

Report of the business of the Board of Trustees for the Annual General Meeting 2 May 2018

The Board of Trustees meets four times each academic year with three additional sub-committees meeting at least twice per year to support the work of the Board. At time of writing, since the last Annual General Meeting on 4 April 2017, the Board met on 7 June 2017; 23 August 2017; 29 November 2017 and 19 February 2018.

The Board of Trustees is made up of five elected Officer Trustees, up to four appointed Student Trustees and up to six appointed External Trustees.

The Trustees discussed a range of issues including:

Finance

The management accounts year to date and cash flow forecast were scrutinised by Trustees at each meeting.

Budgets for 2017-18 were approved

The Trustees approved the audited accounts 2016-17, which will be received at this Annual General Meeting. These will shortly be available on our website.

ARU London

The Board approved plans to deliver a two-year funded project at ARU London. The aim of the project is to establish students' union functions and services at the ARU London campus.

Governance

Building on the previous year's democracy review, the Board approved plans for consultation on changes to the Articles and Bye-Laws of the Union.

The Board Sub-Committees are continuing to develop in their role and function and have been a useful mechanism for managing the work of the Board this year.

Following the changes made, the Board is undertaking a Board Effectiveness Review facilitated by external, independent expert. This is to provide support for the continual development of the Board.

Strategy

The Board received an interim report on progress against the strategy that outlined some successes and ongoing challenges. The Board noted some significant changes to the external environment for the union and decided to continue with the current delivery plan with a review again in a year.

Operational Updates

The Board received regular operational updates from the Chief Executive Officer including:

- General Data Protection Regulations
- Staffing
- SU Space

Officer reports

The Board received an update report on the progress of the Officer team's priority campaign "Let's Be Honest"

Student Trustees

Recruitment and induction for student trustees has taken place. There are still vacant positions and so another recruitment round is currently ongoing.

On behalf of the Trustees

Jamie Smith
President
April 2018