



Minutes of the sixth Executive Committee

4 May 2016, 2:00 – 5:00 pm in Hel201, Cambridge and Tin301, Chelmsford

Item No		Action
53	<p>Attendance</p> <p>Grace Anderson (GA) Academic Officer/Chair Hannah Chan (HC) LGBT+ Students' Rep (Chelmsford) Thea Maragkakis (TM) Environmental & Community Rep (Chelmsford) Sophie May (SM) Communications Officer Gregory Powell (GP) Societies Rep (Cambridge) Leigh Rooney (LR) Experience Officer (Essex)/Vice Chair Stewart Watson (SWa) Sports Club Rep (Cambridge)</p> <p><i>In attendance</i></p> <p>Matthew Ensor (ME) Chief Executive Officer Emma Howes (EH) Representation Coordinator (Chelmsford) <i>(Item 58)</i> Daniel Login (DL) Democracy and Representation Manager/Secretary to the Executive Committee Alyssa Millbrook (AM) Acting Office Coordinator (Cambridge) Guy Stepney (GS) Head of Student Engagement & Communication <i>(Item 56)</i></p> <p>53.2 Apologies</p> <p>Farah Abualsuod Postgraduate Rep (Cambridge) Carinna Aldworth FHSCE Faculty Rep (Chelmsford) Shakil Ameerudden Communications Rep (Chelmsford) Selina Burdett FST Faculty Rep (Cambridge) Jessica Bush Sports Club Rep (Chelmsford) Lauren Fidler Environmental & Community Rep (Cambridge) Alice Goodheart Disabled Students' Rep (Chelmsford) Sarah Haider Experience Officer (Cambridgeshire) Shona Hoey ALSS Faculty Rep (Cambridge) Emma Houghton Welfare Campaigns Rep (Chelmsford) Nanci Tareco International Rep (Cambridge) Sammi Whitaker President</p>	

	<p>53.3 Absent</p> <p>Jonathan Adebisi FST Postgraduate Research Rep Samuel Akpoke FST Faculty Rep (Chelmsford) Jessica Austin ALSS Postgraduate Research Rep Ben Coombes ALSS Faculty Rep (Chelmsford) Rabbi Deloso Postgraduate Rep (Chelmsford) Sekemi Eshofonie Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Students' Rep (Cambridge)</p> <p>Oluwafemi George FMS Postgraduate Research Rep Nicola Gillin FHSCE Postgraduate Research Rep Charlotte Hurden Communications Rep (Cambridge) Enombu John LAIBS Faculty Rep (Chelmsford) Victoria Martin Welfare Campaigns Rep (Cambridge) Samer Mashlah LAIBS Postgraduate Research Rep Nathaniel Miles FMS Faculty Rep (Cambridge) Shrenik Munot Societies Rep (Chelmsford) Precious Nwanze International Rep (Chelmsford) Uche Nwosu Black & Minority Ethnic (BME) Students' Rep (Chelmsford)</p> <p>Selina Okeke FMS Faculty Rep (Chelmsford) Dominic Ominowo FST Postgraduate Research Rep Niles Pedersen Disabled Students' Rep (Cambridge) Olivia Rees FHSCE Faculty Rep (Cambridge) Michelle Rogers Women's Rep (Chelmsford) Millie Smith Women's Rep (Cambridge) Grace Stanley LAIBS Faculty Rep (Cambridge) Rich Warner FMS Postgraduate Research Rep Shaun Yates ALSS Postgraduate Research Rep</p> <p>53.4 Declaration of Interest None</p>	
54	<p>Acceptance of Previous Minutes</p> <p>51.1 Accuracy Minutes were approved as read</p> <p>51.2 Matters arising None</p>	
55	<p>Executive Officer Reports</p> <p>55.1 President- SM gave an overview of SW's report, highlighting the accomplishment of Green Week and Green Mondays. The Solidarity Pledge is still under consultation regarding what students and university staff would like to have included. The floor was opened to questions and none were asked.</p> <p>55.2 Academic Officer- GA informed the committee that she and LR, DL, and GS will be visiting Staffordshire and Salford as part of the Democracy Review, as both of these universities use an officer model similar to the one proposed in the Democracy</p>	

	<p>Review. She has recently been focussing on MAD speeches and booklets. She is also addressing the issue that students are not allowed to use the university allotment and is looking into the possibility of a volunteer project.</p> <p>GP asked how long Salford and Staffordshire had been using their officer models. DL was not sure of the exact time frames, but answered that it has been around 3-4 years, and thus several election cycles.</p> <p>No other questions were asked.</p> <p>55.3 Communications Officer- SM reported that SUTV is underway and the first video is now online. It is a video with the Enterprise Society; at the time of the meeting, it had 128 views. The first comedy sketch was filmed on 20th April and the next one should be filming soon.</p> <p>SM also informed the committee that she, DP, and Jane Murray in Student Services met to discuss the medical centre on the Cambridge campus, and the issue is ongoing.</p> <p>55.4 Experience Officer (Essex) - LR reported about the SU Awards that took place on 29 April. She is currently preparing for the Space, Sustainability, and Campus Management meeting, where she will take all of the recommendations for catering. She is also arranging a meeting with Active Anglia around trans* participation in sport.</p> <p>LR congratulated GP on his SU Award.</p> <p>55.5 Experience Officer (Cambridgeshire)- LR reported that Creative Minds had launched and that many more profiles were being submitted than had been anticipated.</p> <p>Finding space for a dance studio/other activities is still a top priority and off-campus options are continuing to be sourced.</p> <p>SH's workload is being covered by other officers and staff in her absence.</p>	
56	<p>Strategic Plan- GS discussed the research conducted by Redbrick in October/November, which was the basis for the report that was produced in December which identified student priorities that form the new Strategic Plan to replace the plan expiring this summer.</p> <p>The priorities identified are: representation, welfare, employability, academic success, and community building. These priorities are addressed in the five goals that make up the plan.</p> <p>The floor was opened for discussion about the goals. There was some debate around</p>	

	<p>the use of the word 'resilience' in Goal 2, and the wording will continue to be looked at. GA proposed that a bullet point be added to Goal 4 to specifically mention Liberation Campaigns.</p> <p>GS and ME expressed confidence in the quality of the research.</p> <p>StW inquired about the nature of the confidentiality of the plan and asked when it would be public. GS informed the committee that it would be implemented over the summer, so around one month.</p>	
57	<p>Update on Implementation of Policy</p> <p>57.1 Atos/Maximus- This was led by SW. There is no update as research is still ongoing as to whether they are recruiting on campus.</p> <p>SM to wrap the policy and write a statement.</p> <p>57.2 Trans* Inclusion in Sport Strategy- GA has written up a strategy with StW. It needs editing and is in progress. StW is also researching into some biological aspects of the issue to include.</p> <p>57.3 Up Your Grants- Complete</p> <p>57.4 Where My Rent Went- SM will chase up the international side of the policy. GA is working on having the university act as guarantor for students who need it.</p> <p>57.5 Gender Neutral Toilets- GA has written a paper for Campus Operations and will send it to LR for Space, Sustainability, and Campus Management</p> <p>57.6 Save Our Space- This is ongoing</p> <p>57.7 We Want the Living Wage- GA reported that the Employment Bureau is paying the living wage and will research into whether this is being implemented throughout the whole university.</p> <p>57.8 More- This was just passed at the most recent student council. GA an SB will take the lead on this policy.</p>	<p>SM</p> <p>SM</p> <p>GA/LR</p> <p>GA</p> <p>GA/SB</p>
58	<p>National Conference 2016</p> <p>58.1 Overview- GA informed the committee that she, SW, and SB attended the National Conference, which is essentially a large student council for NUS.</p> <p>58.2 Policies- EH detailed some of the key features from the 'passed' motions from the conference that are relevant to our officers and staff:</p> <p>-Motion 201 'Divorce Our Courses from Market Forces': this motion urges NUS to campaign against the marketisation of HE and the trend of treating students as consumers.</p>	

-Motion 205 'Liberate My Degree': this motion aims to support better representation of BME groups in academia

-Motion 310 'Making NUS Communications Work for All': this motion requests that NUS communications be reported back to National Conference 2017, rather than only select motions being announced via Twitter.

-Motion 401 'NUS for the NHS': this motion is a result of government actions regarding bursaries for nursing students and the junior doctors' strike. It is particularly relevant to the university as there are vast numbers of students on health professions courses. NUS is helping to put together toolkits on this issue which could be helpful in campaigning.

-Motion 403 'Grants Not Debts': this motion resolves to campaign to reverse the cuts to maintenance grants, which aligns with the SU's own campaign priorities.

-Motion 404 'Anti-Semitism on Campus': this motion was reported widely in the press, so it is useful to have a working knowledge of the context. It was proposed to extend Holocaust remembrance to other genocides, which received some backlash. The motion passed to officially commemorate Holocaust Memorial Day and to increase efforts to widen the scope of addressing anti-Semitism on campus.

-Motion 405 'Prioritise Students' Mental Health- Now!'- this motion will replace existing NUS mental health policy and is particularly worth noting as this subject matter appears on a number of candidate manifestos.

-Motion 406 'Preventing Prevent': this motion calls for education and support on issues around the Prevent agenda. Prevent training is not currently compulsory for SUs, but our officers have all completed it.

-Motion 410 'Graduation, The Final Hidden Cost': this motion aims to research the costs of graduation and work to reduce them. Many ARU students have raised this issue and it is worth investigating.

-Motion 502 'Divest Invest': this motion supports the idea that institutions should invest in socially responsible companies and calls for NUS to review its own investments. This motion directly relates to a policy proposed by SW in the last Student Council.

-Motion 504 'Refugees Welcome in Universities and Colleges': this motion is important to be aware of as it aims to address students seeking discretionary Leave to Remain who are charged international student fees.

-Motion 605 'A Full-Time Paid NUS Trans Officer and an Autonomous NUS Trans Liberation Officer': this motion is in line with a similar decision made by ARU

	<p>students.</p> <p>The floor was opened for discussion. SM raised the need for unconscious bias training to reduce risk within Prevent. SM also raised the issue that the backlash against including other genocides, such as the Rwandan genocide, with the Holocaust is contradictory to the concept of 'liberating my degree'</p> <p>DL clarified that the SU does not need to affiliate with any NUS policy, just that NUS can offer resources for campaigns that do align with the SU's priorities.</p> <p>GA offered to do a write-up summarising the conference.</p>	GA
59	<p>Ideas- This new procedure is intended to increase transparency in the union and has been submitted for the committee to note.</p> <p>DL informed the committee that a few new ideas have been submitted. A popular one relates to NHS funded students receiving Books+ funding. This has had 30 votes in 6 days and needs to be responded to soon. GA will contact Julie and formulate a response.</p> <p>HC submitted an idea to widen the gender options on university questionnaires. It was suggested there be a text box option on SU questionnaires where applicable, which SM will address with the new HR member of staff. HC, SM, and GA will take the lead on chasing it up within the university.</p> <p>Ideas relating to sports will be taken up by LR and StW</p> <p>LR will add ideas relating to the packing options with the salad bar to the catering list to take to the university.</p>	GA HC/SM/ GA LR/StW LR
60	<p>Campaign Rep Reports</p> <p>60.1 Environmental & Community Rep (Chelmsford)- Committee is asked to note this report</p> <p>60.2 LGBT+ Students Rep (Chelmsford) – Trans* Awareness posters have been created and just need printing and laminated. GA will chase up the Cambridge posters. HC also indicated her interest in hosting an ARU Pride event next year, to which the committee offered their support</p> <p>60.3 Sports Club Rep (Cambridge)- StW discussed the Trans* Inclusion policy drafted with GA. He is in contact with other universities and the hockey team, which has close ties to the Cambridge University team, and has arranged a meeting with CUSU as part of his research. The feedback for the Challenge Cup has been mainly positive. Teams who were excluded should direct their queries to Martin Beaver. LR expressed intention to be heavily involved last year.</p> <p>60.4 Welfare Campaigns Rep (Chelmsford) - DL reported that a link has been set up</p>	GA

	<p>with the Carer's Trust. Emma has been re-elected so her work will continue in the next academic year.</p> <p>60.5 Societies Rep (Cambridge)- GP did not have any update</p>	
61	<p>Any Other Business- DL informed the committee about the Residential in June. The last meeting will be on the 9th June and there will be a farewell lunch afterward.</p> <p>Good luck on assignments!</p>	
	<p>Date and Time of next meeting: Thursday 9th June, 10:00am-1:00pm</p>	