

# Welfare and Inclusion Council Minutes

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April 2023, 11am-12:30pm, on Microsoft Teams

Agenda Item		Owner	
1.	Welcome and introductions	AL	2 mins
2.	Apologies	AL	2 mins
3.	Matters arising	AL	5 mins
<b>Approval items</b>			
4.	Policy Approval	AL	1 min
<b>Updating items</b>			
5.	Re-confirmation of Membership	ARE	3 mins
6.	President Update Network Week	AL	5 mins
7.	Network Update Liberation Conference	Networks	20 mins
8.	SU EDI Update	AL	3 mins
9.	GISU and Sustainability Committee	ASB	3 mins
10.	Network Committee Elections Update	AL	4 mins
<b>Discussion Item</b>			
11.	Volunteering <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Log your hours</li> </ul>	ASB	2 mins
12.	Welfare and Inclusion Council: Review of the Year	AL & ARE	15 mins
13.	TeamWorc Awards	AL	3 mins
<b>Any Other Business</b>			
14.	AOB	AL	2 mins
Date of Next Meeting: Next Academic Year			

## Attendance

Briagh Harker	Sustainability Network	BH
Christian Wilson	Disabled Students Network	CW
Anwen Jeffreys	Disabled Students Network	AJ
Ronke Esther Akintan	Nigerian Society	RA
<u>Also, in Attendance</u>		
Gemma Allcott	Chair	GA
Anna-Symone Bateman	Student Communities Coordinator (minuting Secretary)	ASB
Antonia Rossiter-Eaglesfield	Director of Representation and Membership Services	ARE

### Minutes

Agenda Item			
1.	<b>Welcome and introductions</b>		
	Introduction		
2.	<b>Apologies</b>		
	Apologies from AI		
3.	<b>Minutes approval</b>		
	4 in favour, 0 abstain, 0 not in favour		
4.	<b>Matters arising</b>		
	No.	Action	Update
	01.	<b>ACTION 01:</b> Due to the council not meeting quoracy, the policies will be shared with members via email for a	Completed

		vote and if passed will be taken to Student Council in April.	
	02.	<b>ACTION 02</b> - ASB to send pop up times and locations for Network Week to members interested in coming along.	Completed
Updating items			
5.	<b>Re-confirmation of Membership</b>		
	Quoracy for meeting to go ahead explained again and reconfirmed that all Networks and Society Chairs have a vote in this meeting		
6.	<b>President Update</b>		
	<p>GA gave monthly updates on AL's behalf.</p> <p>Al has been re-elected as President and lately has been busy attending events such as Varsity, the CPR marathon organised by RAG Team and Paramedics. They attended the NUS National Conference (virtual attendance) where there was discussion of policies around providing support for international students.</p> <p>AL has been working on Cost of living and Housing. Hardship funding is currently only available to home students and its challenging to get some movement on this. They are looking at other universities in the UK and what their practices are and use it as leverage to lobby Worcester University.</p> <p>AL has been improving space at Jenny Lind. They Officers had a walk round Jenny Lind and how the space can be made better. The Officers are hopeful to see some improvements made over the summer.</p> <p>AL continues to work on the Community Cupboard initiative. Donations have slowed down and AL has applied for a community grant from the council to help run the community cupboard without relying on donations all the time. The SU is also an official foodbank</p>		

	<p>distributor. Students can access this through the Help and Advice Service. Foodbank vouchers can be a local foodbank not just ones in Worcester.</p> <p>AL sits on Health, Safety and Wellbeing committee and the University and the SU are now planning for Welcome Festival.</p> <p>After Network Week we are using feedback to create a Network Engagement plan.</p>
7.	<p><b>Network Update</b></p> <p>Disabled Students' Network (DSN) have been working on a Disability Awareness Campaign. Have been asking students, members, friends, people they know to submit their experiences of disability, neurodiversity, invisible illnesses, writing their stories and collating photos and videos. The DSN have tried to hold a couple socials, but turnout was low, but they are trying to organise one more social before the end of year and students leave for the summer. The British Sign Language (BSL) Society is also gaining traction and being set up after CW held a BSL workshop during Student Volunteers Week.</p>
8.	<p><b>SU EDI group update</b></p> <p>We annually review our EDI Policy in May and this updated version will be available for all to access on the website by the end of May.</p>
9.	<p><b>GISU and Sustainability Committee</b></p> <p>Our Green Impact Students' Union (GISU) Submission is due on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May 2023 where we will be submitting all the work that we have been doing this year. In the last Sustainability Committee meeting, we discussed sustainability in terms of Varsity and materials used and how we sold all our t-shirts so have no excess stock. We discussed single use plastics and our continual efforts to avoid these at the SU particularly in the Hangar. We also discussed Digital carbon footprint and how we can reduce our footprints as staff such as deleting emails and how we can encourage students to do the same.</p>

10.	<b>Network Committee elections update</b>
	The SU are not carrying out elections for Networks this year as we are trying to work out a bursary for new committee members similarly to how the School Reps receive their Bursary, however, nothing has been approved yet. The SU will be meeting soon with the university to figure out where the funds will be coming from. <b>ACTION 01</b> : ASB to email Networks updating them on elections and bursaries.
11.	<b>Volunteering</b>
	Reminder for all to log their volunteering hours before the 30 <sup>th</sup> of June so their hard work can be rewarded on their transcripts.
12.	<b>Welfare and Inclusion Council: Review of the Year</b>
	Questions on a PowerPoint shown asked students for feedback about the Council this year such as what have you enjoyed, what have you found useful, what could be improved?
13.	<b>TeamWorc Awards</b>
	Reminder to students that if they have been invited to RSVP for the event and encouraged to attend the after party that is open to all students at Worcester University.
14.	<b>AOB</b>
	No updates

Date of next meeting: TBC next academic year

## Actions

**ACTION 01**: ASB to email Networks updating them on elections and bursaries