

16:37:29 From Durham SU : Welcome to Assembly from Jonny (Chair)

16:39:10 From Durham SU : Outlining Zoom etiquette - this chat will be used for written updates that should help you follow. As well as a place to put your initials if you wish to speak.

16:40:35 From Durham SU : Zoom Etiquette

1. If you would like to speak put your initials in the chat or you can click the 'raise your hand' button on Zoom. Please don't just start speaking when you feel like it, this wouldn't happen in a normal assembly meeting. I will call on you to speak.
2. All your videos are off currently, it is up to you if you choose to turn them on.
3. When you are not speaking can you ensure your microphones remain muted (don't want to pick up background noise)
4. Any inappropriate behaviour you will be removed from the meeting, this includes posting in the chat.
5. I will end the meeting if people are not respecting the format of Assembly.
6. Reminder to email dsu.governance@durham.ac.uk if you want your personal data removed when this recording is made available to everyone.
7. You all have the ability to private message me on Zoom, if you want to use procedural motions then that is how you can do so.
8. Timings, I will be giving longer in case you are asking your respective group chats for thoughts,

16:40:44 From Durham SU : 9. If you can also keep the chat function just for putting your initials in so we know if you want to speak and for Durham SU to post updates- just so we can keep a track of people wanting to speak. If you are having any microphone issues then of course comment your initials in the chat and post your question when I call on you.

10. Any questions we don't get to will be answered and made available to all.
11. The motion discussion will happen the same as normal, the proposer will be called upon to speak and given about 2 minutes. Once they have spoken I will ask for any clarification and then we will move to for and against speeches. If you want to speak all you need to do is either click the 'raise your hand' button or put your initial in the chat. For voting, I will launch the poll and then you click the option you want to vote for, once all the votes have come in then I will share the results.

16:43:33 From Durham SU : Looking at the minutes from 6th Feb. Any amendments?

16:43:59 From Durham SU : Any amendments to meeting on 12th March?

16:44:17 From Durham SU : A poll for the passing of the minutes.

16:44:41 From Durham SU : Actually, now voting via Raise your hand button

16:45:34 From Durham SU : Apologies and conflicts on interests.

16:46:13 From Durham SU : An update on Censure Investigation Outcome.

16:46:26 From Durham SU : Investigation found that there was "no case to answer"

16:46:37 From Durham SU : Kate McIntosh (SU President) gives Board update

16:47:08 From Durham SU : Meeting on 14 May covered how Durham SU will live up to our values throughout Covid-19

16:47:25 From Durham SU : Finances, new strategic objectives covered.

16:47:57 From Durham SU : The new objectives update the normal areas that Durham SU cover in relation to Covid-19.

16:48:00 From Durham SU : Any questions?

16:48:32 From Durham SU : OFFICER QUESTIONS

16:48:45 From Durham SU : Updates are available here:
<https://www.facebook.com/watch/durhamsu/259322725216542/>

16:49:16 From Durham SU : Chair to read pre-submitted questions. If goes over time answers will be given after.

16:49:23 From Durham SU : QUESTIONS FOR KATE

16:49:55 From Durham SU : What is being done regarding the University charging full tuition fees despite changes to resources/teaching due to Covid-19?

16:51:49 From Durham SU : A: University probably motivated by looking after their finances. NUS campaigning for tuition fee reimbursements / debt written off. Officers in conversations about how we can be part of national campaign. Uni unlikely to make this decision without national pressure. Can contact the SU Advice Service if you have a personal issue. Long term issue.

16:52:15 From Durham SU : How are you organising a smooth handover to new SU Officers?

16:53:59 From Durham SU : A: Normal process is a series of one off handover / induction events. Then a twelve week long induction process. Broadly the plan now, but needs adapting. NUS usually run an event that won't be happening. Handover is being planned. Officers-elect are in regular meetings about their roles. Uni to play a role in inducting Officers on their space.

16:54:29 From Durham SU : What sub-groups need student reps? When apps open how to students reply? Responses from Council on decolonisation motion and disablist motion?

16:55:48 From Durham SU : A: Sub-groups changing now as the immediate crisis has altered. Now looking at forward planning. Two student reps on each of these groups. Opportunity for more students to feed in. Probably already elected students e.g. Officers, JCR presidents, faculty reps.

16:56:26 From Durham SU : Council's responses. Disablist motion got a full response which we are pushing to make public. The work is ongoing but good we got a response.

16:56:47 From Durham SU : Decolonisation was a response was a paper that was co-written by Sam (UG Academic Officer). This work is also ongoing.

16:57:46 From Durham SU : AMELIA ON DISABLIST MOTION

16:58:51 From Durham SU : Nothing that Council said that we weren't expecting, but Covid-19 has thrown us into a new world. A lot of the things we asked for has shifted. Disable access has appeared overnight due to changes made for Covid-19. Working with student and SWDA to make the motion relevant to Covid-19.

16:59:07 From Durham SU : If anyone wants to get involved, let Amelia know.

16:59:23 From Durham SU : More stuff coming towards end of term.

16:59:31 From Durham SU : SAM ON DECOLONISATION POSITION

17:00:38 From Durham SU : Paper went to Council co-written by Sam. University developing an inclusive teaching package. Work to make sure the Uni understand it is not just that work. Conversations with People of Colour Associations to develop resources to help understanding of what decolonisation actually is.

17:00:49 From Durham SU : QUESTION FOR DAVID

17:02:46 From Durham SU : Q: Is it not inappropriate to reschedule tuition fee payment? We're not currently even getting what we're paid for.

17:05:28 From Durham SU : A: David looked into this. Confusion as to what the dates were. A finance document from earlier in the year said the payment date was 11 May. David sympathises with lack of resources point. University is allowed to do this, which is why they continue to do so. This sets a low standard. Doesn't think that paying tuition fees now would weaken position about reclaiming them. Recommend keeping notes of what opportunities you expected to get that you have now lost as a result of disruption. Contact the SU Advice Service for more information about reclaiming money for disruption.

17:05:45 From Durham SU : A complaint is the route to challenge this.

17:07:37 From Durham SU : NO QUESTIONS FOR COMMITTEES

17:07:40 From Durham SU : Any now?

17:07:55 From Durham SU : NO QUESTIONS FOR ASSOCIATIONS

17:07:58 From Durham SU : Any now?

17:08:03 From Durham SU : Any other questions for Officers?

17:08:34 From Durham SU : NOTE ABOUT SU DEMOCRACY DOCUMENT RELEASED YESTERDAY

17:09:02 From Durham SU : If you would like to be involved in the Democracy Review, email dso.governance@durham.ac.uk.

17:09:13 From Durham SU : STATEMENT FROM STUDENT regarding the democracy review

17:10:30 From Durham SU : Statement provides criticisms of the report released regarding Durham SU democracy.

17:12:24 From Durham SU : STUDENT is concerned that it is one-sided and not well-publicised.

17:13:41 From Durham SU : STUDENT wants the SU to learn from this report and move forwards. The review is the starting point of a bigger democracy review.

17:14:56 From Durham SU : Questions for a later date: what are the initial plans? how will it be kept neutral? how will it be accountable to wider student body? how to students get involved?

17:15:25 From Durham SU : ANNA MARSHALL

17:16:20 From Durham SU : Statement in line with passion and close attention needed to solve this issue. If you've read the report, you can see Anna's accompanying statement. Anna got involved after the report made. The next step for Anna is to focus on the conclusions of the report, which was a "health check".

17:16:47 From Durham SU : The conclusion was that we do need to overhaul the democratic structures at Durham.

17:17:19 From Durham SU : We need to make sure that students get the structures they want, and are not relying on the structures of the past.

17:18:09 From Durham SU : Only way to make sure the next stage of the review is effective, is to get everyone's voices, as transparent as possible.

17:18:19 From Durham SU : Students need to be there from the start.

17:18:51 From Durham SU : Anna asks as many diverse groups as possible to come forward and offer their voices to help this review.

17:19:13 From Durham SU : Contact dsu.governance@durham.ac.uk if you are interested in getting involved.

17:19:36 From Durham SU : CHAIR OF ASSEMBLY

17:20:19 From Durham SU : Report had some disappointing elements, but it was a temperature gauge which will lead onto the bigger review.

17:20:57 From Durham SU : CONTACT DSU.GOVERNANCE@DURHAM.AC.UK TO GET INVOLVED IN DEMOCRACY REVIEW.

17:21:21 From Durham SU : *** ACCESS BREAK: RESUME IN TEN MINUTES AT 17:30 ***

17:30:49 From Durham SU : Welcome back!!

17:32:10 From Durham SU : ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

17:32:36 From Durham SU : Mostly Covid-19 focussed. Same format as normal, just slightly longer timings.

17:32:45 From Durham SU : COVID-19 SU CORE POSITION

17:32:51 From Durham SU : KATE SPEAKS

17:33:58 From Durham SU : University made big decisions in quick succession to deal with Covid-19. The pandemic is going to have big effects on education at Durham, also probably long-term direction of the Uni.

17:34:35 From Durham SU : Position expresses biggest issues for students and the hardline things the SU wants to safeguard and protect e.g. students' rights regarding education, tenants' rights, and student communities.

17:35:04 From Durham SU : Students must be at the centre of decision-making.

17:35:52 From Durham SU : NEW MEMBERS AT ASSEMBLY! WELCOME!

17:36:24 From Durham SU : Will now have REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION FROM KATE. This is only questions about things that you don't understand. Speeches for and against come later.

17:37:12 From Durham SU : STUDENT wants to confirm typos will be corrected.

17:37:27 From Durham SU : Kate is sure we can make these changes, that are typo changes.

17:37:48 From Durham SU : SPEECH OPPOSING THE MOTION

17:37:50 From Durham SU : No speech

17:37:55 From Durham SU : GENERAL COMMENTS

17:38:09 From Durham SU : No comments

17:38:14 From Durham SU : SUMMATION

17:38:16 From Durham SU : No summation

17:38:22 From Durham SU : VOTE using poll function

17:39:49 From Durham SU : Apologies for the typo in student's name

17:40:33 From Durham SU : MOTION IS PASSED.

17:40:56 From Durham SU : FINDING A SILVER LINING: ACCESSIBILITY POST-COVID-19

17:41:00 From Durham SU : STUDENT PRESENTS MOTION

17:41:24 From Durham SU : Durham SU put a motion to NUS Liberation Conference. This is that motion, making sure that what happens nationally happens at Durham.

17:41:59 From Durham SU : Disabled students have been campaigning for years for things to make education more accessible, that have now been made available due to Covid-19.

17:42:08 From Student: initials

17:42:09 From Durham SU : This motion would like these things to be carried forwards.

17:42:31 From Durham SU : REQUEST FOR CLARIFICATION

17:42:46 From Durham SU : STUDENT could motion be applied to students with mental health challenges?

17:43:53 From Durham SU : MOTION PROPOSER the motion does cover mental health problems.

17:44:38 From Durham SU : SPEECH OPPOSING

17:44:44 From Durham SU : No speech

17:44:47 From Durham SU : GENERAL COMMENTS

17:44:47 From student: student

17:45:39 From Durham SU : STUDENT wants clarified standard way of teaching online. those teaching online have right qualifications to do so. Students with dyslexia not allowed to record.

17:45:59 From Amelia McLoughlan : AM can clarify too

17:46:18 From Durham SU : MOTION PROPOSER any access arrangements are encompassed in the motion. Some of those things are already being worked towards.

17:47:23 From Durham SU : AM had a conversation with Head of Disability Support around any difficulties disabled students might be finding with the switch to online teaching. They weren't aware of problems. Advises students to go to the Disability Service directly.

17:47:27 From Sam Johnson-Audini : Also have some things!

17:47:29 From Sam Johnson-Audini : SJA

17:48:50 From Durham SU : SJA keep an eye out for cases where accessibility not happening online, contact course reps, Undergraduate Officers, SWADA

17:49:07 From Durham SU : *Undergraduate and Postgraduate Academic Officers

17:49:25 From Durham SU : SUMMATION

17:49:27 From Durham SU : No summation

17:49:40 From Durham SU : VOTE via the poll

17:51:43 From Durham SU : MOTION HAS PASSED

17:51:59 From Durham SU : ACADEMIC SUPPORT CORE POSITION

17:52:09 From Durham SU : SAM JOHNSON-AUDINI

17:52:33 From Durham SU : On behalf of Academic Affairs Committee (Academic Officers and Faculty Reps)

17:53:53 From Durham SU : University academic support is bad. The motion is to push the University to develop a more standardised version of academic support. Stop it being a lottery. Taking into account that not all academics are naturally gifted at academic support. Requiring training, resources and enough time for staff. Part of training being Mental Health First Aid training.

17:54:30 From Durham SU : REQUESTS FOR CLARIFICATION

17:56:05 From Durham SU : STUDENT wants clarification on a standard list of responsibilities for Academic Advisers. This might vary by department.

17:56:22 From Durham SU : Make sure it is not box ticking.

17:57:31 From Durham SU : SJA is concerned that the University often uses excuses of department autonomy to prevent standardisation. Could be changes to the wording to address STUDENT'S point.

17:58:04 From Amelia McLoughlan : AM

17:59:08 From Student: initials

17:59:47 From Durham SU : AM departments see their academic advisers differently. Needs basic requirements across departments.

18:01:31 From STUDENT : Is Vice-Chair her to take over if we lose Chair?

18:01:50 From Vice-Chair : yeah I'm here dw

18:02:48 From Durham SU : STUDENT quite a few students are aware that they are slipping through the cracks due to taking modules from different departments. Students want to feel like they're in a safety net.

18:03:23 From Durham SU : SJA a lot of reps are aware of those departments. Will be scouting out opinions from those.

18:03:51 From Durham SU : STUDENT clarification on whether this is subject specific?

18:04:28 From Durham SU : SJA does not know about any current training

18:04:38 From David Evans : DE

18:04:50 From Durham SU : STUDENT some students feel like it is a lack of communication not training

18:05:20 From Durham SU : SJA thinks that is probably true. Some issues are with not the academic advisers but students who might be going to tutors and not advisers

18:06:23 From Durham SU : DE commenting on what exists already. So far no training for PG supervision.

18:06:58 From Durham SU : DE at SU level can lobby for basic rock standardisation. Through course reps find out about discipline specific requirements.

18:07:35 From Durham SU : STUDENT what does the mentor system refer to?

18:08:03 From Durham SU : SJA some networks already exist e.g. first generation scholars association. Drawing on these if students want the option.

18:08:42 From Durham SU : Students able to request mentors from specific networks, especially for students from "non traditional backgrounds"

18:09:08 From Durham SU : STUDENT are the mentors from outside the University?

18:09:43 From Durham SU : SJA they would be from within the University. There are a lot of academics already doing this work. This would be about helping link students with these.

18:10:21 From Durham SU : SUMMATION

18:10:32 From Durham SU : Academic support is bad and inconsistent. It would be good if it wasn't.

18:10:37 From Durham SU : VOTE via poll.

18:12:35 From Durham SU : MOTION HAS PASSED

18:12:39 From STUDENT : If anyone has questions on the motion or on disability more generally email me at swd.a@durham.ac.uk

18:13:14 From STUDENT : Thanks for chairing so well Jonny!

18:13:29 From Sam Johnson-Audini : ^^agree!!!

18:13:36 From Durham SU : And if you want to get involved in the democracy review email dsu.governance@durham.ac.uk. Email that address also if you would like your data removed from the recording of Assembly.

18:14:02 From Durham SU : Thank you to everyone for helping this run smoothly!

18:14:26 From Durham SU : Hope everyone is safe and well :)