

WSU Executive Committee Minutes

Friday 19th March 2021 at 10am on Microsoft Teams

	Agenda Item	Owner	Timing
1.	Welcome and introductions	MP	10:00
2.	Apologies	MP	10:01
3.	Declarations of interest	MP	10:02
4.	Minutes of previous meeting	MP	10:03
5.	Matters arising	MP	10:06
Reporting Items			
6.	Update on live society applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Believers LoveWorld Worcester • Nigerian • Criminology 	TM	10:11
7.	Update on live ideas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Free Book” or “Book Swap” bookshelf • Mobile signal boosters for halls • Reduction of single use plastic in campus shops/vending machines • Preferred names and pronouns 	THB	10.13
8.	Active Policy and Ideas Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunflower lanyards (HS) • Rainbow Crossing (MP) • Recycling programme for hard to recycle waste (MP) • Dance Mats in the SU (TM) • More Diverse Food Range (MP) 	Officers	10:17
9.	Campaign Updates	Officers	10:22
Discussion and Information Items			
10.	University Engagement Strategy	MP	10:30
11.	Engagement in Elections/Engagement of Health based professional courses	MP	10:45
Any Other Business			
12.	AOB	MP	10:55
Date of Next Meeting Friday 16 th April 2021			

Attendance

Attending:

Megan Price	President	MP
Harry South	Vice President Education	HS
Tish Manning	Vice President Student Activities	TM

Also in attendance:

Sophie Williams	Chief Executive	SW
Tim Hewes Belton	Student Engagement Manager	THB
Robert Cox	Finance and Commercial Manager	RC

Minutes

Agenda Item			
1.	Welcome and introductions		
	MP welcomed all to the March Executive Committee meeting.		
2.	Apologies		
	No apologies were received.		
3.	Declarations of interest		
	There were no declarations of interest.		
4.	Minutes of previous meeting		
	Vote to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting held on 19/02/2021. For: 3 Against: 0 Abstain: 0 The minutes of the February Executive Committee were approved.		
5.	Matters arising		
	No.	Action	Update
	01.	Action 01: THB and RC to move forward and look to set up processes for associate memberships.	No progress to date. Action 01: Action carried forward.
	02.	Action 03: MP to draft an update regarding the postponement of Rainbow Crossings on the Ideas Forum.	Complete.
	03.	Action 04: THB to not star the ideas update for the next Student Council	To be completed. Student Council have not met since last Executive Committee.

		meeting and to ensure a verbal update is given to councillors	Action 02: Action carried forward.
	04.	Action 04: HS to work with and maintain liaison with Caryn Thorogood around a new Fit to Study policy.	In progress. HS will continue to liaise with Caryn Thorogood. Action 03: Action carried forward.
	05.	Action 05: HS to follow up the potential implications for students in professional courses voicing certain ideas and concerns on the idea's forum up with Sarah to prevent students undergoing disciplinaries when utilising this SU recognised channel.	Complete.
	06.	Action 06: HS to update the student who put the sunflower lanyard idea forward on the Executive Committee's agreement to shelf the issue for now until deemed an issue on a return to campus.	To be Completed. HS has attempted to organise a meeting with the student who put forward the idea and is still awaiting a response. Action 04: Action carried forward
	07.	Action 08: TM and MP to introduce the Neurodivergent's society committee to the Disabled Students' Network to discuss how they can work together.	No progress to date. Action 05: Action carried forward
	08.	Action 09: TM to introduce the Neurodivergent's society committee to DDS.	No progress to date. Action 06: Action carried forward
	09.	Action 10: THB to work on merging the more diverse food range idea with the recently passed menu diversity policy.	Action removed. Executive Committee has agreed that policies should not merge. The work will continue to merge but reporting will remain in both places.
	10.	Action 11: MP to arrange a meeting with relevant SU staff to discuss increased activities during lockdown.	Complete.

Reporting Items

- | | |
|----|--|
| 6. | Update on live society applications
TM update the committee that there were no applications ready for approval but that there were three applications currently being prepared.
6.1 Believers LoveWorld Worcester
6.2 Nigerian |
|----|--|

	<p>6.3 Criminology</p> <p>6.1 Believers LoveWorld Worcester</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TM updated Executive Committee on the live society application for Believers Love World Worcester. - RC asked for further clarification around the society and THB provided further details on what the society entails. <p>6.2 Nigerian</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TM updated Executive Committee on the live society application for Nigerian Society. <p>6.3 Criminology</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TM updated Executive Committee on the live society application for Criminology Society. <p>TM updated the Executive Committee that she will be meeting with the new societies and supporting them with the application process in the following weeks. TM stated that the societies should be ready for approval in the next Executive Committee meeting.</p>
7.	<p>Update on live ideas</p> <p>THB updated the committee that no current ideas had currently reached the 25 votes required for discussion at Executive Committee and then gave an overview of the ideas currently up for consideration by students.</p> <p>7.1 “Free Book” or “Book Swap” bookshelf</p> <p>7.2 Mobile signal boosters for halls</p> <p>7.3 Reduction of single use plastic in campus shops/vending machines</p> <p>7.4 Preferred names and pronouns</p>
	<p>7.1 “Free Book” or “Book Swap” bookshelf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THB outlined the Book Swap bookshelf idea and suggested that this could be placed in the SU building. HS notes that the Hive also does a Book Swap service and MP suggested that they could help support the SU with this. Executive Committee also discussed the issue around making the bookshelf Covid secure. <p>7.2 Mobile signal boosters for halls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THB outlined the idea regarding better mobile signal for halls and noted that the idea currently has 2 votes. <p>7.3 Reduction of single use plastic in campus shops/vending machines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THB outlined the idea regarding the reduction of single use plastic in campus shops and vending machines and noted this idea currently has 12 votes. THB notes that this idea if passed will fit in well with the SU’s current approach to sustainability.

	<p>7.4 Preferred names and pronouns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THB noted that a passed policy for preferred names and pronouns already exists and Executive committee should communicate this to the student who posted the idea and remove it. THB suggested that there should be more clarity on the process when there are already existing policies related to an idea. HS suggested in the case of an existing policy, the SU should communicate this to the student who submitted the policy for them to support it, and TM and MP both agreed with this position. <p>Action 07: THB to strengthen the Bye Laws in relation to ideas that have already been passed as policies.</p> <p>7.5 Train Departure Boards on Campus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - THB outlined the idea regarding train departure boards on campus. RC noted that are already screens by main reception where you can access train times. Executive Committee discussed whether there are options to make the information for train times more visible to students. <p>Action 08: THB to follow up with the student who submitted the idea for the Train Departure Boards on Campus idea to gain further clarity on the issue.</p>
Reporting Items	
8.	<p>Active Policy and Ideas Updates</p> <p>8.1 Sunflower lanyards (HS)</p> <p>8.2 Rainbow Crossing (MP)</p> <p>8.3 Recycling programme for hard to recycle waste (MP)</p> <p>8.4 Dance Mats in the SU (TM)</p> <p>8.5 More Diverse Food Range (MP)</p>
	<p>8.1 Sunflower Lanyards</p> <p>HS updated the Executive Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As in the Matters Arising (Item 6), HS has attempted to organise a meeting with the student who put forward the idea and is still awaiting a response. <p>8.2 Rainbow Crossing</p> <p>HS updated the Executive Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As in the Matters Arising (Item 2), MP has posted the update about the postponement of the crossing on the idea's forum. <p>8.3 Recycling programme for hard to recycle waste</p> <p>MP updated the Executive Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The policy has been brought to the attention of Katy Boom and will be developed further in the following weeks. <p>8.4 Dance Mats in the SU</p> <p>TM updated the Executive Committee:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On pause during lockdown, will continue once The Hangar has been reopened following the ease of national restrictions. <p>TM also updated the Executive Committee on the student medic programme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TM spoke with Kay Mohanna (Professor, School of Allied Health and Community) who suggested the student may want to progress the idea with the paramedic science team instead as the medical school as the Medical School is not yet operational. - THB noted that an update should be posted on the idea's forum that due to the situation the implementation of a student medic programme will be challenging but that with the creation of the St John Ambulance Society it could be argued that some of what the student wanted was now being delivered. - HS noted it could be worth having a continuous conversation regarding the student medic programme as the medical school is being set up. - MP also raised that Katy Boom (Director of Sustainability) worked with British Heart Foundation in Go Green Week around free emergency first aid however there is a lack of student participation in this area. <p>8.5 More diverse food range</p> <p>MP updated the Executive Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As in Matters Arising (Item 9), MP has reached out to Chartwell's and a representative has attended a meeting with Network chairs and MP has also provided them with feedback for improvement from the Networks.
9.	Campaign Updates
	<p>TM updated on the Consent Campaign:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - TM met with the Women's Network and discussed the potential of a consent week for next year. This will involve panel discussions, a sex quiz in the Hangar and other activities. - In the process of booking in a bystander training, as well as incorporating this in Sports Clubs, Societies and Networks committee training. - SW asked the committee whether there have been students who have reached out to the SU following the recent gender-based violence and asked whether the Women's Network have been responding to the issue. MP noted that she has shared information with them regarding 'Call my App' and that the Network has been sharing relevant content on their social media. - THB reminded Executive Committee that there is still a live policy on the Night Bus and they should continue to raise this if the university has discussions around safety. MP also noted that the SU should communicate other methods of safety for students if the Night Bus is unable to happen. <p>HS updated on the Rep Campaign:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Videos of reps will be coming out soon to raise awareness around the academic representation system to promote for next year.

	<p>HS updated on the Academic Integrity Campaign:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Set to launch on the 19th of April. - Has spoken to marketing about how they can incorporate Nottingham's campaign digital marketing into Worcester branding. - The Guardian, Telegraph and Turn It In will be covering the campaign. <p>HS updated on an upcoming Employability Campaign.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - HS will be meeting with marketing to discuss the campaign. - HS liaised with Rose Watson and Robin Walker for support on the campaign. <p>THB updated Executive Committee that the SU received an email from an MP's assistant regarding an advice case. THB suggested that MP should get in touch with the MP to update Robin Walker's work around rent.</p>
--	--

Discussion and Information Items	
---	--

10.	University Engagement Strategy
------------	---------------------------------------

	<p>MP raised the action brought to Executive Committee from the Trustee Board about how the SU should look at engaging the university moving forwards given the changes in personnel.</p> <p>MP raised the idea of a structured approach to how the new officers will engage with university staff. THB noted that this could be a discussion around officer induction and use induction to reset relationships and have regular catch ups. Executive Committee agreed to have a separate meeting around officer induction and transition.</p>
--	--

11.	Engagement in Elections/Engagement of Health based professional courses
------------	--

	<p>MP raises the issue of how Executive Committee should reflect on engagement during elections, particularly around health based professional courses and how the engagement strategy moving forwards aligns with the university's approach.</p> <p>THB noted that there were specific barriers that stopped engagement from students in health courses this year, such as being on placement during a pandemic. MP asked whether there should be student consultation done now to inform work in engagement over the summer. THB agreed, stating that there should be a plan for engagement in elections that involves thinking about engagement from September and throughout the year. HS noted that they should also look at engagement success and highlighted that if paramedics are more engaged in comparison to nursing students, to then think about why that is, as the barriers students on these courses face are similar.</p> <p>SW suggested creating a Vocational Course Network. HS raised the issue that this may take away from the students' individual needs. MP suggested first figuring out why students from less engaged courses are less engaged and working with them to see what they need from the SU. THB stated that other approaches should also be considered in the possibility</p>
--	--

	<p>that there is a lack of student feedback. MP further suggested to make progress to engage students from these courses through other avenues, such as being a mature student.</p> <p>Action 09: SW and THB to develop an action plan in liaison with the relevant Schools to increase engagement with the SU from health based professional courses.</p>
Any Other Business	
13.	AOB

Actions:

Action 01: THB and RC to move forward and look to set up processes for associate memberships.

Action 02: THB to not star the ideas update for the next Student Council meeting and to ensure a verbal update is given to councillors.

Action 03: HS to work with and maintain liaison with Caryn Thorogood around a new Fit to Study policy.

Action 04: HS to update the student who put the sunflower lanyard idea forward on the Executive Committee's agreement to shelf the issue for now until deemed an issue on a return to campus.

Action 05: TM and MP to introduce the Neurodivergent's society committee to the Disabled Students' Network to discuss how they can work together.

Action 06: TM to introduce the Neurodivergent's society committee to DDS.

Action 07: THB to strengthen the Bye Laws in relation to ideas that have already been passed as policies.

Action 08: THB to follow up with the student who submitted the idea for the Train Departure Boards on Campus idea to gain further clarity on the issue.

Action 09: SW and THB to develop an action plan in liaison with the relevant Schools to increase engagement with the SU from health based professional courses.

