



SU Council Meeting - Agenda

26th April 2022 at 18:45 via MS Teams

Attendees:

Staff: Jack Conway, Fuchsia Stocker, Willow Gibson

Officers: Sam Fenton, Tamas Berczik, Matty Clarkson, Danielle Golds, Eleanor Irvine, Gareth Jones, Anantha Kumarvel, Seb Miller, Katie Strathdee, Priya Toor, Chantelle Woodward
Iles

Other: Caoimhe Abdul-Wahab, Hester Bateman, Cara Gilroy

1. Welcomes and Apologies SF

a. Hasita Dodhia, Jade Urquhart Gilmore

2. To vote: Confirm minutes of the meeting of 31st January 2022 **SF**

a. Confirmed

3. To discuss: College payment of distance learning students **DG**

a. Right to work rules from the government and college are now stipulating that we cannot pay distance workers that do not have a right to work in the UK. Payment from college is main perk of the role for course reps so what can we do for incentivizing this role. – SF – no use for other ways of payments, difficult situation as we need to fill roles but colleges responsibility to pay to attend the meetings – MC – when it comes down to what we are in paid roles we are looking for when filling them is do we have a leg to stand on within our constitution on do they have a right to work within our byelaws. Do we add it to our constitution or byelaws or deal with it when it comes to an issue. – SF – on side of do nothing,

paid officer roles and some staff roles there isn't a situation where there won't be a right to work in the UK – DG – Say someone wanted to go for a VP role, could they be a distance learner could they do the role without stepping into the UK. – GJ – if there was a non domicile student running for the roles they might not be able to pay but could reduce fees, has happened in the past. Other schemes that have happened, could happen for an officer but probably not for a course rep. – CG – didn't have a student rep and asked specifically, in this situation. Doesn't work as can't receive even a gift card. Few programmes find hard to recruit people where courses are online and will never set foot in the UK. Minority of that but if RVC could be creative and come up with a different way as payment (other ideas charity etc). – DG – has been discussed by Adrian Boswood, DG has brought it up to senior staff and see if there is a solution. Could be a wait and see but waiting for any suggestions. – MC – can we do something as a SU or as its university issue we have to wait for them. – VL – College don't want to have to deal with taxes and issues. – GJ – we can't force the college to do anything but we can give them suggestions. College want to avoid liability. We as SU cannot discriminate and stop people running for role

4. To discuss: SU Handbook *DG/SF*

- a. Project that started a few years ago and create advice guide to pass on between cohort of SU officers. Unfilled for the amount of time that this project has been around. Do we abandon it or keep it going – DG – Tricky as a lot going on, personally asked by college to see the handbook. Single handedly to take it on is not possible. Should we finalize it or agree to individual responsibility to add to it. – VL – Having this is useful but we are being too ambitious with it and things change. Direct handover more useful in that perspective. Having something that gives some reference on running of the SU would be helpful. Be less ambitious

on how much to cover and then assign it on a date – SF – Do you think that anything could be included that people don't already have access to. – VL – From experience, handbook is a brief overview that you read at the start, refers elsewhere. – FS – don't have as a rolling document. Suggest using google drive. – VL – how is this different from Handbook. – MC – midway point, write an overview page. – GJ – problem and benefits to each, good document helpful but dependent year on year. Hard to update that falls apart, have strategic plan but not used. However a good document has institutional memory. – DG – tricky as the SU is a small team and every role is different and everyone does different handovers. Maybe instead of do we write a document or not we ask the question for another time. Do we change it to how do we format this in the future. As long as the SU is on it then it shouldn't be an issue, Need to find a centralized place for information. – SF – waste of everyone's time for everyone to write a description of SU and what it does, might need a separate meeting

5. To discuss: SU Handover Day *SF/DG/Staff*

- a. Need to set a day. DG – like how course reps do training. Suggest similar for SU. – WG – completely agree with DG. – SF – to send out email to WG/FS and make sure no dates that cant be done.

6. To discuss: Ents Officer Role *SF*

- a. Nobody ran for elections for ENTS role and therefore discussions how we move forward. Decision that best plan would be to remove role as officer role and then creating staff role, paid. Similar to website and bar managers. – SM – hefty job, cant enjoy self. Needs financial compensation.
- b. VOTE to remove ents role from byelaws starting from August 1st – Unanimous agreement passes.

7. To note: Approval of new clubs and societies *MC*

- a. Islamic Society and Avian Society needs approval.
- 8. To note:** Acknowledgement of results of votes by correspondence from 12/04 **SF**
- a. Proposed changes to byelaws on competing teams using UOL Name and Return to Play Rules.
 - b. Both results passed unanimously 12 votes each.

9. AOB

- a. As said in Trustee – if attending meetings and cant attend, let other attendees know.
- b. Have we formally received results of election and byelections. On code of practice. Needs approval.
- c. Code of Practice – legal requirement of education act 1994 agreement between students unions and institution. Not sure we had one. Key points require byelaw change which needs to go through council. Trustee board has approved.
Sending round code of practice via email and if there are questions or objections send in by Friday 29th.
- d. Caoimhe – email from Katie RAG about BioSci grad ball. Brought up in January and reach out to BioSci Y3 cohort and fell through. Discussions with WG about and decision made as SU reps we wouldn't take on more as not part of role. – WG – Spoke to VN officer, RAG and UG VP. Struggle to get a date but rest is easy to plan. Has been thought about. If its combined happened in July 2019. Just need date. – SF – Not down to SU to organise things as said by staff. No SU resources go into FYR or anything. However, if SU can do anything we'd be willing to. – C – target Y2 before going into Y3 to plan. Would be a leg up. Leave with EI. – KS – could do with Alumni and postgrad. Would potentially have to talk to SR. – Issue with people actually running it.

10. Date and time of next meeting tbc