

- WSU Executive Committee Agenda

Friday 01/10/2021 at 13:00pm (Online via MS Teams)

Members	In Attendance:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Liam Lees (President) - LL - Ragnar Mularczyk (VP Education) - RM - Neve Ricketts (VP Student Activities) - NR - Sophie Williams (CEO) - SW - Tim Hewes-Belton (Student Engagement Manager) - THB - Robert Cox (Finance & Commercial Manager) - RC - Jack Appleby (Student Voice Assistant) - JA 	

	ITEM	Timings	Owner
1.	Welcome & Introductions	13:00	LL
2.	Apologies	13:01	LL
3.	Declaration of interest	13:02	LL
4.	Minutes of previous meeting	13:03	LL
5.	Matters arising	13:05	LL
Approval Items			
6.	- Approval of new Nature Society	13:10	NR
	- Approval of Ideas Forum - Women's Workout Hour * Ideas Forum * (worcsu.com)	13:15	THB
Reporting Items			
7.	Active Policy & Ideas Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycling programme for hard to recycle waste (LL) • Create a student medic volunteer (NR) • Create a bookshelf swap on campus (LL) 	13:20	Officers
8.	Officer Objective Update	13:30	Officers
9.	Additional Campaign Updates	13:45	Officers
Discussion Items			
10.	World Mental Health Day	13:50	LL/SW

11.	Managing Projects and Discussions with the University	14:05	SW
12.	Current Student Issues	14:15	THB
Any Other Business			
12.	AOB	14:25	LL
Date of Next Meeting: Friday 1 st October at 13:00pm			

Minutes

1.0 Welcome & Introduction

LL Welcomes and thanks the team for attending the meeting. LL acknowledges that Robert Cox had sent apologies.

2.0 Apologies

Robert Cox (Finance & Commercial Manager) sent his apologies

3.0 Declaration of Interest

NR expressed a declaration of interest about Item 6 (Approval of Nature Society)

4.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

For - 3

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

The minutes from the Executive Committee on August 26th, 2021 were approved.

5.0 Matters Arising

Actions Carried Forward from Previous Meetings:

Actions from 22/7/21	Previous Update	New Update
Action 1: May Exec - VPE to work with and maintain liaison with Caryn Thorogood around a new Fit to Study policy. THB to ask Kate Gynn to go through Fit to Study Policy with RM	THB confirmed that Kate Gynn has gone through policy with RM. University keep pushing aside, RM to push as high priority. Carry Over	RM says that in his most recent conversation with CT she said there had been progress. RM noted that he didn't want to keep pushing CT too much about it. Carry Over
Action 2: May Exec - Student Engagement to develop an action plan	Ongoing, LL to email Liz Davis-Ward to get an	LL said that this is still ongoing - LDW hasn't responded to his

<p>in liaison with the relevant Schools to increase engagement with the SU from health based professional courses.</p>	<p>update. THB agreed LL is going to commit to all School of Nursing & Midwifery inductions. THB & LL to meet with Sethu Sundari every 2 months to build & maintain working relationship. Ongoing development into Operation Plan. Carry Over</p>	<p>emails. LL noted that he was the main lead for all School of Nursing & Midwifery inductions and attended all that the SU were invited too. Carry Over</p>
<p>Action 3: May Exec - THB rework the proposal for associate membership for August exec meeting over summer.</p>	<p>THB informed the committee that this has been de-prioritised due to upcoming welcome week. Carry Over</p>	<p>No Update. Carry Over</p>
<p>Action 4: LL to begin conversations with relevant departments about getting the bookshelf/book swap being installed on campus. Bookshelf to be installed in SU. LL working with THB to source shelf and upcycle.</p>	<p>LL stated 2 bookshelves were secured thanks to a donation, unfortunately due to transport issues these items have not be claimed. LL acknowledges he needs to plan the process more to achieve end goal. LL Stated that an Ideas Forum Plaque is being created once book swap is complete to show the impact that Ideas Forum can have. LL wanted to highlight that getting a 2nd hand bookcase is his commitment to</p>	<p>No Update. Carry Over</p>

	following sustainability pledges to upcycle and reuse.	
Actions From 26/8/21	Previous Update	
Action 5: LL to pick back up Recycling Programme for Hard to Recycle waste post welcome week.		No Update. Carry Over
Action 6: NR & JM to reach back out to students about creating student medic volunteer programme.		NR noted that they have been back in touch and that they are currently in the process of arranging a meeting. Carry Over
Action 7: LL to contact Claire Knealds about wider mental health provision (relating to officer objective 1).		LL is going to make contact. Mental Health Day is happening, and KG is making it happen. THB noted that World Mental Health day is on today's agenda.
Action 8: LL to contact Sabrina Jones (Staffs SU) about potential pronoun workshops for this year if not for future planning.		No Update. Carry Over
Action 9: RM to contact Sarah Pittaway on how he can be involved in promoting study skills check.		RM is in regular contact with SP and is in the process of planning his campaign. RM plans to liaise with SP through the process. Carry Over
Action 10: NR to speak with Alannah & Clement about associating/combining both WorcStar & Work Hard Play Hard together.		NR is going to meet with CS around dealing with this. NR recognised that this is more than likely going to be an accessible on

		an online platform only. Carry Over
Action 11: LL & SW to chase the universities progress on Report & Support initiative and the best way to follow up with Tim Jones		SW had a meeting with Caryn Thorogood. All feedback has been received but at this time they do not have the staff/resources to action anything. Carry Over
Action 12: LL to share his BHM research		Completed.
Action 13: LL to email networks stating when they want to run events at the bar, they have to provide bar ample notice.		Completed.
Action 14: LL to chase networks for their ideas by end of week 03/09/2021 for BHM.		Completed.
Action 15: LL to form working group, invite members to group.		Completed.
Action 16: JA to add managing university projects & discussions to Exec standard agenda.		Completed.
Action 17: JA to add managing projects to pre-existing feedback & intelligence log.		Completed.
Action 18: JA to add World Mental Health Day to Exec agenda.		Completed.
Action 19: Current students' issues to be added to the standard exec agenda		Completed.

- **Approval of Nature Society**

NR & JM met with them last week, NR noted that this was a previous society which folded and that they have quite a healthy bank balance to support them going forward.

NR spoke about merging this society with the Sustainability Network but the Nature Society goals and aims don't quite align up with what they plan to do.

THB wanted to note that even though it hasn't been fully submitted yet we are in the process of having a Green Party society put together, so we need to ensure that these societies maintain separate identities and they may attract the same students.

NR wanted to make the group aware that they are having discussions too of trying to set the Geography society back up. NR agreed with THB comments about these potential 3 societies having very similar agendas and attracting same students.

LL & RM APPROVED

- **Approval of Ideas Forum**

THB this idea came from a member of the women's network, THB explained the reasoning behind Women's Workout Hour. There currently aren't many women only gyms in Worcester in comparison to other major cities.

The Exec discussed the idea and the impact it would have and looked at it from different viewpoints.

The exec took a vote:

For: 2

Abstain: 1

Against: 0

On this occasion the exec did not reach a unanimous decision and it will now be sent to Student Council for approval. This follows with our procedures laid out in Bye Law 4 Point 63.

ACTION JA to add to agenda for next student council.

7.0 Active Policy Updates

Recycling programme for hard to recycle waste - No Update. **CARRY OVER**

Create a student medic volunteer programme - No Update. **CARRY OVER**

Create a bookshelf swap on campus - No Update. **CARRY OVER**

8.0 Officer Objective Updates

Objective	Action/Update
<u>Objective 1</u> - LL to contact Claire Knealds about wider mental health provision.	No Update.
<u>Objective 2</u> - LL to contact Sabrina Jones at Staffs SU about potential workshops for this year if not planning for next year.	<p>LL struggling with the curriculum academic, EDI no clear-cut solutions. Certain policies lumped in with Dyslexia policy. EDI shouldn't be sat with learning difficulties and worries it isn't being taken as serious as it needs to be.</p> <p>SW you have put this on the UW SU agenda, so this can be a conversation there.</p> <p>THB decolonising the curriculum green impact for 21/22 is one of the action points. LL can be used as leverage.</p>
<u>Objective 3</u> - LL is in the process of setting up Edi working groups to get the ball rolling.	Working group has now been set up.
<u>Objective 4</u> - LL stated that all officers are ensuring they are available during welcome week to be able to speak to students, officers are being more proactive on social media to get their faces seen and share relevant content prior to welcome week. ALL OFFICERS going to as many induction talks as possible.	<u>COMPLETE</u>
<u>Objective 5</u> - LL eager to help support networks grow. LL stated every network has a committee member so is happy. LL is working closely with HB to meet and greet as many of the networks prior and during welcome week so they know who they can contact.	<u>No Update</u>
<u>Objective 6</u> - LL & RM is being pushed back as they need more time. Both LL & RM want to look at other university	<u>No Update</u>

research and how they are operating. LL & RM have met with Ann Jordan.	
<u>Objective 7</u> - Need to have a team meeting about how we can do this with members of staff. LL has managed to get into heads of school meeting with Sarah Greer to meet them all and to invite them to a 'Who are the Union' event which is still to be planned	No Update
<u>Objective 8</u> - RM has emailed Elaine Swift, this objective was brought up. ALTSEC agreed an OPT IN policy but RM wants to change this to an OPT OUT policy then staff to be surveyed why they opted out. This can be achieved by forming a report with student stories about how recorded lectures have or will benefit them. RM spoke he was confident this will happen.	No Update
<u>Objective 9</u> - RM stated that 2 students had already been in contact about timetabling issues. RM has arranged a meeting with JA to discuss a plan of action.	RM there has been a couple more conversation around timetabling since, this has all been added to feedback & intelligence. AJ has been made aware.
<u>Objective 10</u> - RM to contact Sarah Pittaway on how he can be involved or promote as VP Education.	RM is working with Sarah Pittaway, RM has started his campaign planning.
<u>Objective 11</u> - NR to contact Alannah & Clement about associating the 2 together.	NR is going to meet with CS around dealing with this. NR recognised that this is more than likely going to be an accessible on an online platform only.
<u>Objective 12</u> - NR contacted Gabbi from Talk 20s who specialises in give life skills workshops to young adults, unfortunately this fizzled out due to significant cost implication. NR suggested an internal version could be an option. NR has submitted a media request to create a survey to go out in October to find out what kind of life skills do our students want to learn.	No Update
<u>Objective 13</u> - NR thanks SS for being an angel in creating an intramural sports league proposal in	No Update

<p>collaboration with Dean Blake the director of men's basketball as a pilot for this year. NR, SS and DB have worked collaboratively to get this written, the proposal has been sent to the sports development board, unfortunately most of that board is on annual leave. NR looks forward to them getting back and implementing the proposal. NR wanted to acknowledge how fantastic SS & DC have been.</p>	
<p><u>Objective 14</u> - NR & SS have met with clubs that are directly affected by the 3G to discuss if the union would have their support with writing an open and or campaign to start the conversation with the university. NR said that all teams are happy to sign and for the union to pursue.</p>	<p><u>No Update</u></p>
<p><u>Objective 15</u> - LL & SW to chase the university on progress and the best way to follow up with Tim Jones.</p>	<p><u>No Update</u></p>

9.0 **Additional Campaign Updates**

RM mentioned not knowing where priorities lay and whether to prioritise his own campaigns, officer objectives or reps. THB said that he will address this in their next 1-1 catch up. JA noted that he is there to support as and when needed.

NR, JM and CS had a meeting around consent campaign last Wednesday. The media request has been submitted, JM is going to support in accessing student emails.

SW wanted to add Bristol campaign, which was mentioned at WonkHE - Bristol Rules. TeamWorc Rules. Nathan (Tramps) expressed concerned that drink spiking is on the up. Aware of how we're getting home but is it too old of a campaign. "out together, home together". Look at a REFRESH of campaign. THB likes Bristol campaign and our current campaign needs updating.

NR mentioned a "Worc Home Safely" campaign. SW wants to revisit 'How We're Getting Home'. **ACTION THB & Officers to brief Kate around updating campaign.**

SW noted before we start telling students to walk home, we need to have a discussion with Tom Taylor.

10.0 World Mental Health Day

LL noted that it is on the 13th October, working with student services and mental health service to put on a mini event – getting people involved and make it aware. LL wants BAME Network involved to address to have a stall. LL hopes it is in union square and it's a lovely day, as this is an accessible area. LL would love to see it happen in the canteen although this is hard due to it being Chartwells location. Samaritans and Student Minds will be in attendance. THB noted that he spoke to KG and that the event seems to be fully planned.

11.0 Managing Projects & Discussions with the University

SW is there any concerns that you have in which the university want you to be involved in?

RM – Cornwall trip, RM expressed his concerns to Tim Jones about travelling down to speak to less than 15 students.

THB wanted to mention that you won't see more than 10 students at Cornwall, The Learning Institute are holding a conference in Bristol, where all partner students are being brought together for a conference. This would be more beneficial than Cornwall. RM to contact Tim Jones saying he has been invited to this conference for TLI this seems more sensible way to engage with partner students. **ACTION RM to contact Tim Jones about conference.**

LL mentioned that Chloe Lycett has got Coca-Cola are coming onto campus on the 12th October and they would like our help to promote it. SW expressed concerns that Coca-Cola isn't paying the Students' Union, so we will not be promoting them. LL also mentioned that Chloe wants to us to help promote HelloFresh, SW noted again that if the union are not being paid for this then we will not be promoting it.

SW acknowledged that LL concerned that university led sustainability projects are not student facing and that certain meetings aren't a good use of his time and wishes to use that time more pro-actively by working with the sustainability network to create interactive, student facing events & projects. THB happy for LL to take a step back and send apologies to meetings as THB attends them too, take the pressure off LL. SW asked is it possible to offload some responsibilities to Sustainability Network.

NR asked about Sustainable Meal as she hasn't been fully informed about it. THB explained the initiative and about eating more sustainable. They want an individual to be the face of it who isn't already involved in Sustainability. Students who get involved will get a £6 voucher for the canteen or the £6 can be donated to the SU RAG fund. NR happy to take on the responsibility but expressed concerns that when students are struggling with funds, the last thing they want to do is think is this meal (PotNoodle) sustainable.

LL wished they would do student cooking classes, where they teach students how to make cheap, affordable sustainable meals, opposed to encouraging them to eat sustainable meals in the canteen. LL thinks this would be more student facing and would be applicable to more student groups.

THB added that when at Derby Chartwells paid the union £13,000 to promote and to get students to engage with them, that money then went and paid for Sustainability Co-ordinator. ACTION SW to bring up with Lucy

12.0 Current Student Issues

NR mentioned that a student had made a comment to her about the food/meal deals at the shop in the SU is too expensive. **ACTION Officers to add this to Feedback & Intelligence.**

RM asked if there had been any additional updates on Archaeology. LL has heard an update. Peter Saville had promised the course will run like normal with no detriment to the students. Students are going to be fully supported. LL concerned that currently none of the staff are on campus. there are 2 members of staff on sick leave. Cheryl Jones was an advocate for LL when speaking to Peter Saville.

RM that school may need attention maybe not right away, geography single honour courses have been axed and now are combined. There may be further issues in that school but that is pre-empting issues. **ACTION RM to refer this to Feedback & Intelligence.**

SW wanted to add to that during their meeting with Nathan (Tramps) that Tom Taylor is concerned about Paramedics and that there are mental health issues in accommodation. **ACTION LL to leave EDI meeting early to follow this up with Tom Taylor.**

RM - KG approached RM around a student who claimed that Nursing students aren't aware that failing an assignment twice will hold them back. RM said shall I contact Head of Nursing, THB said mention it in the meeting we have next week. **ACTION RM to add concern about nursing students failing assignments twice to agenda with Sam Teeling on October 4th.**

THB wanted to highlight that he and NR are dealing with an issue where Paramedics are trying to help students on nights out whilst drunk. The individual in questions isn't part of the society, although Chair of the Paramedic Society has been spoken to about the issue and our concerns have been expressed. THB noted any major issues like this, please make him aware not just JM. LL noted that perhaps a step we could make is making all health care students, starting with paramedics and the society aware of the welfare support available to them at the university. **ACTION LL to reach out to Liz-Davis Ward & Sethu to see what**

welfare awareness we can do together to help support our health care & paramedic students.

NR mentioned that Northampton SU have just released a statement about spiking. SW said that it may be worth NR reaching out to their officer team. **ACTION NR to contact Northampton SU VPSA about spiking statement.**

13.0 AOB

No Other Business

Liam thanked for the group for their contributions and reminded the group that the next meeting is on 22nd October 2021.

Carried Over Actions	Responsible
Action 1: May Exec - VPE to work with and maintain liaison with Caryn Thorogood around a new Fit to Study policy. THB to ask Kate Gynn to go through Fit to Study Policy with RM -- RM says that in his most recent conversation with CT she said there had been progress. RM noted that he didn't want to keep pushing CT too much about it. Carry Over	KG/THB/RM
Action 2: May Exec - Student Engagement to develop an action plan in liaison with the relevant Schools to increase engagement with the SU from health based professional courses. --- LL said that this is still ongoing - LDW hasn't responded to his emails. LL noted that he was the main lead for all School of Nursing & Midwifery inductions and attended all that the SU were invited to. Carry Over	LL
Action 3: May Exec - THB rework the proposal for associate membership for August exec meeting over summer. ---- No Update. Carry Over	THB
Action 4: LL to begin conversations with relevant departments about getting the bookshelf/book swap being installed on campus. Bookshelf to be installed in SU. LL working with THB to source shelf and upcycle. ---- No Update. Carry Over	LL
Action 5: LL to pick back up Recycling Programme for Hard to Recycle waste post welcome week. --- No Update. Carry Over	LL
Action 6: NR & JM to reach back out to students about creating student medic volunteer programme. --- NR noted that they have been back in touch and that they are currently in the process of arranging a meeting. Carry Over	NR
Action 8: LL to contact Sabrina Jones (Staffs SU) about potential pronoun workshops for this year if not for future planning. --- No Update. Carry Over	LL

Action 9: RM to contact Sarah Pittaway on how he can be involved in promoting study skills check. -- RM is in regular contact with SP and is in the process of planning his campaign. RM plans to liaise with SP through the process. Carry Over	RM
Action 10: NR to speak with Alannah & Clement about associating/combining both WorcStar & Work Hard Play Hard together. --- NR is going to meet with CS around dealing with this. NR recognised that this is more than likely going to be an accessible on an online platform only. Carry Over	NR
Action 11: LL & SW to chase the universities progress on Report & Support initiative and the best way to follow up with Tim Jones ---- SW had a meeting with Caryn Thorogood. All feedback has been received but at this time they do not have the staff/resources to action anything. Carry Over	LL & SW
Actions From This Meeting	Responsible
Action 12: JA to add to women's workout hour (Ideas Forum) agenda for next student council.	JA
Action 13: THB & Officers to brief Kate around updating 'How You Get Home' campaign.	THB
Action 14: RM to contact Tim Jones about Bristol conference, rather than attending Cornwall.	RM
Action 15: SW to bring up Chartwells wanting us to promote their campaigns with Lucy.	SW
Action 16: LL to follow this up with Tom Taylor around Paramedics having mental issues in accommodation.	LL
Action 17: RM to add concern about nursing students failing assignments twice to agenda with Sam Teeling on October 4 th .	RM
Action 18: LL to reach out to Liz-Davis Ward & Sethu to see what welfare awareness we can do together to help support our health care & paramedic students.	LL
Action 19: NR to contact Northampton SU VPSA about spiking statement.	NR