Student Council Agenda

# Tuesday 26th February, 17:15-19:15, EE2033

**Agenda**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | Welcome and introductions |
|  | Apologies |
|  | Declarations of interest |
|  | Minutes of previous meeting |
|  | Matters arising |
| Approval Items | |
|  | Co-option   * School of Education Rep |
|  | Approval of Societies   * Film Society |
|  | Attendance of Councillors |
| Reporting Items | |
| 9. | Update from Executive Committee |
| 10. | Update from the Board of Trustees |
| 11. | Update from AROG |
| 12. | Update from Education Council |
| 13. | Update on Leadership Elections |
| 14. | Update on Change Week |
| 15. | Update on All Student Meeting |
| 16. | Update on NUS |
| 17. | Officers’ reports – questions/comments |
| Any other Business | |
| 18. | Any other business |
| 19. | Date of next meeting: Tuesday 26th March, 17:15-19:15 |

**Attendance**

**Councillors present:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Chair | Katie Watts | KW |
| Vice President Student Activities | Harrison Jarrett | HJ |
| Vice President Education | Euan Morrison | EM |
| President | Lucy Conn | LC |
| SU Society Rep (academic) | Georgie Cooper | GC |
| LGBTQ+ Officer | James Gould | JG |
| Women’s Officer | Alia Moorhouse | AM |
| School of the Arts Rep | Emmy Khan | EK |
| Student Disability Officer | Kaya Tveito-Duncan | TVD |
| School of Business Rep | Gianina Ratiu | GR |

**Also in attendance:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Student Engagement Manager | Tim Hewes-Belton | THB |
| Student Voice Assistant (minute-taking) | Jodie Stilgoe | JS |

**Apologies Received:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Students’ Union Chief Executive | Sophie Williams | SW |
| International Students’ Officer | Yanzhe Li | YL |
| School of Nursing and Midwifery Rep | Valerie Deeley | VD |
| School of Sport and Exercise Science Rep | Harry Lonsdale | HL |
| Sustainability Officer | Shannon Bolton | SB |
| SU Sports Rep (non-BUCS sports) | Olivia Clifford | OC |

**Not Present:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| SU Sports Rep (BUCS Sports) | Chloe-May Barton | CMB |
| BAME Officer | Hannah Barnett | HB |
| Postgraduate Rep | Alex Gardener | AG |
| SU Society Rep (general interest) | Ellie Siviter | ES |
|  |  |  |

**Minutes**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **1.** | **Welcome** |
|  | KW welcomed everyone to February’s Student Council meeting. |
| **2.** | **Apologies** |
|  | Apologies were received from SW, Chief Executive, YL, International Students’ Officer, VD, School of Nursing and Midwifery Rep, HL, School of Sport and Exercise Science Rep, SB, Sustainability Officer, and OC, SU Sports Rep (non-BUCS) |
| **3.** | **Declarations of interest** |
|  | KW asked those present if there were any declarations of interest for any agenda items. There were no declarations of interest from members. |
| **4.** | **Minutes of previous meeting** |
|  | Vote to approve the minutes of the previous meeting:  For: 8  Against: 0  Abstain: 1  **The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.** |
| **5.** | **Matters arising** |
|  | |  |  | | --- | --- | | **Action 01. JS to circulate the COP with Councillors once this document is formally approved and published** | The COP has not yet been published and so this action will roll to next Student Council.  **Action 01. JS to circulate the Code of Practice with Councillors once this document is formally approved and published** | | **Action 02. THB to arrange a meeting with KTD around RNIB and Access to Work to see how this can fit in with SU events e.g. Blindfold Mile during Volunteering Week and a Careers or Employability Event** | THB has asked Kate Gynn, the Students’ Union’s Academic and Welfare Advisor, to arrange this meeting with KTD. | | **Action 03. JS to send SB the contact of the Art student who did a plastic-art campaign** | Action completed. | | **Action 04: Councillors to email LC if they have any views around unconditional offers** | LC received no emails from Councillors. | | **Action 05: EM to send a specific email to Councillors around Learning Technology** | Feedback sessions and workshops around VLE has not yet happened at the University. EM will wait until these sessions have happened to feedback to Student Council | |
| Approval Items | |
| **6.** | **Co-option** |
|  | All Councillors received an electronic copy of the co-option application prior to the meeting. KW confirmed that Council had received 1 application for the School of Education Representative position. Kelly Chamberlain, the candidate who submitted this application, was not present. KW therefore read out Kelly Chamberlain’s application.  Vote to approve Kelly Chamberlain as School of Education Rep:  For: 8  Against: 1  Abstain: 0  **Kelly Chamberlain was co-opted onto Council for the role of School of Education Rep** |
| **7.** | **Approval of Societies** |
|  | 7.1. Film Society  HJ introduced this society, explaining that the Film Society will appreciate the artisanship that goes into films. They noted in their application that they are fans of classic and contemporary cinema, and will have deep and meaningful conversations and discussions about the films they watch. The aim of the society is to educate, discuss, and appreciate all disciplines within film, directing, sound design, writing, acting, cinematography, editing, lighting, production, etc. HJ informed Council that the Society will host regular screenings of both classic and contemporary films, they will also organise trips to film studios and trips to the cinema.  There was a concern that there is already a functioning Film Society at the SU. HJ confirmed that there is a Film Making Society, which is an academic society for the Film Production course, but there is not a society based around watching films.  Vote to approve the Film Society  For: 9  Against: 0  Abstain: 0  **Council approved the Film Society** |
| **8.** | **Attendance of Councillors** |
|  | LC explained that Executive Committee are submitting a verbal motion for the vote of no confidence for the current BAME Officer, Hannah Barnett.  THB explained that Hannah Barnett was elected in the October 2018 Autumn Elections and, having not campaigned but as the only candidate for the position, Hannah won with 8 votes. Hannah has never attended a Student Council or Executive Committee meeting. There has also been a lack of communication via email, and she has never completed an Officer Report. EM also attempted, on two separate occasions, to arrange a meeting with Hannah about the Black Attainment Gap, but this failed to happen. THB emailed Hannah three weeks ago about the consequences of not attending and not engaging within this role, but has not yet received a response.  Vote of no confidence for the current BAME Officer, Hannah Barnett:  Confidence: 0  No confidence: 9  Abstain: 0  **Council confirmed that they do not have confidence in the current BAME Officer, Hannah Barnett. Therefore, Hannah Barnett has been removed from her role of BAME Officer.** |
| Reporting Items | |
| **9.** | **Update from Executive Committee** |
|  | LC informed Councillors that Christopher Wolff, the Welfare Officer, submitted his resignation on 26/02/19.  Executive Committee met one hour prior to Student Council and Officers discussed their campaigns and discussed the ways in which they can increase PTO awareness. |
| **10.** | **Update from the Board of Trustees** |
|  | No update. The Board of Trustees have not met since the last Student Council. |
| **11.** | **Update from AROG** |
|  | No update. AROG have not met since the last Student Council. |
| **12.** | **Update from Education Council** |
|  | EM explained that the last Education Council undertook a slightly different format than usual. Marie Stowell, Director of Quality and Educational Development, and Julian Bancroft-Martin, Learning and Teaching Outcomes Manager, attended Education Council and discussed with School Reps the University’s TEF Provider submission. The Provider submission was sent off on 22 February and EM confirmed that School Rep comments and suggestions were included in this submission. |
| **13.** | **Update on Leadership Elections** |
|  | THB updated Council that the SU team are currently running Elections Information Sessions for students interested in the role of either President, Vice President Education, or Vice President Student Activities. Nominations for these positions close on Thursday 7th March at midday, and voting takes place between 12th – 15th March. Results will be announced in the Hangar from 19:00 on Friday 15th March. |
| **14.** | **Update on Change Week** |
|  | On Monday 4th February, WSU hosted two events: the Course Rep Conference and the All Student Meeting. Feedback about the Conference was positive, from both students attending and the staff delivering sessions.  The majority of Change Week activities took place from Tuesday 5th February onwards. After just two days of idea collection, students submitted 1087 ideas. The Thursday and Friday of Change Week provided students with the opportunity to vote on these ideas in order to choose what they believed should be prioritised. We received 8454 votes. Student population to ideas submitted for us was approximately 10.18%, which is a larger percentage than both Cardiff and Essex who are two of the leading Unions in this kind of activity.  EM explained that he has met with School Reps to conduct ‘hackathons’ where they have been looking at all ideas submitted and identifying actions the SU and University can take to make these ideas happen. These hackathon sessions will continue into next week. The SU will then update students in the coming months on the progress of these ideas via WSU’s social media channels and through all student email updates. In cases where an idea cannot be implemented, the SU will explain to students why this is the case or what the SU are looking at as an alternative win if not the original idea.  The overall aim of Change Week was to make the feedback process as visible as possible to students to highlight the work that Reps do as well as in the long term how the SU and University act on and address the feedback we receive and thus improve student experience. |
| **15.** | **Update on All Student Meeting** |
|  | LC explained that the ASM was quorate and students voted in favour of the SU being affiliated with NUS, BUCs, and Advice UK. |
| **16.** | **Update on NUS** |
|  | The Students’ Union’s White Paper was submitted to NUS. The SU will keep Councillors informed about NUS in the coming months, particularly in the weeks before National Conference. EM explained that NUS have been headlining national media after a [Facebook post was sent out by Shakira Martin, the President of NUS, on her personal Facebook.](https://www.independent.co.uk/news/education/education-news/national-union-students-shakira-martin-nus-president-facebook-post-no-confidence-a8790206.html) |
| **17.** | **Officers’ reports – questions/comments** |
|  | |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | | **Officer** | **Highlights** | **Comments/Questions** | | **LC** | LC reminded Councillors about the Elections. She encouraged those who are thinking about standing to book onto an Information Session | No comments or questions received | | **HJ** | The Varsity Pledge signing went well | No comments or questions received | | **EM** | EM reminded Councillors about the Student Choice Awards and that they are able to nominate a member of teaching staff or support staff for an award at the Union Awards | No comments or questions received | | **SB** | Absent.  KW noted that SB wanted to raise the issue of Palm Oil. SB wanted to know what Councillors already know about Palm Oil and if they have any questions about Palm Oil to let her know.  **Action 02. Councillors to let SB know about their knowledge around Palm Oil and to ask her any questions about Palm Oil if they have any** | No comments or questions received | | **JG** | JG did not submit an Officer Report. Instead, he gave a verbal update. JG has been holding events for LGBT history month throughout February, including a Q + Gay event, a Valentine’s Day Social, and Information Talks. He also conducted a social media campaign which has been successful  JG has also met with HJ about 2018-19\_004 and they are moving forward with the implementation of societies in University Open Days | No comments or questions received | | **KTD** | No highlights | No comments or questions received | | **YL** | Absent. The Chinese New Year event in The Hangar went well. | No comments or questions received | | **AM** | AM did not submit an Officer Report. Instead, she gave Council a verbal update. AM met with her mentor about her campaign ideas. She will meet with the SU’s Communication team to put out a poll on body image for both male and female students | No comments or questions received | |
| Any other Business | |
| **18.** | **Any other business** |
|  | No further items were discussed. Meeting adjourned 18:15. |
| **19.** | **Date of next meeting: Tuesday 26th March, 17:15-19:15** |

**Actions**

**Action 01. JS to circulate the Code of Practice with Councillors once this document is formally approved and published**

**Action 02. Councillors to let SB know about their knowledge around Palm Oil and to ask her any questions about Palm Oil if they have any**