

# minutes

## Student Officer Committee 17 Oct 17

### Committee Members Present:

India Alderson Edwards (Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer), Mohaned Alhasan (International Officer – Non-EU Place), Amy Atkinson (Womens Officer), Lucy Auger (Non Portfolio Officer), Jemma Bailey (Non Portfolio Officer), Chris Ball (Non Portfolio Officer), Madeleine Colledge (Postgraduate Education Officer), Emily Cutler (Students with Disabilities Officer), Liam Deary (LGBT+ Officer Trans and Non-Binary Place), Mae Kabore (LGBT+ Officer Open Place), Camille Koosyial (Activities and Opportunities Officer), Mary Leishman (Undergraduate Education Officer), Lewis Martin (Mature Students Officer), Finn Northrop (Non Portfolio Officer), Rhys Purtill (Environment Officer), Jack Robinson (Campaigns and Democracy Officer), Katharina Wodenitscharow (International Officer - EU Place)

### In attendance:

Jim Dickinson (Chief of Staff)

### Apologies Received From:

Amanie Mathurin (Ethnic Minorities Officer) (arrived after meeting began), Rob Klim (Ethical Issues Officer) (arrived after meeting began)

### Chair:

Chris Ball

### Staff support:

Josh Clare (Head of Campaigns and Policy)

### 01 Election of the Chair

The Chair was elected by secret ballot:

RON - 1

Cam - 4

Chris – 11

Chris successfully elected Chair.

### 02 Presentation from COS

The impact of the Student Leadership Review on SOC

### 03 Election of Deputy Chair

The Deputy Chair was elected by secret ballot:

RON – 1

Mae – 15

Mae was successfully elected Deputy Chair

### 04 Budgets

JR explains that there were spends over summer which Management Committee approved on behalf of SOC. The remaining SOC budget allocation will be split money as is.

FN asked if SOC wants to devolve the power to subcommittees and JR confirmed that yes, that was the intention.

EC put forward a funding request for invisible disability (£350) EC outlined the project. 22nd November to 15th December – approved.

AM - funding for BHM will come to next SOC/via email.

## **05 Priority Campaign Discussion**

JR presented a paper detailing the proposal for priority campaigns.

### **Housing, Accommodation and Student Life:**

KW suggested that a guarantor for international students is a huge issue. IAE reported that over summer the university have agreed in principal to this action. Not public because of finalising. MK asked if it was possible to include live new policy into your priority campaigns. JR clarified that SOC could do this or organise campaigns later.

MC suggested SOC including reviewing letting agents included in the HomeRun?

JR suggested there should be a lead FTO for each campaign.

Broad agreement on this campaign.

### **Access to Education:**

MC suggested that funding demand should be wider than maintenance grant as allows room for more students to be affected such as PGTs.

ML suggested that Talis (reading list software) is slow to be adopted by some school and could analysing this could be confrontational

JR noted that recorded lectures and employability should be part of the Priority Campaigns.

MC suggest that the time "Funding for all not debt for all" should be adopted.

ML suggested some items out of this could come out employability can be looked at in education committee and JR agreed that the campaign could be too wide.

It was agreed that some items would be removed to subcommittees and that the campaign would focus on those things which are difficult to secure and out of the reach of other groups such as Education Subcommittee.

A reworked proposal would come to the next SOC.

### **Mental Health and Invisible Disability:**

CB noted that the suggested HEPI ratio should be included.

MC suggested that SOC should take a stance on PWP or Councillors. MC explained the situation of different providers. MC also suggested that a number of hours of provision comes from students, would like a steer from SOC on the view of who should provide.

FN suggested that the university are so far away from this and are criminally below the HEPI ratio. We shouldn't be offering ways out.

ML noted that the proposal we would want to clarify that budget comes centrally from UEA not from SSS budgets.

A reworked proposal would come to the next SOC.

## **06 Policy Development**

A presentation from the Chief of Staff on the policy making process

I was noted that the following makes "good" policy:

- Well written - easy to understand
- Consultation with students has happened
- Something that makes actual change
- Has clear aims
- Clear mandate and accountability
- SMART
- Don't reinvent the wheel

Evidence based  
Researched  
Know who you're lobbying

### **07 Management Committee Update:**

JR updated SOC on the activity of Management Committee over the last period.  
The key items discussed were:

- The AMA Data breach - still waiting on report
- Building 60 to be built on chancellor's drive
- Karaoke room
- Blue bar - social learning space
- Student minds and Peer support - block grant of funding to each
- GMB
- More strategic role of Management Committee

### **08 Update from Subcommittees**

#### ***Ethical + Environmental:***

JR updated:

- Working out ToRs
- Established relationship with University

#### ***Education:***

ML updated:

- Met with School and Faculty conveners met today
- Subcommittee will be meeting soon
- Rep elections weren't as great as possible

#### ***Welfare:***

IAE updated:

- Didn't meet yet

#### ***Liberation, Equality and Diversity:***

EC hasn't been invited.

FN would be keen to understand who sits on each committee, mandate and voter stats, health check.

### **09 Officer Go Around:**

CB asked each officer to update with 3 items.

MC:

- Freshers events for PGs - good attendance
- Closed masters dissertation survey - 128 responses
- PhD employment rights - started national campaign to join UCU for free. Still employment rights are awful

JR:

- GMB launch event - trade union for student staff
- Health science students - college of paramedics letter
- Change One Thing project

ML:

- Training of academic advisors
- Recorded lectures project - need to make sure this is done the right way
- Implementing changes to course rep system

IAE:

- ISOC and Prayer space
- Bus Users Forum - ACTION to send out form
- Changing the culture - looking at neverOK, sexual violence, hate crime, sexual harassment

CK:

- Do something different - partnership with UEA, events each day.
- UEA Access scheme - awareness around disability, mental health and outlet for student MH. Access event at SP in the coming weeks
- BUCs Take a Stand - CK has applied to be on BUCs Inclusion Board.

- AA:
- Womens ref passed - first meeting tomorrow
  - Changing the Culture
- Amanie:
- BAME liberation society set up - this has been difficult but being set up
  - Monday night project
  - BHM - fun, educational, intersectional
  - Aligning work of Ethnic minorities officer with NUS Black students
- EC:
- Changes to DSA and on campus accommodation short fall funding.
  - Disability history month
  - Hearing Loops and DSA cuts
- KW:
- Mo and I worked together
  - What is the SU for INT students
  - Centralise service - run our own blog
  - Keeping students updated on brexit
  - More updates by next SOC
- RP:
- Signed up to NUS student eats - grow food on campus
  - Sustainability collective - reviving the group
  - Plastic straws - requesting not as standard
  - Vegan food - each Thursday in the Hive
- MK:
- Restructure of LGBT group
  - Working with pride to clear up different roles
  - Looking at attendance at events
- RK:
- Roast the host on Livewire - holding officers to account.
  - MC suggested the media protocol should be referred to.
  - Meat free Mondays proposal
  - Sanctuary campus - perm places for alyssum seekers and refugee involvement getting involved in university life.
- CB:
- Club nights - chilled out space. Trial taking place with Unio being open. Take a breather
  - Student rep on hiring panel for CTC appointment

## **10 Freshers Review**

Move to next week.

## **11 Part-time Officer Support**

JR conscious of levels of support people want and need and things like mentors and work plans will be introduced.

## **12 Time, Date and Place of next meeting**

A discussion took place on the suitability of the next date and it was agreed that a poll would take place so that members could suggest alternative, better dates with the top two choices being alternated.