

Student Council Motion Proposal

Creating a sustainable model for Raise and Give (RAG)

Policy Number:	2016-17_006	Policy Date	06/03/2017
Policy Proposer: (Include name and student number)	Harry Lonsdale 15001561		
Policy Seconder: (Include name and student number)	Hemaka Pathiramage (VP Student Activities)		

Summary:

This policy will restructure the Union's approach to Raise and Give, creating a sustainable committee structure in the form of a new student-led service. As part of this change the RAG Officer position will be removed and replaced with an appointed RAG Chair. This new RAG student-led service will focus on supporting other students to fundraise, raise the profile of student-led fundraising as well as running its own fundraising activities.

Student Council Notes the Following Facts:

- The current RAG Officer led structure doesn't enable RAG to run sustainably which prevents RAG from growing.
- Electing the RAG Officer doesn't allow them to plan over the summer due to the timing of PTO elections
- Student-led services require skilled volunteers to be effective
- Having no formal structure below the RAG Officer prevents RAG from functioning effectively, for example promotion has been limited.
- The inclusion of a wider range of student fundraising in 2016-17 has led to a doubling of the RAG total and with support and increased awareness in the student body this could grow further
- Having multiple nominated charities means that we give a relatively small amount to each one.
- The RAG Officer is different from other PTOs as the focus of their work is more operational than representational.
- Limiting student fundraising to nominated charities limits our ability to support students.

- The current RAG Officer was co-opted into position and is willing to step down at the end of 2016-17 in order for the new RAG Chair to be appointed and in place for the beginning of 2017-18.
- RAG needs a sustainable funding model. Many other RAGs take a percentage of money raised to fund future events

Student Council Holds the Viewpoint That:

- A new structure needs to be implemented that allows RAG to plan its activities before the beginning of the academic year and for RAG week to take place in the first semester.
- The RAG Officer position should be removed and a new appointed committee structure implemented from the academic year 2017-18.
- The RAG Committee requires skilled volunteers and therefore an application and interview process should be implemented.
- The RAG Committee should be recruited in the spring semester with the new committee taking office on 1st June every year.
- The RAG Committee will coordinate the process of selecting the Union's nominated charities
- The RAG Committee and Students' Union will have one nominated charity. However, the committee will support all students to fundraise for any charity of their choice and will, when appropriate, work with additional charities to provide a wide range of fundraising opportunities for students.
- The nominated charity will be the only charity that students can fundraise for as part of RAG week and will have collection tins in all SU venues and should lobby Aramark to have RAG tins only in their outlets in the SU building.
- The RAG Committee will have a robust application process for nominated charities with a selection process that is inclusive of the views of the student body.
- The RAG Committee will include the following positions:
 - RAG Chair
 - RAG Vice Chair (Finance)
 - Societies' Representative
 - Sports Representative
 - Marketing and Online Coordinator
 - Events Coordinator
- The RAG Committee will have its own constitution and will be subject to the Students' Union's by-law on Student-Led Services
- The RAG Committee will focus on supporting other students to fundraise, raise the profile of student-led fundraising as well as running its own fundraising activities.
- As a student led service, RAG will have its own identity but will be an integral part of the SU brand.
- All events run by the RAG Committee or raised for the nominated charities and banked through the Union should also raise money for future RAG events, with RAG taking 15% of money raised.

Student Council Resolves to Take the Following Action(s):

- Remove the position of RAG Officer from 1st June 2017
- Implement the new structure from 1st June 2017
- Recruit a new RAG Committee for 2017-18 before the end of this semester
- Implement a new process for selecting the nominated charity
- Lobby Aramark to have RAG tins in their outlets in the SU building
- Ensure that RAG has its own identity but that it is an integral part of the Students' Union's brand.
- Promote the new structure to the student body. Ensuring students are aware of the support offered by this new structure
- Work to ensure that the Union and the RAG Committee have accessible procedures for collating the RAG total.