



UBU Student Council
Tuesday 2nd December 2014

Minutes of the Meeting

Present:

Alex Rees	<i>Chair of Student Council</i>
Tom Phipps	<i>Student Living Officer</i>
Alice Phillips	<i>Equality, Liberation & Access Officer</i>
Jo Woods	<i>Union Affairs Officer</i>
Alyx Murray-Jackman	<i>Sport & Student Development Officer</i>
Alex Bradbrook	<i>Academic Experience Officer</i>

In attendance:

Ann O'Malley	<i>Student Fundraising and Projects Administrator</i>
Ryan Bird	<i>Director of Membership and Democratic Engagement</i>
Alicia Coupland	<i>Minutes</i>
Charlotte Miles	<i>Minutes</i>

Other staff:

Kate Dawson, Tom Berry, Benji Staples, Sophie Thomas, Amy Walsh, Jemma Harford.

There were 64 voting members in attendance.

1. Introductions

The Chair called the meeting to order at 18.36 and announced that the meeting was quorate.

2. How Student Council works

Student Council Chair, Alex Rees, and Union Affairs Officer, Jo Woods, explained what Student Council is, who Student Council consists of and how voting works.



3. Officer update and Question time

The full time officers each gave a 30 second update of what they had been up to over the past month.

Questions:

Question 1: In a recent story in Epigram it was stated that student fees towards Arts degrees are being used to fund Science degrees. A protest is due to take place relating to this – does UBU support this action and how does UBU intend to tackle this issue?

- A.** Alice Phillips, Equality, Liberation & Access Officer, answered that UBU definitely support that the University needs to be transparent in their activities but that it is important to not pit Arts students against Science students. Pressure needs to be put on the Vice Chancellor and the Government to create a University that is fair for all. Steps have been made towards this already through UBU's involvement in organising a coach load of students to the Free Education Demo on 19th November 2014.

Question 2: What campaigns have officers being working on?

- A.** Jo Woods, Union Affairs Officer, informed Student Council that she has been working on a General Election campaign that will be rolling out next term and on 'Giving Tuesday'.

Alice Phillips informed Student Council that she organised a Reclaim the Night march through Bristol last month against sexual violence. She is also working on the NUS Woman's Campaign, 'Reclaim Your Campus' which involves 16 days of activism against gender violence. The Free Education Campaign is also under way; officers will be going around the University next week with a whiteboard asking students to explain why free education is important to them.

Question 3: How are you helping students make informed choices on the General Election?

- A.** Jo Woods answered that the General Election campaign will inform students how to register to vote, how to vote, have talks and buzzword bingo about the election.

Question 4: Have you being advertising the EGM to the student population?

- A.** Jo Woods reported that an e-mail was sent to all students and it was advertised through social media outlets.



Question 5: How are you improving democracy in the Union and increasing voter turnouts?

- A.** Jo Woods answered that UBU are looking at how Student Council is run and are working out some models to make democracy more engaging. Alex Bradbrook, Academic Experience Officer, also responded that in the Course Rep elections there were more candidates than ever before and that there have been 20 candidates in the NUS delegate elections.

Question 6: What have you been doing to advertise the NUS Delegate Elections?

- A.** Social media has been used but officers agreed that it should be promoted more on campus. However most nominations in many years.

Question 7: Alyx Murray-Jackman, Sport and Student Development Officer, was asked who her favourite member of Sports Exec is?

- A.** Alyx Murray-Jackman did not comment on this question but informed Student Council that there is an upcoming election to fill the vacant position of Water Sports Rep.

Question 8: Alex Bradbrook was asked what the biggest barriers have been to achieving his manifesto.

- A.** Alex Bradbrook answered that when he wrote his manifesto he had far less knowledge about how the University works and has found that it takes a lot longer than anticipated to make changes. He is hoping to set things in motion now which can continue to progress next year.

4. Motions

Motions 1: e Eating Card **Proposed by: Danhui Zhang**

Danhui Zhang spoke for the motion.
No one spoke against the motion.
4 questions were asked and answered:
The chair called for a vote; the motion **PASSED**.

Motion 2: Hire of Mortarboards during graduation **Proposed by: Joey Tan**



No one spoke for the motion.
The motion was postponed until the next Student Council.

Motion 3: Introduction of designated smoking areas to prevent antisocial smoking outside of university buildings
Proposed by: Shirin El Ghomari

Shirin El Ghomari spoke for the motion.
Someone proposed an amendment: That there should be a designated non-smoking area outside of university buildings instead.
1 question was asked and answered on the amendment.
The chair called a vote on the amendment; the amendment **FAILED**.

3 questions were asked and answered about the motion.
The chair called for a vote; the motion **PASSED**.

Motion 4: Conflict of interest in Pastoral and Disciplinary roles of Professional Programme Staff members
Proposed by: Chinedu Umeh

Chinedu Umeh spoke for the motion.
3 questions were asked and answered.
The chair called for a vote; the motion **PASSED**.

Motion 5: Improve Trans Awareness by Introducing Pronoun Introductions across the University.
Proposed by: Chloe Maughan

Chloe Maughan spoke for the motion.
Someone spoke against the motion.
Chloe Maughan responded.
3 questions were asked and answered.
The chair called for a vote; the motion **PASSED**.

Motion 6: Gender Neutral Toilet in Every Department
Proposed by: Jamie Cross

Jamie Cross spoke for the motion.
3 questions were asked and answered.
The chair called for a vote; the motion **PASSED**.



**Motion 7: Support the student campaign for fossil fuel divestment
at UOB**

Proposed: Stephen Le Fanu

Stephen Le Fanu spoke for the motion.

4 questions were asked and answered.

The chair called for a vote; the motion **PASSED**.

Announcements

5. Make a Change

Jo Woods gave an update on Make a Change and informed Student Council that there is a pot of money, £20,000, that can be used for a student led purchase.

6. Trustee Update

Jo Woods gave an update on what the Board of Trustees have been discussing; this included the UBU building re-launch in January and the 5 year strategy for UBU.

7. Elections

a. Democratic Standards Committee

The Student Council were informed that there are 3 spaces on the Sub-Committee that supports Student Council. It was clarified that this is not a big time commitment and that Sub-Committee members can still vote on Student Council. If interested e-mail ubu-council@bristol.ac.uk.

b. NUS delegates

Voting is open until Wednesday 3rd December 2014. The count will take place on Thursday 4th December 2014 and the results will be posted on the UBU website later that day.

11. Any other business

None.

The chair closed the meeting at 20.09.