

Minutes

Subject:	Student Officer Committee Minutes
Date:	Thursday, 15 January 2015
Paper:	SOC1331

Key Discussions

- Whether election rules might be changed after nominations had opened
- Part-Time Officers staying on after Easter to help in the hand-over to their successors

Key Actions

- Approved funding request for World Cafe
- Approved funding request for Women's Sexual Health Conference
- L Cody, I Goddard and D Ogunrinde joined Elections Working Group
- Agreed that Part-Time Officers should help support their successors in a hand-over until the end of the Exam period

Union of UEA Students Purpose:

"To enrich the life of every UEA student"

Minutes of the Student Officer Committee

15 January 2015

Voting Members present:

Josh Wilson (Ethical issues Officer), Dolly Ogunrinde (Women's Officer), Max Levene (Students with Disabilities Officer), Liam McCafferty (PG Education Officer), Chris Jarvis (Campaigns and Democracy Officer), Freddie Redfern (Ethnic Minorities Officer), Tom Etheridge (Non Portfolio Officer), Liz Cody (Non Portfolio Officer), Iain Goddard (Environment Officer), Theo Antoniou Phillips (Non Portfolio Officer), Dan Wrigglesworth (LGBT+ Officer)

Chair

Holly Staynor (Welfare, Community & Diversity Officer)

In attendance:

Tony Moore (Representation Support Worker), Matt Emery (Head of Venues), Gavin Hudson (Deputy Head of Venues)

Apologies:

Jim Dickinson (Chief Executive), Connor Rand (UG Education Officer), Yinbo Yu (Activities and Opportunities Officer), David Hall (Postgraduate Officer), Tom Southerden (Non Portfolio Officer), John Taylor (Mature Students Officer), Josh Clare (Head of Student Engagement), S Glakousaki (International Officer).

1331 Departmental Presentation: Bars/Coffee

M Emery and G Hudson presented the work of the department, highlighting the empowerment of student staff members to undertake tasks including planning and stock control.

Questions were asked as to:

Flies in Unio,
Long queues to buy drinks in the LCR,
Accessibility to the Blue Bar for students with disabilities,

Student staff rotas,

Responses were:

Flies: pest control measures in place

LCR queues: investigating 'instant' products and innovative methods of serving for faster sales

Accessibility to Blue Bar: staff noted that door staff had been instructed to give access to the lift; believed this was a communications issue and would email M Levene to discuss

Student staff rotas: criteria being looked at, aim to make them as fair as possible.

1332 Minutes of the meeting held on 4 December

SOC noted that, due to staff absence, the minutes were as yet unavailable.

1333 Matters Arising

There were none.

1334 Action Log

Chair noted that she had consulted the NUS Officer concerning trans-exclusion in election regulations and they were happy to support this at Conference.

Chair noted that the University had been in touch about a joint statement on the DSA cuts and this should be ready to go at the end of the month; she noted that she would copy M Levene into the correspondence.

1335 World Cafe

C Jarvis noted that the funding would be for the workshop fees and transport expenses for external organisations.

SOC approved the funding request.

1336 Women's Sexual Health Conference

D Ogunrinde noted the conference would coincide with International Women's Day and the funding would cover external speakers' costs.

On T Etheridge suggestion, SOC agreed to increase the amount assigned from the Liberations Budget. SOC noted that D Ogunrinde did not need to make a formal request for money from the Women's Budget.

SOC approved the funding request and increased from £100 to £150 the amount available from the Liberations Budget.

1337 Officer Go Around/Reports

T Antoniou Phillips: team leader training
F Redfern: researching the possibility of changing his job title from 'Ethnic Minorities' to 'Black Students' Office. (Several Officers believed this would have to be preceded by an awareness campaign amongst the membership)
D Wrigglesworth: Norwich Pride work including presentations in local schools; compiling gender neutral toilets' campus map.
L Cody: liaising with UUEAS staff on joint honours, looking to draft a proposal for two advisers for each joint honours student, one from each School.
M Levene: planning to attend University group looking at access on campus.
D Ogunrinde: implementation of sanitary products policy, planning for Reclaim the Night March in Norwich, planning women's self-defence classes, attendance at Women's Officer Activists conference, examining University's mental health services, working on Lad Culture.

1338 Reports on Priority Campaigns/Projects

Chair: consulting with University on DSA cuts
C Jarvis: UUEAS forum with campus trade unions met to discuss joint campaigns; focus was on Living Wage and the launch of Unison's campaign
L McCafferty: reported that the FTOs had met and reviewed progress on the Priority Campaigns and a written report would be brought to the next SOC meeting.

1339 Any Other Business

L McCafferty: report that the timeline for the referendum on the future of the GSA was now Week 4; he noted he was hoping to reach agreement over the referendum process at forthcoming meetings with the GSA Committee but if he failed in this he would bring the matter back to SOC for consideration.

Chair noted that the University would not be running a Well-Being Week so UUEAS would organise one by itself, on the week commencing 2 February. Chair noted that this would include advertising the benefits of sleep and would involve a trial of the Nap Room as mandated by the Sleepy Time policy.

C Jarvis asked Officers to double check the proposals on Policy Lapse for the next meeting of Council.

J Wilson noted he had spoken, before Christmas, about forming a working group to examine how to improve the election rules to make UUEAS' elections more accessible. He noted time was short before the elections.

SOC debated whether the election rules could be changed after nominations had opened. C Jarvis believed they could and that the cut-off point would be before candidate training took place.

I Goddard, D Ogunrinde and L Cody volunteered to join the group.

I Goddard noted he thought it would benefit UUEAS if PTOs continued their work as Officers until the end of the Exam period rather than finish at Easter so that there would be an adequate period of hand-over to the incoming Officers.

SOC agreed that this would be helpful and would require no constitutional change as the incoming Officers would hold voting rights and the outgoing Officers would stay to shadow them and provide support.

D Wrigglesworth noted that LGBT+ History Month would be coming up and asked Officers to contact Societies who were making contributions to contact Pride so that they could be well-publicised.

I Goddard noted that he had not known that O Steward had resigned from SOC.

L McCafferty apologised as he noted he should have announced this prior to the meeting. He noted he did not know whether Mr Steward had submitted a resignation letter and he would check this out.

T Moore advised that, as per the GSA constitution, on Mr Steward's resignation as President his place had been taken by D Hall, the GSA Secretary who had therefore become ex-officio Postgraduate Officer.

1340 Time, Date and Place

5. 00 pm, 29 January in 0.09, the Queens Building.