



RVCSU Council Meeting – 15th November 2018, 18.30h Camden and Hawkshead Council Rooms

- Welcome & Apologies:** Gorprit Singh (President and Chair), Will James (VP Activities), Chantelle Woodward-Iles & Jordan Egan (IVSA Reps), Tess Staley (SAVMA), James Sweet-Jones (Equality and Diversity Officer), Carla Bleasdale (AVS)
 Students Attending: Ceri Chick, Chair and VP Welfare (CC), Jessie Predko, Ents Officer (JP), Ellie Wilson, Ents Officer (EW), Autumn Gray, Camden Officer (AG), Hayley Wighton, Treasurer (HW), Lucie Bourne, Post Grad Officer (LB), Gorprit Singh, President (GP), Nicole Sheehan, Vet Nurse Liaison, Steph Flicker, VP Rep Comms (SF), Stephanie Stapleton, Course Rep (SS), Jen Welsman, Vet Nurse Liaison (JW), Jase Sutherland, course rep (JS) Sarah Bailing, Environmental Officer (SB), Owen Woods, Environmental Officer (OW), Simone Heaney, Course Rep (SH).
 Staff Attending; Willow Gibson, Finance and Shop Manager (WG), Dave Sherlock-Jones, General Manager (DSJ), Tim Cobbett, NUS Representative (TC)
- Chair Welcome (CC)
- Minutes from last meeting – circulated electronically
- NUS Briefing and Update – TC, NUS gave an overview of the services provided by the NUS to member SUs and the wider work they do. TC also gave an outline to the developing financial problems at NUS and the moves to look at a change in its structure. Action: Officers that haven't need to register with NUS Connect**
- Action points review (CC)**
 Action points from AGM – DSJ has researched mileage and received two responses both were at 35p per mile.

Action points from last Council

Agenda Point	Action	By Whom	Date Actioned	Date Completed
5 – Officer Reports	HW to review how to make Christmas Ball accessible and affordable	HW	11 th Oct 2018	18/10/18 HW reviewed and decided against discounted tickets
5 – Office Reports	All officers to produce written reports in a timely manner before Council	All Officers	11 th Oct 2018	ongoing
8 – IVSA Mural	JE and DSJ to liaise and purchase boards and install them.	DSJ & JE	11 th Oct 2018	Planning to do it after exams
9- Website and Media	Set clear guidelines going forward and DSJ to meet with WSN	DSJ, CP, CC, SR and EW	11 th Oct 2018	DSJ met with WSN and we are going to agree a set of guidelines going forward Met 23/10/18

RVCSU

Students' Union Offices, Hawkshead House, Hawkshead Lane, North Mymms, Herts AL9 7TA

Students' Union Offices, Royal College Street, Camden, London NW1 0TU

9 – Website and Media	Set up an area of the website for the funding / grants etc.	CC	11 th Oct 2018	CC to look in to this after Ball
10- Combined Grad Ball	Undertake research with reps and students as to whether they want a combined Grad Ball	GS, EW	11 th Oct 2018	Ongoing, aiming to take place in Jan 19

6. Officer Reports – Any questions? (CC) – CC updated the Council on the VP Activities Report in that he was no longer considering using a marquee for Sports and Societies Ball. DSJ said that we were looking at Tiger Tiger as it was larger and a good price.
7. Planters & January Clothing Drive (Environmental Officers) OW, haven't done anything with the planters as don't have the knowledge so leaving them fallow, GS they will be moved anyway once demolition begins on the clinical block. DSJ asked about the planters in Camden but no plans for them there either. SB stated they were planning a clothing drive in January, but yet to choose a charity, CC asked them to link her in and offered to help with it and the Chaplain would be keen to get involved. GS also stated that the Transport Management Group were looking at producing a cycling guide for students.
8. Christmas Ball – EW gave feedback on Christmas Ball, EW asked if all officers want to sit together, most officers keen to do so, EW asked they put it in the reference code if they dd. SU photo is the first one of the day. GS has invited VIPs and awaiting responses. JP is planning some alternatives such as Winter Wonderland. **Action JP to liaise with WG to plan** EW planning some refreshers events for the new term, Masquerade, Fabric and a sports event. Also, contact the Chaplain and VP welfare. Haxby doing a Movember party in the Haxby at the end of Nov.
9. AOB. No AOB, meeting ended
10. Future meeting dates: 17th Jan 2019 and 14th Feb 2019
11. Action points from Council

Agenda Point	Action	By Whom	Date Actioned	Date Completed
Last Council – IVSA Mural	JE and DSJ to liaise and purchase boards and install them.	DSJ & JE	11 th Oct 2018	Planning to do it after exams
Last Council – Website and Media	Set up an area of the website for the funding / grants etc.	CC	11 th Oct 2018	CC to look in to this after Ball
Last Council – combined grad ball	Undertake research with reps and students as to whether they want a combined Grad Ball	GS, EW	11 th Oct 2018	Ongoing, aiming to take place in Jan 19
4. NUS	Officers that haven't already registered with NUS Connect please do so	All officers	11 th Oct 2018	ongoing
8. Christmas	JP and WG to liaise to organise non-alcohol based event	JP, WG	15 th Nov 2018	

Reports

SU President's report

As always, we've had a very eventful few weeks since our last SU Council. I am very pleased to announce that the completion and handing over of the Camden SU Common Room, Fitness Studio, and SU Office is now complete, and are all under high demand already. My special thanks to our SU Staff members, as well as the officers who have been, or are currently involved in the Camden works project. It's been a tough few months, but we're nearly there!

Thank you for everyone who attended Barbara's leave do last Wednesday. I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank Barbara for her endless hard work over the last 3.5 years. Her work was pivotal in expanding and improving the SU, to make it what it is today. I wish her good luck on her journey beyond as an accomplished equine physiotherapist.

What have I been up to?

Course Reps

Worked in partnership with our VP Comms and Rep for electing and training the new course reps. The training night at the Haxby went very well. I think the course reps very much appreciated the parts where myself and Steph tried to explain how information is directly relevant for the reps themselves, e.g. which committee they should put themselves forward for.

Reaccreditation

Myself and Christina as the current and previous SU Presidents were included in some of the Re-accreditation panels. Suffice to say, the panellists were quite happy with the relationship between the SU and the college and were quite surprised with the fact that we are all non-sabbatical officers.

Officers Reports template

Created a template for officer reports for future use. My apologies for not getting it out to officers on time for this SU Council meeting. I will ensure that all officers have access to it for the next one.

Manifesto progress

- 1- Produce a strategic plan
 - We now have the results from our focus group's-based research. The next step is to decide how we will take this further to create an official SU Strategic plan.
 - DECISION- ADDED TO MANIFESTO

- 2- Utilise the UN Sustainable Development Goals to create an overarching framework for the SU
 - This may be considered for the Environmental section of the Strategic Plan, however will decide during the process and report back.

- 3- Ensure officers report progress and/or revisions made towards their manifesto goals at the monthly council meetings
 - This will be the format for future Councils to increase transparency. I have created the template for this and will ensure that all officers have access to it for the next SU Council meeting.
 - The officers will have individual pages on the SU website, with their reports attached to allow students to track manifesto objective progress.

- 4- Introduce a “Feedback” mechanism on the SU website so students have direct communication for any concerns they may have, including complaints
 - I think the logistics of creating and maintaining this feature would far outweigh the benefit. I have therefore decided to remove to this manifesto objective.
 - DECISION – REMOVED FROM MANIFESTO

- 5- Push for further integration of students from different courses by promoting interdisciplinary seminars
 - The Vets n Nurses Interprofessional Group have now been approved as a society, and have received a grant from the ACT.
 - I will continue to work towards bridging the locational split between students in Camden (mainly BSc and post grads) and HH (mainly vets and nurses).

- 6- Give students the ability to suggest ideas on an officer’s SU page, for all other students to see, and support
 - I think the idea has merit, however my priority is to ensure that all officers have their own pages on the SU website with their Council reports. This would be next step from that.
 - DECISION – REMOVED FROM MANIFESTO

- 7- Lobby the college to pay the London Living wage to all student employees
 - Have not investigated this yet

Hayley Wighton – RVCSU VP Treasurer 2018-19

Officer report

1. Christmas Ball subsidised tickets

Following my proposal to offer subsidised Christmas Ball tickets to allow the event to be more affordable, I have come to the decision that this campaign is unfortunately unfeasible. With a budget of £1,000, only 20 tickets could be offered at a price of £39. More tickets would mean an increased price, which may still be unaffordable for some, and a further discounted price would mean less tickets available, respectively. Thus, both outcomes unfortunately have drawbacks. In general, given that tickets were intended for students who otherwise could not afford the event, I feel that there is no fool-proof method of fairly choosing winners of tickets. This may cause contention between students, which detracts from the intent of the campaign.

2. Petrol claim rate for clubs and socs

I have informed all clubs and societies of Will and I’s decision to decrease the current personal petrol claim rate for of 45p/mile. At the current rate, clubs are potentially wasting a significant proportion of their grant on petrol claims, which may prevent them from spending money on more important purchases. This issue was brought to my attention by a claim made for the minibus, where the actual petrol spent was £22.49, whereas a claim at 45p per mile would mean a reimbursement of £58.95. Despite cars having a different efficiency of miles per gallon and the requirement of the rate to supplement wear and tear costs, it is clear to me that 45p/mile is an excessive rate. This rate is the highest that HMRC allows, thus we are within our right to decrease it. Furthermore, the SU is not required to adhere to the College’s rate of 45p/mile, as we are our own entity. The minibus will continue to be reimbursed by exact petrol costs, thus this only applies to the use of

RVCSU

Students’ Union Offices, Hawkshead House, Hawkshead Lane, North Mymms, Herts AL9 7TA

Students’ Union Offices, Royal College Street, Camden, London NW1 0TU

personal cars. Dave's research into other Student's Unions showed that a rate of 35p or 40p per mile is common, however I already have a large club choosing to claim back at a rate of 30p per mile. Below I have a working of different rates:

For 131 miles actual petrol is a cost of £24.49

45p/mile = £58.95

40p/mile = £52.40

35p/mile = £45.85

30p/mile = £39.30

25p/mile = £32.75

20p/mile = £26.20

I aim to have further talks with Dave and the Council to decide a more appropriate rate, and suggest that clubs may have the choice to claim at a maximum rate of 30p/mile, or less if they choose so, as this will still cover the cost of wear and tear and potential fluctuations in petrol prices.

AVS Report

Sports Weekend 2nd-4th November

Slight issue with buses from HH. Company who John had subcontracted wouldn't allow us to drink despite me speaking to John re: alcohol and emphasising people would be drinking/ he said he was aware of the nature of the event and has taken us to Liverpool and Bristol in the past. Issue resolved which involved £400 cash being given to the drivers....

RVC Students were well-behaved and enjoyed the weekend. Following action from AVS exec and BVA Dublin student are banned from attending Sports 2020 due to bad behaviour

AVS Congress 1st-3rd Feb

Plans well under way. RVC tickets onsale.

MuckUp Evening in the Buttery 13th Nov

AVS are supporting the MuckUp run by Seth.

IVSA RVC SU Report

- Friday 5th - Sunday 7th October 2018 – IVSA RVC hosted the first ever IVSA UK & Ireland Annual General Meeting! In doing so IVSA RVC are using some money raised from last year to help sponsor and reduce the costs to get the IVSA UK & Ireland Committee & IVSA Reps from all the vet schools for a meeting.
- Saturday 6th October 2018. IVSA President: Rosie Herrington & IVSA Exchange Officer: Tavishi Pandya are organising this event. Jordon lead a session with Chantelle for one hour to help Reps realise how they can do more in their roles. Jordon will be processing payments for the IVSA Reps.
- Wednesday 17th October 2018 - we will be hosting our main committee meeting, our group exchange OC meeting and our first ever IVSA social in Camden this day. We aim to have our IVSA stuff every 3rd Wednesday of each month and to alternate between campuses.
- Thursday 18th - Sunday 21st October – IVSA'S 2nd Animal Welfare Conference was held in Munich, many RVC students will be attending and SAVMA has kindly gave out grants to cover the costs for 2 students to attend this conference.

RVC SU

Students' Union Offices, Hawkshead House, Hawkshead Lane, North Mymms, Herts AL9 7TA

Students' Union Offices, Royal College Street, Camden, London NW1 0TU

- 3rd November 2018 – World One Health day! IVSA Committee on One Health will announce an initiative which Emma and Jess will try to bring to life at RVC!
- AVS CONGRESS tickets have been brought for the 30 incoming international students alongside 12 organising committee tickets.
- All congratulation emails have been sent out to successful applicants for the 3 exchanges, we were hugely over subscribe with over 50 applications for 30 spaces.
- Flights are being booked in the coming weeks.
- We organised our first talk with WVS (12th November) in which SAVMA sponsored the food (thank you!)
- We've had one very successful social in China Town in which we had 30 attendees. With our next one booked for Junk Yard Golf on 14th of November.
- AVS President has confirmed he will give a talk to our international students from South Africa, France and Czech Republic.
- 14th - 22nd January 2019 – 67th IVSA global Symposium in South Korea. A lot of RVC students have applied to this event – just waiting to see who has been accepted!
- Monday 28th January – Sunday 3rd February 2019 – IVSA RVC Group Exchange: 10 students from IVSA South Africa arrive and depart.
- Wednesday 30th January – Wednesday 6th February 2019 – IVSA RVC Group Exchange: 10 students from IVSA Brno and 10 students from IVSA Lyon arrive and depart.
- Wednesday 30th January 2019 IVSA RVC Welcome Party - Please can SU President and SU officers join us for the Welcome Party, engage, mingle, show some SU support and have a good evening. Hoping to book Buttery potentially for this.

Environmental Officer Report

- NUS Green Impact programme signup complete
- Increased social media presence

Sarah Balling and Owen Woods
 The Royal Veterinary College Students' Union
 Environment Officers 2018-2019

Officer Report – SU Activities

1) Camden Activities Studio- Opening went well with various classes on offer.

Zumba, Yoga, Meditation, Boxfit and circuits all at various times.

After some feedback from students we are slightly changing the timetable with aims to make it more accessible. This should be done in the next couple of weeks.

Another yoga class on Thursday evening is planned in December.

2) Gym Cards- People are still having trouble with gym cards but after chatting to security there seemed to be a technical problem with the doors. Hopefully this is sorted now.

3) Sports ball- Can we please get this confirmed for the 6th of March?

Looking at options of Marquee and going back into London. Have got various quotes etc...

Buttery are happy to do the bar if it was a marquee.

4) No-Stress November Campaign- All set and ready to go on the 19th of November in association with Wellness Week. Just need to promote it more and get the awareness out.

RVCSU

Students' Union Offices, Hawkshead House, Hawkshead Lane, North Mymms, Herts AL9 7TA

Students' Union Offices, Royal College Street, Camden, London NW1 0TU

5) Next captains meeting- 7th of December (6 o'clock Buttery)

6) SU VP Activities and Campaigns Monthly emails – Please get your events/news/any business to be mass emailed to me by 28th November so that it can be put together and sent by the 1st December ready for December news, also if you have anything in early January might be worth putting in the December issue.

7) Surrey Varsity- Wheels are in motion. Have a caterer in mind and a rough timetable for the day. 23rd February.

Camden Officer report 15/11/2018

What have I done so far?

- Been responding to concerns/queries about Camden refurbishments as well as lockers
- Renumbered dissection room lockers
- Begun process of organising lockers (who needs one and who already has them)

What am I going to be doing next?

- Consultation with staff, students and student reps (particularly second year and graduate year) to do with Hawks head renovations as there have been serious concerns raised about the effect on study considering the recent complaints regarding Camden works-this has not been done as of yet due to reaccreditation taking priority but will be looked at within the coming weeks
- Complete organising lockers and possible rearrangement to shared lockers if demand is too high

RVCSU Equality and Diversity Officer Report November 2018

>Met with Fiona Nouri of the advice centre to discuss student demographics who may need additional support from within the student body. Topics of discussion include:

- Non-drinking population of students and how to cater for them;
- Improving disabled accessibility through braille signage and online virtual tours;
- Improving student awareness of support they may be entitled to concerning conditions they have, which students may not recognise as disabilities;
- Setting up support forums for minority students;
- Students' feelings regarding the overwhelming paintwork in Camden and how it has deterred some students from learning on campus.

with Andrew Marshall, RVC chaplain to discuss prospects regarding the student usage of pastoral care. Topics in discussion include:

- New prayer facilities and the resulting facilities from the building works;
- Need for a quiet space in the Camden campus once building works are finished.

Fiona and I came to the conclusion that students with learning differences are in particular need of support during this transitional time. This would be provided by a quiet space, which does not have white, clinical walls. I am liaising with relevant parties to try and establish this space.

I will be setting up student forums. These will be informal gatherings where I will invite students of minorities to meet and share experiences, as well as to signpost where they can get support.

RVCSU

Students' Union Offices, Hawkshead House, Hawkshead Lane, North Mymms, Herts AL9 7TA
Students' Union Offices, Royal College Street, Camden, London NW1 0TU

Here's the SAVMA update:

We've matched all international first years who've opted in with a older year in their program in the Big/Little Program. We've received a lot of feedback from older UK students wishing they had a program, and so in the future we're going to collaborate with SU Welfare to look into opening the Big/Little Program into a school-wide project. This way we can better address the Camdeners' issues brought up in the research feedback about the lack of support and integration with older years. We're hoping to get a team together representing every program to reach out to the first years to garner interest and to reach out to older years to gather a list of mentors. We will send out a feedback form at the end of the year to current members of the program to fix any issues found.

Thanksgiving tickets have gone on sale (Thanks Colin!).

We're running elections for the Junior Delegate position which will be completed by the end of the month.

We're hosting events geared towards career preparedness for older years (see our Facebook posts—> Vetstrategy (Canadian employer), What to expect in an internship (with Queen Mary intern))

We've gotten our memberships approved by National SAVMA for 2018-2019, so all students now have an active membership and can apply for SAVMA scholarships.

SAVMA Symposium 2019 early registration is now open until November 30th (\$80 for students).

Postgraduate Officer Report- November 2018

- Attended RDC and reported to them on updates over the summer. Good to see recognition of UG teaching is now part of the appraisal system, however getting the log book online is still an ongoing issue.
- Attended student induction working group meeting, PG medicine CMC and Camden projects group as PG representative.
- Attended a reaccreditation panel lunch alongside other PhD students, residents and interns. Seemed to go well and the panel were pleased with the teaching course provided to all PG students who teach UGs (TLiHE), something Ran and I helped improve on last year.
- Helped Autumn with organising a survey for the Camden students about the new activities studio.
- Organising the first ever joint masters evening on the 27th of this month, with the help of the course reps. Pub quiz in the Haxby involving MSc (WAB/WAH, OH, VetEpi), MSci's and MRes. Hoping to be the first of several this year to integrate these groups.
- Organising a PG Christmas social occurring at both campuses. Hoping to get support from the Researcher Association and do a joint social, however TBC.

VP Welfare Report

In the past month I have been working with Art Soc, Mature Students Society and Nicky from CSC, to form "Sip and Stitch", where students can come and relax with a cup of tea and learn a new creative skill. This has been largely successful in Hawkshead and we're hoping to soon bring it to Camden.

I have been speaking to Tri club, who have agreed to run sessions for free to students for the first week of wellbeing week. They will also be running a walk in Potters Bar and a run in Primrose hill. Andy Marshall will also be putting on Mindfulness sessions on both campuses.

I am meeting Lucy from RVC Outreach this week to plan a wellbeing stall for Night at the Vet College.

The wall of fame, which I planned and helped create has now been built in Camden. Stephen May and I are discussing plans for an event to celebrate the wall in February.

I will be sending a mass email soon to remind students to complete the consent matters course.

RVCSU

Students' Union Offices, Hawkshead House, Hawkshead Lane, North Mymms, Herts AL9 7TA

Students' Union Offices, Royal College Street, Camden, London NW1 0TU

RVCSU Entertainment Officer Report November 2018

Introduction

This term has seen an improvement in the range of activities, with additional events taking place after Freshers Week, which gave the students a choice between a Halloween Party at Piccadilly Institute and a London Dungeons Trip. Arrangements and organising of activities for RVC students are ongoing throughout the year.

Jessie's Section

- * More non-alcoholic activities need to be organised throughout the year, to ensure students are fully engaged with university life, including at Christmas, Easter and one-off activities.
- * All activities were advertised very well and this needs to be continued, i.e.: SU Website advertised on Facebook; posters were placed around campus and sent-out mass emails.
- * Organising an additional Christmas activity, during the day for those students who do not wish to attend the Christmas Ball.
- * Christmas activity examples include a specific Winter Wonderland show (Peter Pan on Ice, Cirque Berserk and Zippos Christmas Circus), Ice-skating.
- * Speak about additional Christmas activities with Dave and other members of the Student Union team to get an activity approved and organised.

Ellie's section

- * Is everyone who's planning on coming to Christmas ball happy to sit on the SU table?
- * So, everyone's in the loop and there are no misconceptions: - all SU members and course reps get half price tickets, we will be having an SU picture at the ball (first to go of course).
- * Hayley what's the plan with your ticket idea??
- * Gorprit have you managed to contact senior management and invite them?
- * Jessie- a winter wonderland trip?
- * Refreshers 2019- should I do events over a few weeks (thinking of doing 3) or do them all in one week?
- * Definitely doing Fabric, a masquerade ball, a Haxby involved event and maybe a comedy club trip
- * Anyone got any bright ideas or something they especially liked or didn't like about freshers?
- * Naturally non-alcoholic events will be involved in refreshers, Ceri and Jessie could work together on some of these?
- * Maybe the Chaplin would be interested in running one also?

RAG Officer Report

Plans for the year:

- ☑ Going to send an email to recruit students to be Part of RAG
- ☑ Get students from all courses to get involved through the RAG page.
- ☑ Make Students aware of what is RAG and who the officer is.
- ☑ Use the same voting system of Animal, Local and International charities on fb page as other years.
- ☑ Collaborate with other officers and club secs especially for entertainment and welfare events.

RVCSU

Students' Union Offices, Hawkshead House, Hawkshead Lane, North Mymms, Herts AL9 7TA
Students' Union Offices, Royal College Street, Camden, London NW1 0TU

o Pub crawls, student nights, movie night, beer pong tournament and etc.

☒ **RAG Week** – Tentative date: First Week of **March 4 to 10**.

☒ Gonna contact Orchid soon for the **Willy Waddle** event for Men's Cancer Charity.

☒ Contact Fathima of Noah's Ark for a local charity in HH.

☒ I want puppy days for all. Please help.

Going on Now:

☒ **StreetVet** – meet with StreetVet senior volunteer (Nov 14th) and plan a Charity Event.
(Christmas box idea was turned down).

☒ **RAG clothing** – starting communication with Willow to start thinking about RAG clothing dates and ideas.

☒ **GOSH Jumper Day** – Wear a Christmas Jumper and donate to GOSH (tentative: Thur 8th Dec).

o make a sign so people can hashtag on insta.

☒ Talking to Christina of doing **Beerienteering** given the success of Halloweenteering.

