

WSU Executive Committee Minutes

Friday 16/06/2023 at 09:30am (EE1062)

	ITEM	Owner
1.	Welcome & Introductions	AL
2.	Apologies	AL
3.	Declaration of interest	AL
4.	Minutes of previous meeting	AL
5.	Matters arising	AL
Approval Items		
6.	N/A	N/A
Reporting Items		
7.	Active Policy & Ideas Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none">Women's Workout Hour (ML/SS)Open Facilities on Saturdays (AL)Common room for students in the Jenny Lind Building (GA/AL)Accessible Defibrillators across campuses (ALL)	Officers
8.	Officer Objective Update	Officers
9.	Additional Campaign Updates	Officers
Discussion Items		
11.	Current Student Issues	All
12.	Update on Relevant Projects and Discussions with the University	All
Any Other Business		
13.	AOB <ul style="list-style-type: none">Student Council dates 2023-24	AL/All

Minutes

1.0 Welcome & Introduction

AL welcomed all to June Executive Committee. Al welcomed Seb & Issy to the Executive committee, where they will contribute to the meeting as non-voting members.

2.0 Apologies

No additional apologies received.

3.0 Declaration of Interest

No declarations declared.

4.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The committee reviewed the minutes of the previous meeting in May and then took a vote to approve:

For - 3
Against - 0
Abstain - 0

The minutes from the Executive Committee on 24th May, were approved.

5.0 Matters Arising

6.0Actions	Owner	Update
Action December.01: Officers to work with facilities, SMT and Chris Garrett about the offering of student spaces and renovation at Jenny Lind.	Officers	Officers, TJ, Lucy Blunt, Ian Bufton, AJ went for a walk around Jenny Lind and highlighted the need to update the space as you walk into Jenny Lind to make it more welcoming. LB was to go away and get some designs drawn up and TJ and AJ to discuss with DG. GA chased up with TJ re walk around with Josh Bowman student and are still trying to liaise to find a time. Student is on Placement next academic year. ACTION: GA to handover work with Josh Bowman, TJ to renovate Jenny Lind spaces to SJ

<p>Action December.02: GA to review what the open panel discussions look like post-Christmas.</p>	GA	<p>Following feedback from ASM, we have set up a meeting with PVC TJ and students. This is taking place on 18th April and will give them a chance to discuss their student experience and raise concerns.</p> <p>Completed</p>
<p>Action December.05: GA/AL to arrange a meeting with Healthcare Head of Schools to look at how we support our students. This to involve Rob Dudley, Liz Davis-Ward & Tim Jones.</p>	GA/AL	<p>GA met RD and LDW (without Tim). We share concerns over external factors, such as the cost of living, and how these disproportionately affect healthcare students. We discussed a campaign from student services to raise awareness about the support the University offer. RD and LDW would like SU to facilitate a peer mentoring system, but GA explained we do not have the resource for this. GA working with HH to ensure that academics know of any gaps in academic soc (including nursing, midwifery etc) to promote the societies and hopefully get committees in place.</p> <p>Completed</p>
<p>Action January.01: AL to give an update to be provided at next exec about whether Saturday facilities have been open.</p>	AL	<p>Facilities open when demand is on campus, so far demand has not been there except for Open Days</p> <p>Completed</p>
<p>Action January.02: AL to ask Marketing to put Community Cupboard impacts update on our All Student email as well as Instagram and other socials.</p> <p>AL to post social media posts on local WR2 area pages.</p>	AL	<p>Completed</p>
<p>Action January.03: Once TEF submission is complete, GA will catch up with Marie Stowell on progress of the group and see ask if VPE role could be involved in decolonisation working group.</p>	GA	<p>GA sent two emails with no reply from MS.</p> <p>Further note: Gem has had communication with Marie and a Steering Group is being established with academics. We don't feel it appropriate to be on the group, but</p>

		<p>we have asked how the progress of the group is going to be monitored (eg report to LTSEC?) so we can be aware</p> <p>ACTION: SJ to keep abreast of how things are progressing with the decolonisation Working Group in LTSEC meetings and hold the Group to account</p>
<p>Action January.05: GA/Officers to invite Robin Walker for an additional meeting.</p>	Officers	<p>GA and AL have both contacted RW who has no capacity to meet again in the coming months. AL has reached out to the labour parliamentary candidate who is keen to meet and discuss student cost of living.</p> <p>Meeting took place with Tom Collins in May 2023.</p> <p>COMPLETED - but to be continued with follow up meetings in 23/24.</p>
<p>Action January.08: Officers to continue to communicate to Tim Jones about ongoing concerns around the cost of food provided and that this is significantly higher than options at other Universities elsewhere.</p>	Officers	<p>On going - reached a limit with how much they can subsidise Chartwell's food. Further drops in price look incredibly unlikely. RC and MB working with the University concerning the Costa coffee outlet in the SU building.</p> <p>Will continue to follow up on feedback in 23/24.</p> <p>Pricing for canteen saver menus has been proposed to increase in line with inflation, however proposal has been sent back to Lucy Blunt to revise Prices at the next Fees, Bursaries and Scholarships Committee.</p> <p>ACTION: AL to update Exec Committee following next Fees, Bursaries and Scholarships Committee.</p>
<p>Action February.01: GA to reach out to Marie Stowell and Ann Jordan about if there are any issues facing students regarding</p>	GA	<p>GA emailed AJ and MS, awaiting reply.</p>

grammar, spelling and punctuality. If so, look at adding as an AOB discussion item at LTSEC to discuss how the University are going to support the potential groups of students that may be affected.		Not aware of any issues COMPLETED
Action February.02: AL to raise with Tim Jones, what support is available to students during Ramadan.	AL	Iftar celebrated on March 28 th . AL continuing to raise religious observation policy with TJ. COMPLETED
Action February.03: JA to add Dudley campus to the March Executive Committee.	JA	COMPLETED
Action April.01: SW to contact Sophie Smith to have further discussions about the inclusivity role rep in the RAG team	SW	COMPLETED
Action April.02: ARE/GA/JA to look at NUS' resources and come up with a plan to promote to our students.	ARE	COMPLETED
Action April.03: JA to bring May Executive forward by ½ weeks and then cancel mid-April Executive.	JA	COMPLETED
Action May.02: ML to send final version of Employability Guide to ARE for proof reading.	ML	COMPLETED
Action May.03: All Officers to send comprehensive list of meetings to ARE by 31/05/2023.	All	COMPLETED

7.0 Approval Items

N/A Nothing to approve.

8.0 Active Ideas Updates

8.1 Ideas Forum

ARE updated that three new ideas have been submitted to ideas Forum including varying Varsity Ticket Options (bundles, discounts), a bursary for students on Sports Clubs and Society committee members and allocating committee members more printing credit. Committee is aware that it is end of year so achieving 25 votes might be harder.

ACTION: IP to contact student regarding varsity tickets to say that the SU is discussing ticket options and their ideas are something the team will be looking into.

ACTION: AL and IP to contact student regarding committee Bursary idea to update that whilst the SU is trying to implement this for Networks, this wouldn't be possible for all the clubs and Societies.

Discussed Tramps and the possibility of the VIP Card being removed and what initiatives would then be in place for sports clubs and societies. Committee discussed a possible VIP Hangar Card or discounted Loyalty scheme card.

8.2 Active Policies

- Women's Workout Hour (ML)
- Open Facilities on Saturdays (AL)
- Common room for students at Jenny Lind Building (GA/AL)
- Accessible Defibrillators across campus (ALL)

Active Policies were discussed in a Policy Review meeting on the 25th of May 2023

Commented [ASB1]: Link to notes, minutes, or policies from this meeting?

9.0 Officer Objective Updates

AL:

- Community Cupboard
 - AL is checking cupboard daily. Any new items, they are taking off the shelf, logging them, then putting back in the cupboard. Working on the End of Year Report for the Cupboard. Total value of the Cupboard has been added to the overall RAG total.
- Gender neutral Toilets
 - Gender neutral toilet audit upcoming the following week.
- Self-certification for mitigating circumstances
 - GA and AL have been working on self-certification for mitigating circumstances.
- International Hardship Funding
 - The International Funding research is complete and has been sent to Tim Jones. Tim Jones has asked for specific numbers from Help and Advice cases and AL informed that there were 6 cases, but international students have added ad hoc in appointments that hardship has been an issue for them. AL also updated Tim that 14 International students have left their course prematurely due to hardship issues. Discussions around having a restricted funding for international students as well as how hardship funding is never completely spent year on year.
 - **ACTION:** AL to reach out to Presidents at other Universities and whether they would be happy to provide more information about how they make their International Hardship funding work as UoW is saying it is not possible.

GA:

- Decolonisation of the curriculum
 - The University has created a Decolonisation Working Group which seems to be more academic based. GA to handover to SJ and reach out to Working Group to see if it can feed into ASQUEC.
- Open Panel Discussion
 - Pizza with the PVC was completed

ML:

- Employability Guide
 - Guide is now complete and will be going to Marketing to be published and the work will continue with IP, incoming VPSA.
- Coaching Officiating Course Funding
 - Spoke to Craig Williams to try and see if this was feasible however the course doesn't seem to be popular with uptake dying down after Covid and never fully recovering.

Joint Objective:

No further updates were given by the Officers.

10.0 Additional Campaign Updates

- Breakfast Club/Lunch Club
 - Aim to continue putting on a couple breakfast clubs over the summer ensuring it is reserved for Worcester Students rather than students attending for the summer school. Committee recognise that there are still Nursing and Midwifery students on campus. Issues brought up around the poor quality of the food at the Hangar Café this week.
 - **ACTION:** RC to feedback issues with quality of food at next meeting with Chartwells.

No additional updates.

11.0 Current Student Issues

SJ updated student concerns with the closure of Bredon Building and teaching moving to Jenny Lind and how students were not communicated this and have chosen accommodation in St John's thinking it would be more convenient.

ACTION: SJ to contact Tim Jones regarding teaching moving from Bredon to Jenny Lind and that some students are not happy with the lack of communication.

IP updated on Mental Health support issues and how students feel there is not enough support at First point and NHS waiting list times being very long. Committee members also get overwhelmed, and IP questioned if there was anything more, we could. SW suggested addressing this in Committee training.

ACTION: IP to bring issue of mental health support for students on committee to the first SU Activities meeting to add into September committee training.

On the issue of mental health, ARE updated that the SU Advice Service is borderline overwhelmed and on track for another record-breaking month of cases and we only have one advisor. They are mainly AIT cases and the University see this as a positive as students are seeking help. There was also a discussion around staff encouraging their course rep or friend to attend their appointment, but it is felt that this is not always appropriate as SU advisors have a larger wealth of knowledge regarding cases.

ACTION: Introductory meeting to be set up with PVC Academic and the Officers.

12.0 Update on relevant projects & discussions with the University.

SW, Officers and 3 students are drafting an SU submission for the Access to Participation Plan

Concerns around Welcome Week and how it will look different than in previous years. SW explained the process.

The International Cricket Centre is back on the agenda and in the works to progress this.

RC updated that the Arena will be the back-up accommodation for graduation so won't be available to Sports Clubs to do their Sports trials.

13.0 AOB

Student Council dates 2023-24:

Proposed dates 2023-24

- Tuesday 24th October, 17:15-19:15 (Online)
- Tuesday 5th December, 17:15-19:15 (Online)
- Tuesday 20th February, 17:15-19:15 (Online)
- Tuesday 23rd April, 17:15-19:15 (Online)


Discussion around whether Student Council has to be online or whether in person would open up a more engaged community.

ACTION: Student Council to be added as a discussion on the next Executive Committee agenda

SW updated that Incoming officer objectives will be created after they have attended Lead and Change and have received all their training.

Update on Elizabeth Garrett Anderson that nobody seems to be staffing the Café in the medical centre despite opening in the understanding that it would be a community café, open to the public, however, in the last Chartwells meeting, they said they were only going to open when students were in.

ACTIONS

1. **ACTION** GA to handover work with Josh Bowman, TJ to renovate Jenny Lind spaces to SJ
 2. **ACTION** SJ to keep abreast of how things are progressing with the decolonisation Working Group in LTSEC meetings and hold the Group to account
 3. **ACTION** AL to update Exec Committee following next Fees, Bursaries and Scholarships Committee.
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