freq.	Col. %age	Freq.	Col. %age	Freq.	Col. %age	TOTAL Freq.	Proportion of all students per prog. (col. %age)
UG Cert/Dip	65	17.3%	16	4.3%	294	78.4%	375	6.6%
UG degree	1783	67.0%	377	14.2%	502	18.9%	2662	47.7%
PG Cert/Dip	42	72.4%	3	5.2%	13	22.4%	58	1.0%
PG Taught Masters	749	45.8%	304	18.6%	584	35.7%	1637	28.9%
PG Research	338	36.3%	169	18.2%	424	45.5%	931	16.4%
Totals	2977		869		1817		5663	
Proportion of all students per domicile (row %age)	52.6%		15.3%		32.1%			

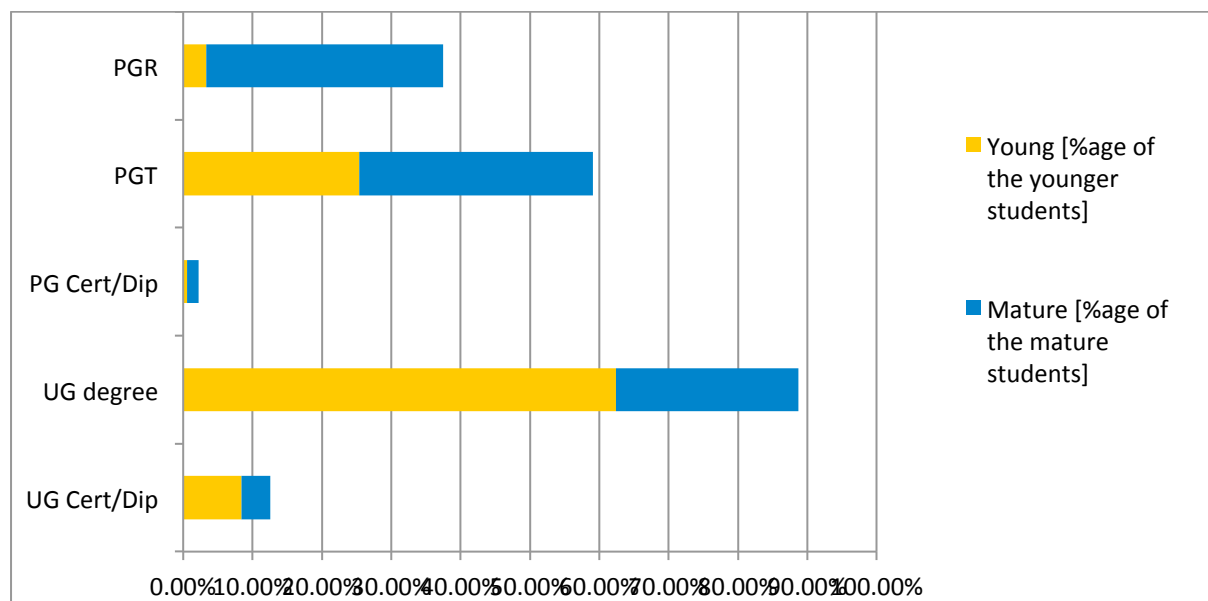
The 2012-13 student data has been analysed according to 4 self-reported diversity variables:

• Age	• Ethnicity
• Gender	• Disability

Section 1B: Age - frequencies

Table 1B and Chart 1B take the student body as a whole (n = 5663). Overall 46.5% of SOAS students are “mature” and 53.5% “young”.

Chart 1B: All SOAS students registered in the 2012-13 session separated by type of programme and young / mature status (includes home UK, EU & International)

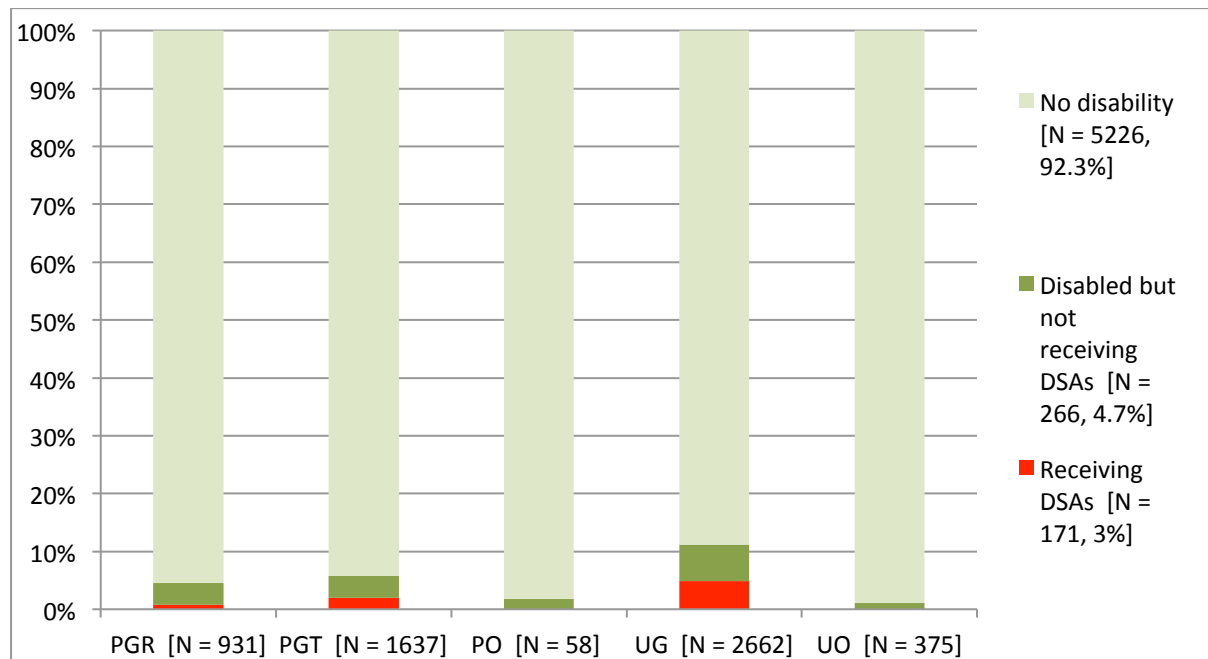


Section 2 Disability – frequencies

Table 2A and Chart 2A show that overall 7.7% (n = 437) of SOAS students have disclosed an impairment¹, and 3% of all SOAS students claim the Disabled Students’ Allowances [DSAs, 48.3% of disabled students] however there is considerable variation across programmes of study from 0 -11.8% of students.

¹ In fact this is an under-estimate as many students will disclose to the Disability Service but will not agree to allow Registry to reveal their disability on the Student Records System.

Chart 2A: ALL students, including those not domiciled in the UK, for 2011-12 - summary by Disability and Programme type

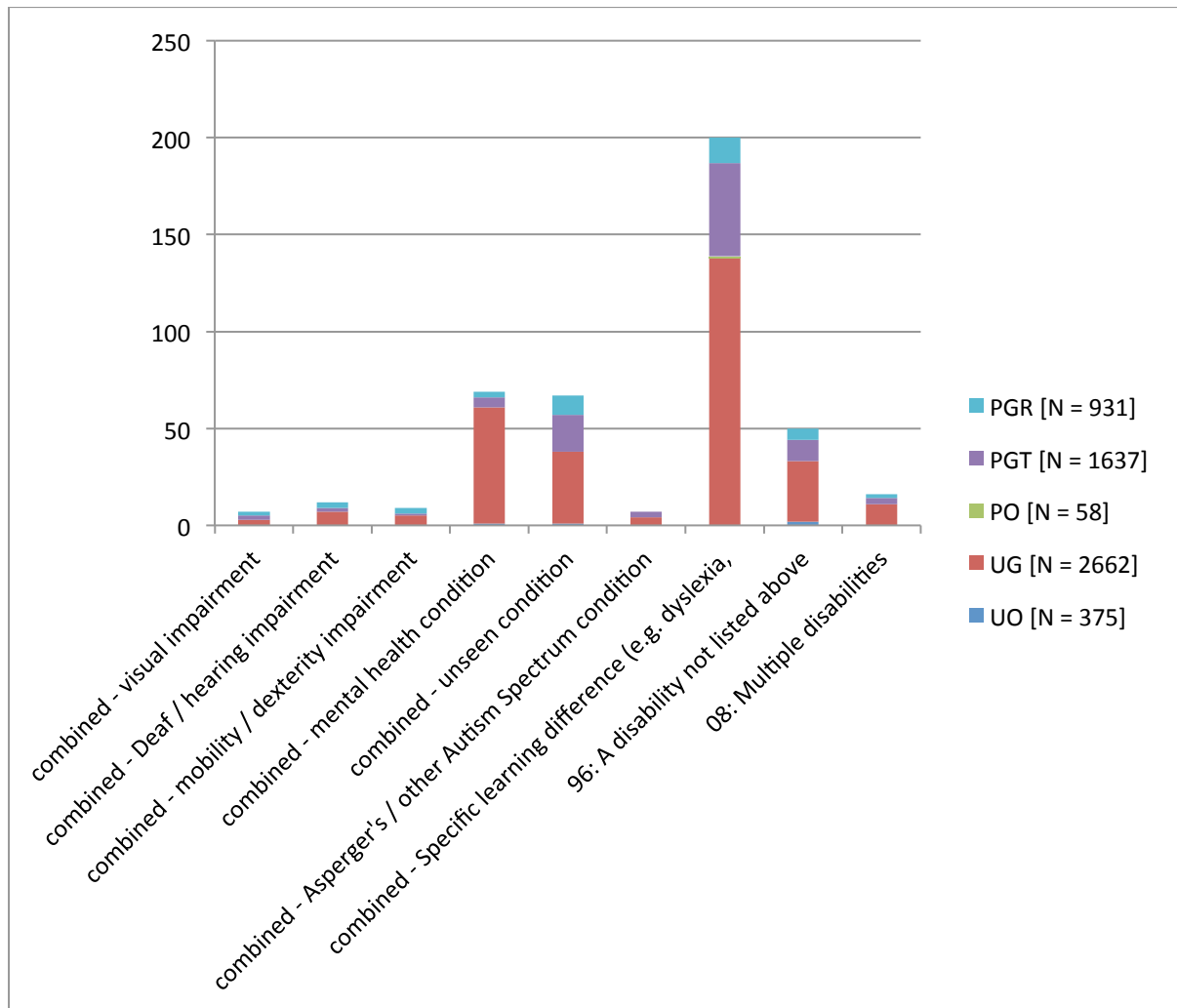


Sections 2C and 2D: ALL UG & PG students (including home (UK), EU & International - breakdown by form of impairment (Disability) and Programme type

Tables 2C & 2D and Chart 2D [appears overleaf] show the range of impairments experienced by SOAS UG & PG disabled students and as is usual shows that the majority of disabled students experience a specific learning difference (e.g. dyslexia); with those who have chronic medical conditions and mental health issues forming the second and third largest groups overall.

Chart 2D represents all of the SOAS disabled students (n = 437) and reports according to self-reported impairment category and programme. This confirms that most disabled students are undertaking undergraduate degree programmes.

Chart 2D ALL UG & PG students (including home (UK), EU & International - breakdown by form of impairment (Disability) and Programme type



Section 3: ethnicity frequencies

Tables 3A & 3B and Chart 3A [the chart appears overleaf] demonstrate that the School's high overall proportion (50.9%) of Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) students is not due only to its high proportion of international students. The home student cohort is 46.7% BME in addition to 13.5% of EU students and 75.6% of International students.

Note: the above will be under-estimates as 4% of UK, 10.4% of EU & 6.2% of International students did not provide ethnicity information.

Table 3B also provides the summary data for each type of programme: the Taught Masters programmes have the lowest proportion of BME students at 44.9% and the UG Certificate / Diploma programmes have the highest proportion 78.7%.

Chart 3A: All students registered in the 2012-13 session separated by type of programme and ethnicity and by domicile (includes UK, EU & International)

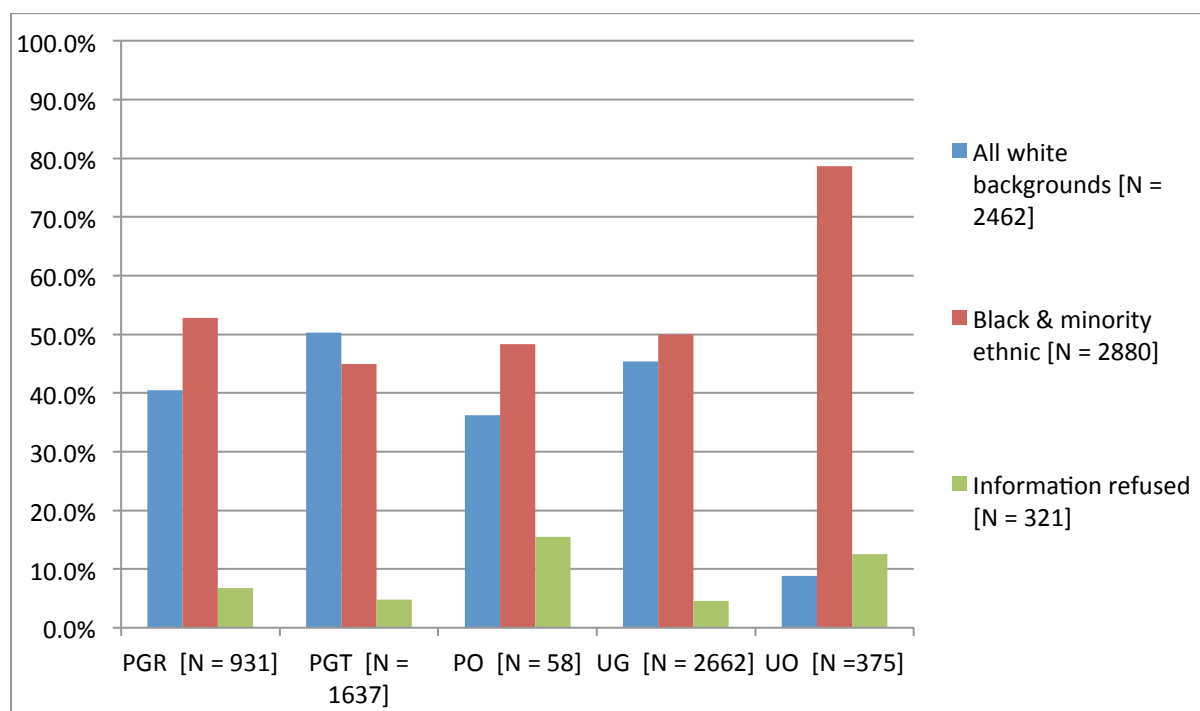


Table 3A: All students registered in the 2012-13 session separated by type of programme and ethnicity and by domicile (includes UK, EU & International)

	All white backgrounds - frequency	All white backgrounds - row %ages	Black & minority ethnic - frequency	Black & minority ethnic - row %ages	Information refused - frequency	Information refused - row %ages	Grand Total
PGR	377	40.5%	491	52.7%	63	6.8%	931
PGT	823	50.3%	735	44.9%	79	4.8%	1637
PO	21	36.2%	28	48.3%	9	15.5%	58
UG	1208	45.4%	1331	50.0%	123	4.6%	2662
UO	33	8.8%	295	78.7%	47	12.5%	375
Grand Total	2462		2880		321		5663
%age of all stu.	43.5%		50.9%		5.7%		

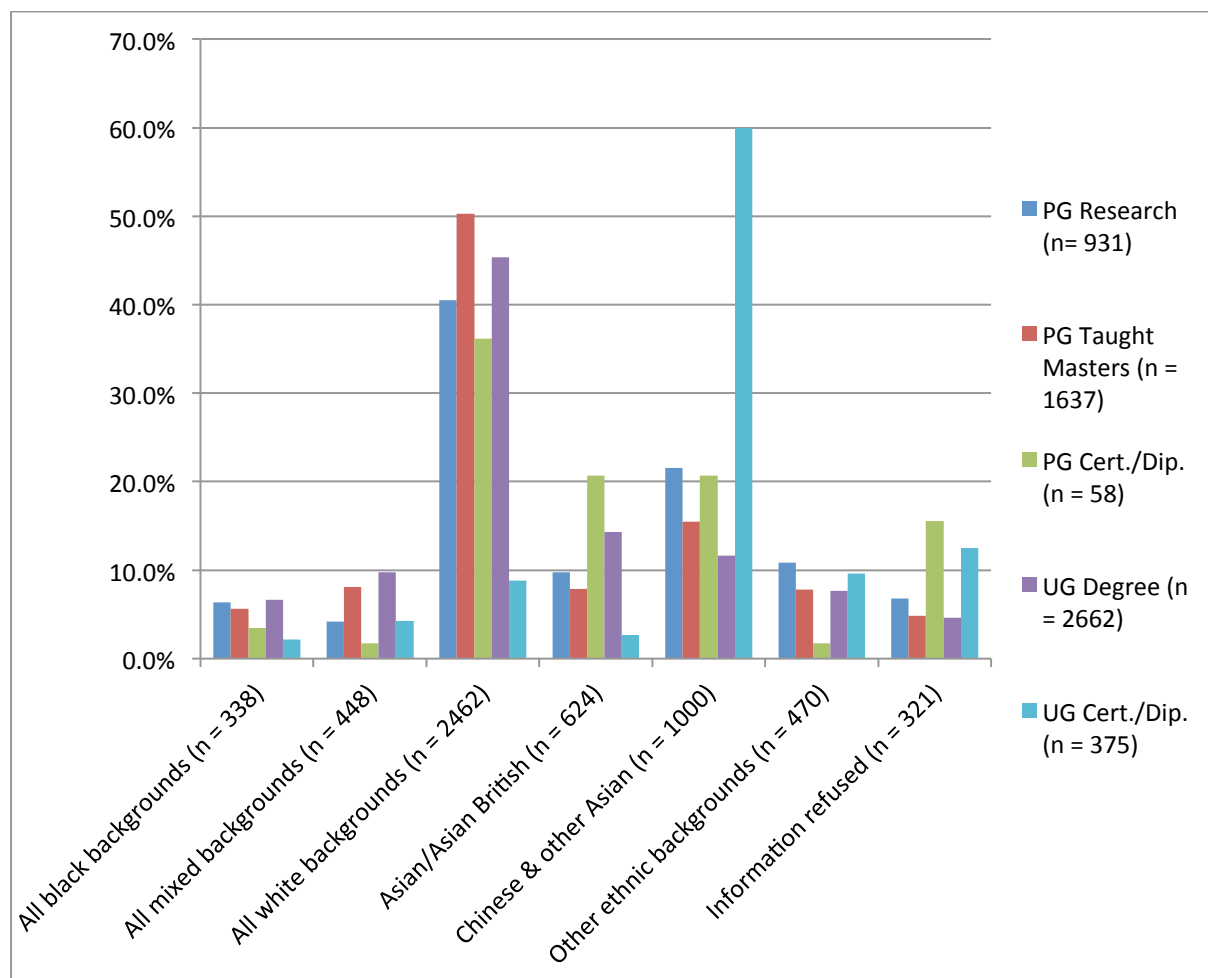
Table 3B in the main report (Appendix G2) provides separate breakdowns for UK, EU & International students.

**Section 3C: ALL students, including UK, EU & Internationals
 - breakdown by Ethnicity and Programme type 2012-13**

Table 3C in the main report (Appendix G2) provides the detailed ethnicity breakdown per programme type.

Table 3D provides an ethnicity breakdown for UK students only and shows that 49.3% of UK students are white – one of the lowest proportions in the UK. The converse of this is that 1389/2977 UK students are from BME backgrounds: 46.7% (and 4% choose not to disclose their ethnicity). Among the SOAS UK students 15% are of Asian heritage; 7.6% are black; 6.6% are Chinese; 10% “mixed” background; and 7.5% are from “other ethnic backgrounds”.

Chart 3C: ALL students, including UK, EU & Internationals - breakdown by Ethnicity and Programme type 2012-13 (expressed as a %age of all students from the relevant ethnic group)

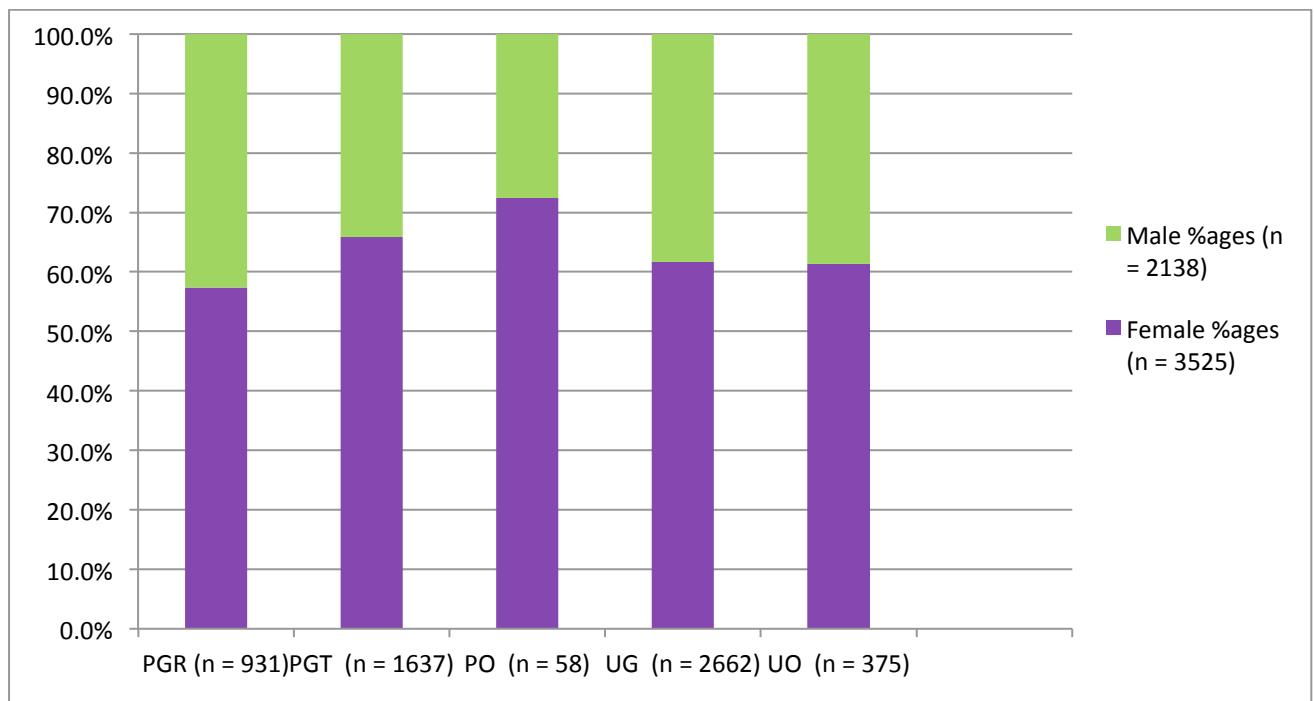


Section 4: Gender - frequencies

Section 4A ALL Degree Students in 2012-13 session by type of programme split by Gender includes home (UK), EU & International students

Table 4A and Chart 4A show that overall 62.2% of SOAS students are female and 37.8% are male. Women are in the majority for all programme types, PGR programmes have the highest proportion of men (42.6%) and the PG Cert./Dip. programmes have the lowest proportion of men at 27.6%.

Chart 4A: ALL Degree Students in 2012-13 session by type of programme split by Gender includes home (UK), EU & International students



The main report (Appendix G2) includes a gender analysis for each of the domicile groups.

Table 4A: ALL Degree Students in 2012-13 session by type of programme split by Gender includes home (UK), EU & International students

	Female	Female Row %ages	Male	Male Row %ages	Grand Total
PGR	534	57.4%	397	42.6%	931
PGT	1078	65.9%	559	34.1%	1637
PO	42	72.4%	16	27.6%	58
UG	1641	61.6%	1021	38.4%	2662
UO	230	61.3%	145	38.7%	375
Grand Total	3525	62.2%	2138	37.8%	5663

Part 2: comparison of SOAS statistics with the HE Sector

Table 5: 2012-13 data comparison of SOAS with other institutional groupings including the 1994 group and Russell Group averages (ECU, 2013 data from 2011-12) on a range of variables

In 2012-13 SOAS had a population which included a smaller proportion of younger students than its comparator groups (even allowing for research-led Universities having fewer mature students) and broadly similar to the rest of the sector in being majority female.

In 2012-13 SOAS recruited a proportion of UK disabled students (11.8%) which was similar to or better than the averages for the 1994 (8.7%) and Russell (6.8%) groups.

The SOAS student body has a very high proportion of ethnic minority students and this is not simply because of international student recruitment as the SOAS UK student cohort has 46.7% from black and minority ethnic backgrounds.

Although the 1994 & Russell group averages are lower than the national average, SOAS recruits a higher proportion of women, perhaps because of its specialisation away from Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths.

Table 6: Key benchmarks: student – staff comparison

This table provides a summary of the position for 3 of the equality groups in 2012-13. The staff figures show that 51.92% of SOAS staff were female, whereas 59.4% of all UK students were female (the proportion of SOAS UK female students being higher than the national rate, 57.2%).

The proportion of disabled staff who have disclosed to SOAS is 2.6% compared to an all SOAS students proportion of 7.7% (11.8% of all UK students) which is higher than the national rate.

Table 6 also shows that 38.4% of staff were from BME backgrounds, whereas 50.9% of all students (and 46.7% of UK students) were from BME backgrounds (much higher than the national rate 18.8%).

Recommendations

1. Decrease proportion of missing data (“information refused” or not requested) especially for UG & PG Certificate / Diploma students.
2. From 2013-14 report onwards include a table showing DSA claimants by impairment category so as to compare with later years and observe any effect of the DSA changes from 2015-16 onwards.
3. Implement the request from the Students’ Union to start data collection on gender identity and sexual orientation as soon as feasible.

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Prepared: May 2014 with data produced by the Planning Department

The more detailed report including graphics is at Appendix G2 of the EDC papers for 20 May 2014