



MINUTES

STUDENT EXECUTIVE COUNCIL Thursday 12th March 2020 17:00 – 19:00 CD/001

CEC welcomed everyone and introduced the current and officers elect

Apologies from Eve

Coronavirus – CEO

CEO gave an update on the University and Union's response to coronavirus. Reassured that Uni is ready for any eventuality, continuity planning for last 6 weeks. Academic provisions for electronic learning is available per programme. Assessment and Dissertation periods and mitigating circumstances judged on case by case basis, but well protected. Students effected should report as usual. Critical services have been identified and set up. A Uni com will be issued today saying business as usual. Any changes based on national advice will be circulated. International students: Working on case by case basis as other countries will have different advice/rules. Arrangements for repatriation for both UK study abroad and international students are underway depending on recommendations. Confident that YSJ is very prepared. Referred to advice about isolation.

SVC noted that any academic mitigating circumstances based on this come to SVC or SOM.

PWD – AOB – Women's Officer

A student has submitted a motion which will be raised at the end and at the next Council for voting.

Discussion: Jamie – as PTO financial risk low. Work with senior women at the Uni

PED – support. Could be some blowback about not having a Men's Officer. Jamie – No need for a Men's Officer

Ella – Agree in principle. Could risk pushing men’s issues aside if no Men’s Officer.

LGBT – If Men’s Officer raised, would be taken seriously.

Holly – Could end up with further PTO requests. May need to consider restructuring PTOs.

DIS – Would fit in and overcome some gender barriers between PTOs.

INT – Another supportive role, so beneficial.

BAME – Will lead to need for more PTOs.

PWD – Some SUs pick portfolios, possible.

SVC – Most SUs will have PTOs or Liberation Coordinators based on certain groups. Some things like care-leavers don’t fit into those groups. Difference between liberation groups and marginalized groups.

INT-e – Don’t want to end up excluding other groups by bringing it in.

DIS-e – Specific issues within other liberation groups for women and men. Gender officer?

LGBT-e – Should be covered by Liberation Officers anyway.

PED – Advantage would be this would come under the liberation category. Several SUs have Women’s Sabbs. Could try.

PMP – Issues such as men’s mental health should come under PWD regardless of gender. Women’s Officer issues would be pertinent to gender.

LGBT – Looking at gender officer would be good.

Ella – Agree with LGBT. Lot of things could be tacked by PWD anyway.

PWD – Agree some comes under role. Because small Union, such a big remit that having a women’s officer will benefit.

Minutes of previous meeting

Fine

Updates

EC01 – Raised with Uni

EC02 – Student experience zone. Tendering process for catering underway. Responses forthcoming.

EC03 – Maintenance line for report.

EC04 – Not going to be possible *per se*. More silent working space downstairs.

EC05 – Met with Sue Waller. Discussed how we educate people about the dangers of drug use.

EC06 – Policy exists, and any issues get referred to PCC

EC07 – Academic liaison librarians already working on this. Meeting soon.

EC08 – Same as above

EC09 – Combined with EC08.

NUS Delegate

FTO: Jenny nominated

PTO: Jamie; Rana; Kalen; James nominated

Jenny and Kalen elected

Parents and Carers

What I want to see

I would like to put forward an issue that has come to my knowledge around childcare. Having become a mother recently I have found that there is no support for student parents around the array of childcare. It would be great if this could be put forward to the council so that maybe the University could do an arrangement with certain nurseries or creches so that parents of children could be looked after whilst parents are studying.

Why do I want to see this change?

To my knowledge I know that people have tried to deal with childcare issues but however, this still meant that the parents had to attend - thus, defeating the purpose of getting the child looked after.

I have found this is important to highlight because there are a lot of parent students that wish to study but childcare may be a huge issue; I am also aware that it is extremely expensive! So, please could the council take every aspect of this matter into account. Personally, if someone like myself was to have got pregnant and their family to be miles away this subject of childcare would be extremely hard for the parent. If say, they were single but had already applied for further studies or studying and signed up for student accommodation this therefore means that the parent wouldn't be able to detach themselves from these contracted elements very easily.

This issue should be assigned to the president of well being and the president of education because they seem to overlap.

It is important to know that many of us are needing to be supported around childcare and so many would be benefited if this was to be arranged, whether it be a creche or nursery or any other options to help parents out. We are all open to options if any others are put forward to us from the presidents.

Presented by student who submitted it.

PWD – Support. University early concept of on-site creche. This would encourage it.

PED – Support. More backing if Council mandates it.

LAL – Support. Child of single parent so sees the need and necessity. Should be more done in WP uni

PGM – Some focus being on older children rather than very young children. Events run during half-term.

PWD – Sit on SFAG. Issues to do with student parents. Increased cases of late.

Rana – Support. Anecdotal evidence of necessity from course.

PMP – Support. YSJ is community, so should support everyone.

Student – Originally invited to bring child, but then disinvited. How can carry on? Need support.

DIS – On-site creche – Given new building, should be space.

INT – Volunteering? People would want to get involved.

LAL – Could be beneficial for students who looking for placements/studies etc.

VOTE: 11 FOR 0 AGAINST 1 ABSTAIN

ANTISEMITISM

What I want to see

I would like the Students' Union to follow in the footsteps of the University and adopt the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA) Definition of Antisemitism and help build a more inclusive and safe environment

Why do I want to see this change?

A large amount of anti-Jewish incidents occurring on campus in the last couple of years. It is time to follow suit with other HE institutions and ally themselves with the Jewish community and provide equitable representation for all students.

PrM A - Carried

VOTE: 10 FOR 0 AGAINST 3 ABSTAIN

PAPERLESS CAMPAIGNING

What I want to see

If possible, I would like to push forward paperless alternatives for promotion in order to garner student votes, thus considering promotional emails and video materials as such alternatives.

Why do I want to see this change?

In the current method of campaigning, the superfluous waste of paper directly contradicts the university's ethos of eco consciousness.

PMP – Weather did not help, made campus look bad. Concern is that posters were only means of campaign for some people because of physical presence. Not same access to social media resources. Should be a reduction

LGBT – Videos not circulated beforehand. How can guarantee that coms and videos would go out?

SOM – Some blame on the SU on videos. Initially not having because students were graded on them. SU was not going to use them due to poor quality. No rescheduling. Never given to the SU by the videographers.

DIS – Posters: Don't fully get rid of them because people not online. Videos: Need better service if doing a paperless reduction. Have raw footage?

PWD – Don't go completely paperless. Dedicated space across campus? Equalises opportunities. Use of SU Videographer so videos could be done in house.

SOM – Old videos which SU did are still online. Switch was originally for students to get graded on.

PED – Good idea. Reduce costs and environmental impact. Equalises everyone to zero opportunity. SU need to reevaluate how it all works.

Rana – Rules to be abided by. Adopting a rule about number of posters?

PMP – Filmed a previous video as a first-year student. Two-day turn around was not possible. Look at other students in other years. Rules for number of posters not necessarily enforceable and need posters to not have to rely online/no equipment. Would need very good provision for videos in order to manage.

LAL – Why can posters not be displayed indoors?

SOM – University have set the rules. Could use designated poster spaces and screens on campus.

PWD proposed PrM E – Fail (7 For (need 9)

DIS – proposed PrM B – Pass (9 For)

Go to Elections Committee and Activities Zone

VOTE: 12 FOR 0 AGAINST 1 ABSTENTION

SIGNPOSTING

What I want to see

I want to see the future President of Wellbeing and Diversity and the Students' Union continue the work of 19/20 in lobbying to better signposting provisions at the University, and communications between the SID desk, other University departments such as SAU, SID (finance, wellbeing, accommodation, careers etc) and the SU Information Point.

I want the President of Wellbeing and Diversity 20/21 and the Students' Union to continue the work of 19/20 to set up a signposting working group with relevant SU/YSJU staff to improve communications of 'who does what' at YSJ.

Why do I want to see this change?

I want to see this change because of negative student experiences with regards to provisions for support. Students often get passed from one place to another with no coherent and clear answer and I would like this to change.

PWD – A lot of research and processes already started.

LAL – Yes, and externally

Rana – Last council meeting someone said shame that some work isn't carried over by new officers. So agree.

DIS-e – PWD-e in support

PWD – Context: Some resistance from the Uni but will be easier with backing.

PrM A – Passed

VOTE: 13 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN