Welfare and Inclusion Council Agenda

Wednesday 7th February, 12:30-2pm, HGB006

	Agenda Item	Owner	
1.	Welcome	AL	2 mins
2.	Apologies	AL	2 mins
3.	Minutes Approval	AL	2 mins
4.	Matters arising	AL	2 mins
	Approval items		
5.	Policy Approvals - Inclusive period policy - International Network policy (no title)	AL	10 mins
	Updating items		
6.	President Update	AL	3 mins
7.	Network/Society Updates	All	10 mins
8.	SU EDI Update	AL	4 mins
9.	Sustainability Update • Go Green Week • Responsible Futures	AL/ARE	5 mins
10.	SU Leadership Elections	ARE	5 Minutes
	Discussion Item		
11.	NUS Liberation Conference	AL	5 mins
12.	TeamWorc Awards	AL	10 mins
13.	AI Workshop	HH	20-25mins
	Any Other Business		
14.	AOB	AL	3 mins
Date of Next Meeting:	Wednesday 27th March 2024		

Attendance

Name	Network/Society	Initials
Karyna Bludova	Chair of International Network	KB
Marvellous Sholademi	ACS Chair	MS
Harriet Lawrence	Women's Network Vice Chair	HL
Christian Wilson	Disabled Students Network Chair	CW
In Attendance		
Al Linforth	Chair	AL
Antonia Rossiter-Eaglesfield	Director of Representation and Membership Services	ARE
Meg Lee	Representation and Democracy Assistant and Minuting Secretary	ML

Minutes

	Agenda Item
1.	**Welcome and introductions**
	AL welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2.	**Apologies**
	Apologies received from Mattie Osbourne (LGBTQ+ Network)
3.	**Minutes Approval**
	Minutes could not be approved in the meeting due to not being quorate. **Action:** ML to email councillors for email approval.
4.	**Matters Arising**

No.	Action	Update
01.	AL to ensure next semester's meetings are updated according to preferences	Completed.

	Approval items
5.	**Policy Approval**
	<u>Inclusive period policy</u> HL presented the policy as the proposer.

No questions received.
As a separate point HL stated that the current Wufoo form for restocking isn't accessible with screen readers.

Due to the council not meeting quoracy this policy will go to an email vote.

Action: ML to ask for email approval of the Inclusive Period Policy

International Student Network Policy – no name
KB presented the policy as the proposer.
AL explained that the policy would need someone to second the policy.
KB explained how students are struggling with slang and day to day language and they don't know who to ask.

HL asked a question around who would be leading these classes.
KB stated that lecturers would be the best option with HL expressing concerns with it being a lecturer due to staff commitments and a student might be a better option.

KB explained that they recently met with the international team and said they may have capacity to help.

Due to the council not meeting quoracy this policy will go to an email vote.

Action: ML to ask for email approval of ISN policy

	Updating Items
6.	**President Update**
	AL provided a verbal update on their objectives and what they are working on currently. AL updated on the following items: - Network Bursaries signed off - Go Green Week

	- Accommodation & Housing issues – working with Help & Advice Team to deal with a range of student house issues that have been coming to the attention of the union - International Hardship Fund - Network Events – DSN Wheelchair basketball which was great fun and AL really enjoyed it and Race Equality Week which had lots of activities to get involved with - Upcoming Leadership Elections AL asked if there were any questions. There were no questions received.
7.	**Network/Society Updates**
	• Women's Network – Planning to host a coffee morning in the city as well as doing a quiz takeover in the Hangar for International Womens month as well as bake sales, tea and coffee stands etc. • Disabled Student Network – Hoping to host the Basketball event in the Summer and hoping for more engagement as well as recently challenging the SU to take part in a campaign called a little less conversation, more action please! • There were no updates from the ACS society.
8.	**SU EDI Update**
	AL updated that there had not been an SU EDI committee since the last meeting but there was one soon. AL also explained that there was an upcoming University EDI forum and asked whether the networks had been invited with HL confirming they had been.
9.	**Sustainability**
	AL explained that it was currently Go Green week and that there were lots of things going on in the Hangar such as pop ups, free activities, therapy dogs etc. AL explained that the Union is currently working hard towards the Responsible Futures Manifesto which needs renewing every two years and this is the year we have to do it again.

	Discussion Items
10.	**SU Leadership Elections**
	ARE started by introducing herself and explained her role as Director of Representation and Membership services. ARE provided the council with information about the upcoming leadership elections. ARE explained that nominations had opened and a explained a bit about each role highlighting the key remit of each position: - President - Vice President Education - Vice President Student Activities ARE explained how much fun being an officer is and how there is an opportunity to make the role your own and work on areas you are passionate about. ARE talked through the dates for elections such as nominations and the voting period which are: Nominations: Open now and closes on February 19th Voting Period: 27th February to 29th ARE talked through the wellbeing events and strategies that have been implemented into elections for 2024: - Wellbeing morning for candidates after voting closes. - Campaigning week being shortened to help with candidates' tiredness and mental wellbeing. - Candidate breakfasts - Wellbeing space in the SU for candidates to take a break. ARE also discussed the rules that apply to networks and how they can engage with candidates to support engagement with their network and introduce a wider group of students to their network. The rules explained by ARE are as follows: In the interest of fairness, networks, societies, and sports clubs must agree with their committee to do either one of the following: a. (i) allow NO candidates to post in their social media pages, attend their virtual meetings/events or sessions. b. (ii) allow ALL candidates to post

	in their social media pages, attend their virtual meetings/events or sessions. **Action:** ARE to circulate campaign rules to sub councils
11.	**NUS Liberation Conference**
	AL provided an update on the plan for NUS Liberation conference this year. AL explained that we can send delegates as VOTE ONLY delegates online this year. AL confirmed we will bring everything to council for a collective vote and AL would vote on the student's behalf as lead delegate. *Following the conclusion of this meeting, NUS confirmed we can send 6 delegates as VOTE ONLY delegates to this conference, so councillors will be emailed with the opportunity to put themselves forward to take one of these roles.*
12.	**Gen A.I Workshop**
	Helen Hope delivered a workshop on Gen A.I including what it is, how not to use A.I when doing university assignments/assessments and how to use A.I effectively.
13.	**AOB**
	HL explained that members had been expressing some difficulties in finding appropriate study spaces as many are too loud. HL also said that their members were not able to book the small rooms in the Hive and many of the Hive levels were too noisy. **Action:** AL to reach out to the hive about booking rooms. **What Students Think manifesto** ARE explained to councillors what the 'What Students Think' manifesto was and how it might be something that would be interesting for networks to discuss and share with their members. AL explained that some of the statistics are hard hitting and might be a little upsetting for some students. CW explained that it was his birthday, and the council all wishes Christian a very happy birthday! **TeamWorc awards**

AL explained that we are reviewing the TeamWorc awards as they can seem a bit focussed on sports and societies and not Networks and Academic reps. Al stated that ML would ask for some feedback via email.

Action: ML to send an email asking for feedback regarding how we can encapsulate the successes of student networks more.

Student Choice Awards

SU staff explained that Nominations were open for the Student Choice awards and stated what the categories are this year:

- Outstanding Lecturer Award (add section to recognise module excellence)
- The Extra Mile Award for Support Staff (Non-Teaching)
- Award for Exceptional Personal Academic Tutor (PAT)
- Sustainability Award – Individual or Departmental Achievement
- Academic Rep Coordinator (ARC) of the year
- Provost award

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 6th February BY 1150

Actions

ACTION 01: ML to email councillors asking for email approval.

ACTION 02: ML to ask for email approval of the Inclusive Period Policy.

ACTION 03: ML to ask for email approval of ISN policy.

ACTION 04: ARE to circulate campaign rules to sub councils.

ACTION 05: AL to reach out to the hive about booking rooms.

ACTION 06: ML to send an email asking for feedback regarding how we can encapsulate the successes of student networks more.