

Minutes of the meeting
Student Senate
Tuesday 26th January 2016
SK037, 4pm-6pm

Present: Aidan Laycock (LOS), Nathaniel Abakah-Phillips (NAP), Lucinda Izzard, Gabby Wilson (GW), Jayne Spence (JS), Izzy Tooke (IT), Grace Mason (GM), Lucy Titley (LT), George Coombs (GC), Mel Perkins (MP), Caitlin Smithson (CS), Danielle Ward (DW), Sophie Walker (SW), Vicky Weekes (VW), Caitlin McDougall (CM), Katie White (KW), Angus Williams (AW), Fran Rhodes (FR), Sven Kluever (SK), Nicola Camp (NC), Jack Clifton (JC)

In attendance: Paul Murtough (Minutes), Louise Aiken (Membership Engagement Manager, LA), Chris Bateman (CEO,CB), Matt Allton (Social Media),

Apologies: Ellen Gambles (HLS representative), Lucinda Izzard (Vice President Welfare and Diversity), Vickky Firth (Sports and Societies Committee), Vicky Weekes (Education and Theology),

Absence without apologies: Faye Atherley (Student Champion), Rachael McGivern (Student Champion)

Maximum number of voters: 16

1. Apologies

As stated above

2. Declaration of Interest

AW, LT, LOS, CMc

3. Membership

As apologies were noted it was decided there was no need to review the membership.

4. Senate Motions

S48: Every Second Counts

GW introduced the motion which states that in future elections, all candidates for sabbatical positions be given an extension on any approaching assignments.

For: GW stated that it would relieve a lot of pressure that already is contained in elections week.

Against: KW students on placement would have difficulty with the extension period, how can this be made up?

GW responded stating that all placements are offered a re-sit period and the opportunity would take place during this time frame.

EEK! Presented

SW asked that if a student did not wish to take the extension/re-sit could they?

GW responded stating they could it would only be an option.

EEK! Presented

DW asked if candidates are made aware of the pressure of the week prior to the nomination period.

GW stated they are, but there is always seen to be an imbalance in priorities.

GW summated the motion and senate proceeded to the vote.

Vote for the motion:

For:	Against:	Abstain:
14	2	0

Motion Passed

Action: GW

5. Previous Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were passed by ascent,

6. Matters arising

LOS called for the Sabbatical Officers to report on their matters from the previous meeting

S46: Slating the slate

NAP stated that this would be in place and considered in the constitution reviews which will take during the summer.

S47: Vice Presidents to Officers

NAP stated this would be an integral starting point for the summer review of the constitution in which titles will be changed to 'President' for each current 'Vice President'

7. Scheduled Business

7.1 to receive accounts of the Officer reports

LOS introduced each officer to deliver their reports.

President:

NAP delivered a verbal report and asked for any questions.

VP Education:

GW delivered a verbal report and received two questions.

NAP – How will your new job effect your remaining jobs?

GW responded by stating that a contingency plan had been handed to the CB and LA explaining who can lead on each area.

SK asked in regards to elected candidates, how will handover occur.

GW stated that she will look to do the handover on the weeked 27/28 February.

VP Welfare and Diversity:

LOS reiterated the apologies of LI for not being in attendance and no questions were presented.

Faculty Chair – Arts

JS was nor present at this point and one question was asked.

SK asked what the concern tracker was, as mentioned in the report.

PM responded that the tracker was included at the end of an e-mail to all representatives and would be sent around again.

Faculty Chair – Business School

GM delivered a verbal report and received one question

GW could you clarify who 'GI' is.

GM stated that 'GI' stood for 'Graduate Intern'

Faculty Chair – Education and Theology

IT delivered a verbal report and received no questions

Faculty Chair – Health and Life Sciences

LT introduced herself as the new Chair for HLS and gave her report,

IT asked about the 'HLS Showcase'

LT stated that this would be similar to 'CREATE' however, currently the uptake from courses is mixed. This will be a discussion point at the Faculty Forum

Action: LT

7.2 Elections

PM updated Senate on the upcoming elections 22-26 February.

PM also introduced the NUS Delegate (Officer) post. NAP stated his intent to stand and presented a speech.

It was also stated that LI intended to stand, and therefore out of fairness to all candidates, the election would go online from the week beginning 01/02

7.3 S19: Support the Living Wage

As the policy is due for lapse, Senate were asked to review the motion and discuss. AW, LT, CMC, LOS all declared interest and left the room.

Maximum number of voters: 12

NAP led the discussion as the Deputy Leader, changes were highlighted that should be made to the assisting documentation.

As opposed to the standard 'For' and 'Against' NAP opened the motion for a general discussion.

GW asked for clarification as to whether students (if they continued to receive the national living wage) would continue to receive the same benefits alongside.

NAP stated that if the National Living Wage was kept, benefits would be limited.

CB stated that Snetae is being looked to, to steer the conversation.

IT stated that the proposed £25K is a large sum of money – could it not be spent in other places?

NAP stated that this is an operational discussion to be had.

CB informed Senate of the University's request for YSJSU to cut dependency by 15% for 2016/17

IT stated that as a former employee of YSJSU the staff were fully understanding that this was an above standard wage.

GC stated that the proposed £7.50 is a very good wage to receive as a student.

IT the potential for more staff hours would balance the wage decrease.

FR interjected that her only other income, alongside student finance pays £8.20ph which assists in bills as the student loan does not cover the whole amount for living costs. The added funds makes a large difference in a given month.

GW asked, what would happen in the future as the living wage continues to grow? The policy asked that we support it, which we do, but is it realistic to keep up with the national level?

SW also stated in agreement that £7.50 is a good wage and reaches beyond what some companies will pay their staff, even at a supervisor level.

NAP summated the discussion and moved to the vote.

Vote for Policy Lapse:

For: Against: Abstain:

9 1 2

Policy Lapsed

LT, LOS, CMc returned to the room, AW left the meeting.

Maximum number of voters: 15

8. Items for discussion

8.1 HEAR

GW asked Senate as to what should be recognised?

MP asked what as meant by the question?

GW stated that alongside your degree, you will receive a transcript of activities which will equate to credits/points. These won't have an implication on your degree outcome.

LT asked if a CPD could be used?

GW asked if the CPD was an external qualification

LT answered Yes.

IT asked if Faculty Chairs would be recognised?

GW said yes, but this would come at a later date.

GW also stated that students must complete a certain number of hours for the activities to be verified.

DW stated that at PG level, a CMI is already given, they wouldn't want a duplication.

GW stated that it would be optional.

SW could anything be accredited? For example, students in English Language and Linguistics with a CELTA qualification spend time during the week volunteering to teach English to international speakers.

LOS asked if senators would be.

GW stated yes, Sheffield University have the largest list of HEAR activities

MP asked how a log would be kept?

GW stated it is an electronic list, and all registered activities are then sent to HEAR for verification.

8.2 YSJSU – New build

NAP opened discussion about the new building, stating that feedback from Annual Members Meeting was very minimal. What would you like to see?

FR stated water fountains

LT. A food outlet or shop

NAP stated there will be a café but no shop facility. Some merchandise will be sold by reception.

CS vending machines.

DW stated that there should be enough seating for people as there is currently no common room for MA students to use.

GM asked about a provision of a microwave.

LOS stated that one was already on campus in the Arts Foyer,

GM stated not all have access.

FR asked if the library sell pens/pencils with the removal of the shop/

IT responded stating they do.

FR asked if a loop system for hearing impaired students would be installed?

GC asked what a loop system was.

FR explained, stating it is a system which modifies frequencies in hearing aids to enable students to hear what is happening in the room.

MP stated it feels quite intimidating to go upstairs.

GW replied, stating that the possibility of Sabbaticals downstairs is being looked in to.

IT a student printer, similar to those in the library.

GM asked for the possibility of a hot desk for Faculty Chairs to work from.

NAP stated that a breakout room could be used for Faculty Chairs.

LOS asked if there would be bookable space?

CB stated that there is group space, not sure on the bookable situation.

8.3 Toilets.

GW stated that a lot of work is currently around the design of the toilets, which would feature a male, female and gender neutral option. But how should the design on doors look?

DW stated the word 'toilet' should just be used.

GW stated that the problem is there must be dedicated facilities.

JS joined the meeting.

Maximum number of voters: 16

GC stated that wordings should just be used for a more comfortable approach.

FR asked if there could be brail for blind students?

8.4 Bar name

NAP asked what should it be?

LOS asked to attach this to the delegate election?

IT asked why it needs a name? The SU is always referred to as the SU.

CS asked if Archies would continue?

NAP stated it would.

IT asked if there would be a wall for Officers?

NAP stated there would be, or at least a plaque.

GM just put up Honorary Life members.

LOS stated the conversation had veered off topic and should return to the bar.

GM stated that a vote should be put forward and reveal at Archies in March.

GW stated it should be taken further than senate.

LOS it will be decided through vote.

LOS returned to JS report and explained that the only question, surrounding the concern tracker had been answered.

8.5 External Speakers

PM updated Senate that the current process for External Speakers was now to work with the university under their policy which will now include the prevent legislation.

9. Any other Business

GW stated that her last day in office will be the 26/02/2016 and all is in hand.

SV asked how this would affect handover for election.

GW stated the process will be made clear in the 'So you want to be sabbatical'

FR who would students speak to regarding academic issues?

GW stated an automatic reply will highlight contacts.

9.1 Remaining Senate meetings

PM stated that due to the NUS conference release of motions, a meeting would need to be place early March, making five meetings – it was proposed that the May meeting be removed and brought back to April.

This was agreed to happen.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 8th March 4pm – NW005