

WSU Executive Committee Minutes

Friday 17/02/2022 at 9:30am (Online via MS Teams)

	ITEM	Timings	Owner
1.	Welcome & Introductions	09:30	LL
2.	Apologies	09:31	LL
3.	Declaration of interest	09:32	LL
4.	Minutes of previous meeting	09:33	LL
5.	Matters arising	09:35	LL
Approval Items			
6.	Approval of Ideas Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Making scholarship criteria and changes available to students (Ideas Forum) - Open Facilities on Saturdays (Ideas Forum) 	09:40	LL
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) • Women's Workout Hour (NR) • Campus Community Garden (LL/NR) • Recycling Bins on City Campus - outside (LL) • Calmatea (NR) • Make the 'free periods' poster in bathrooms more inclusive • Eduroam or other WIFI provider in Tramps and Mode 	09:50	Officers
9.	Officer Objective Update	09:55	Officers
10.	Additional Campaign Updates	10:00	Officers
Discussion Items			
11.	RAG Charity	10:05	SW
12.	Mental Health/Counselling Provision	10:15	LL
13.	Disability & Dyslexia Support	10:25	LL
14.	Dudley Campus	10:30	SW

15.	Current Student Issues - Healthcare	10:35	All
16.	Update on Relevant Projects and Discussions with the University	10:40	All
Any Other Business			
17.	AOB	10:44	LL
Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 15 th March at 9:30am			

Minutes

1.0 Welcome & Introduction

LL welcomed all to February Executive Committee.

2.0 Apologies

No apologies were received.

3.0 Declaration of Interest

No declarations were made.

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 January 21st 2022, were approved.

5.0 Matters Arising

Actions	Owner	Update
Action Sep.01: 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 and SW are meeting Caryn in January to review the drafted policy	RM	Awaiting consultation with Caryn. Ongoing

<p>Action Oct.01: LL & SW to chase the universities progress on Report & Support initiative. SW spoken to TJ about this who is keen to launch the system despite resourcing concerns.</p>	LL/SW	<p>This system is now live. Discussions have been held by SW with University colleagues re elements of the system, which is now bespoke and not one that is supported by an external company. The SU does not agree this is a good decision, nor that it has been adequately promoted to students but is keen to see the portal working for students.</p>
<p>Action Nov.01: LL/NR to reach out to ACS to do an event in The Hangar (take over event).</p>	LL/NR	Ongoing.
<p>Action Nov.02: RM to organise a meeting with Clement about making our student body aware of the cost of your future campaign.</p>	RM	Completed
<p>Action Nov.03: LL to get agenda items added to - There needs to be a discussion on the EDI committee around buildings accessible - gender neutral toilets, prayer rooms and breastfeeding locations.</p>	LL	Completed
<p>Action Jan.01: THB to inform JM to ensure that pronoun workshops are implemented in September</p>	THB	<p>THB has briefed JM and will be included in Committee Training. JM to confirm contact with LL</p>
<p>Action Jan.02: LL to speak to MH/TJ to make sure that breast feeding facilities are promoted to students.</p>	LL	Completed
<p>Action Jan.03: THB to submit a design request to promote the community garden and recycling bins down at City Campus</p>	THB	<p>JA is submitting requests on behalf of THB</p>
<p>Action Jan.04: NR continue to build a portfolio of LifeSkills Workshops for students</p>	NR	Ongoing.

Action Jan.05: RM to consult NR/LL about choosing a working group to help the University redesign Peirson.	RM	Completed
Action Jan.06: NR to make a commitment to invite Sarah Speck to the SU	NR	Completed.
Action Jan.07: Officers to meet relevant people and make sure they are prepared to make a decision on supporting NUS Student Strike.	LL/RM/NR	Completed
Action Jan.08: THB to ensure that New Vision for Education campaign is a topic of conversation at upcoming councils & ASM.	THB	Policy was submitted at Student Council but decided with officers as hadn't passed yet at council (due to lack of quorum) to not discuss at ASM
Action Jan.09: THB & RM to meet with Marie Stowell to discuss the SU's contribution to the consultation.	THB/RM	Emailed Marie to arrange. Also asked for initial discussion on student submission for new TEF.

Actions Carried Forward from Previous Meetings:

6.0 **Approval Items**

Making scholarship criteria and changes available to students

LL gave an overview of the scholarship process, and he has had experience in using. THB updated that he and KG have been aware and fed back to the University over a number of years that the process could be more transparent and welcome the focus students are now placing on the issue.

Charlotte-Beeman Evans is the person to contact about looking at the criteria for sports scholarship.

Idea Passed.

Open Facilities on Saturdays

THB gave an overview of the idea proposed which calls for more catering provision on Saturdays for Saturday only courses. RC mentioned that if the University/Chartwells aren't willing to open facilities for students then our

response to the university should be, these students should not be paying the same amount of money for limited facilities.

Idea Passed.

7.0 Active Policy Updates

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

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

Create a bookshelf swap on campus - **COMPLETE**

Women's Workout Hour (NR) - No Update. **CARRY OVER**

ACTION - THB/NR to liaise with SS to see how we can work with the University to make Women's workout hour happen.

Campus Community Garden - **COMPLETE**

Recycling Bins on City Campus (outside) - **COMPLETE**

Calma-tea, Arts & Mindfulness on Campus (outside) - **COMPLETE**

Make the 'free periods' poster in bathrooms more inclusive - **COMPLETE**

Eduroam or other WIFI provider in Tramps and Mode- **COMPLETE**

8.0 Officer Objective Updates

LL Updated:

Pride

Q & Gay is happening, panel conversations. LL has asked TJ & friend Ray to take part on panel. Drew Humphry & Network have been supporting LL with planning.


MH Day

Working with the University. It will hopefully be a great day to support students. Stalls will include university support services, Mental health charities, Therapy dogs and more.

RM Updated:

Peirson Update

Working to build focus groups. Student Councillors & School reps have been asked to be a part of the group.



NR Updated:

Wolfie has been secured for Varsity promotions. Videos and promotional material will start in the next week.

Geography Society

Geography has been adopted on through the 'adopt a soc' campaign. NR felt that it is exciting to have another academic society back up and running.

9.0 Additional Campaign Updates**University Mental Health Day**

NR is contacting therapy dogs to visit the SU.

No further additional campaign updates were received.

10.0 RAG Charity

SW wanted to start the conversation about how we chose our chosen charities for the year and to start the discussions about how we chose a charity for the year ahead, looking at being more impactful and supporting local charities.

Some comments made by exec were:

- What are Student Minds, the SU's current chosen charity, doing to support our work at Worcester, THB confirmed that support was minimal for such a large charity?
- Do we need to choose a local charity moving forward, especially because 90% makeup of our student demographic come from the West Midlands.
- As a counter argument, if we chose a national charity then it may resonate to more students.

ACTION - THB speak to JM and the RAG Committee about how we chose SU's focus charity and the idea of sticking local.


No Further discussion had.

11.0 Mental Health (MH)/Counselling Provision

LL updated the group that there has been substantial feedback from both students and lecturers about the MH/Counselling provision offered by the University.

LL raised this item at council, the consensus from councillors is that it is apparent that both students and staff. From word of mouth, it has been expressed that the service could be 40% over subscribed.

LL has contacted TJ about if there is an issue with the provision and if so what steps are the University taking to address current demand for the service.



THB noted that there are other SUs who have associated with Samaritans who attend campus twice a month to provide additional support to students. Emma Taylor, Advice Manager at Derby Union of Students would be one contact if we wanted to look into this.

12.0 Disability & Dyslexia Support

LL gave an update of what support DDS can provide the Students' Union. All SU staff have been offered the opportunity to attend disability awareness training sessions.

LL hopes that the SU staff sign on to the sessions and it would be really impactful to have the SU staff trained.

13.0 Dudley Campus

SW gave an update from the Dudley Campus briefing meeting yesterday. The University plans to open September 2024.

The SU need to ensure that we continue to keep a voice in the development of this campus to ensure that the students of Dudley campus have the correct support.

14.0 Current Student Issues

Healthcare

The SU are continuing to work with the University on the issues facing students in Adult, Mental and Children's nursing. Placements have been a cause for concern. RM is work with Rob Dudley to start addressing these issues. SR and CRs have been invited to attend to address the issues facing our students.

In KG absence THB has been dealing with advice cases involving midwives, THB wants to ensure that we continue to keep an eye on the midwifery course.

ACTION - RM to raise conversation with SR/CRs within Midwifery courses to test the water, see if these students are facing any issues.


THB wanted it minuting that he has requested a meeting with Marie Stowell around the Universities TEF submission.

There was no additional updates.

15.0 Update on Relevant Projects & Discussions the University

UPP Student Futures Commission Report.

How we can follow up on the recommendations of the report, including supporting students in a post pandemic experience at university.



Local Hustings – END of April, KCR is looking out for a letter that has gone out to the Council. Uni Comms have been involved and we are looking to hold it on 25th April 2022

There was no additional updates.

16.0 AOB

SW – raised the upcoming nominations for University fellowships and reminded Exec that the SU has successfully nominated individuals in the past and that we should make a commitment to nominate people in this round.

No additional comments were made.

LL closed the meeting.

The next Executive Committee is 24th March 2022.

ACTIONS

- **Action Feb.01:** THB speak to JM and the RAG Committee about how we chose SU's focus charity and the idea of sticking local.
 - **Action Feb.02:** RM to raise conversation with SR/CRs within Midwifery courses to test the water, see if these students are facing any issues.
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