



Student Executive Council

Committee:	Executive Council
Date:	Thursday 14 th February 2019
Report Title:	Paper EC/1819/02/03 – Business Statement
Presenter:	Dan Grayson – Chair of Executive Council
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1. Issue

The Chair is to provide the Council with a Business Statement concerning any changes to items of business scheduled; to set a precedent for future such Business Statements; and for connected purposes.

2. Recommendation

The Council is asked to review and note the Business Statement.

3. Report

Report attached.

BUSINESS STATEMENT**Honorary Life Members**

The Schedule of Business mandates that Honorary Life Members be discussed at the penultimate and final meetings of the Council in each academic year. As at least one further extraordinary meeting has been scheduled, this item is differed.

Motions for Change

The Chair received 27 proposed Motions for Change before the 9 a.m. deadline on 28 January. The Chair consulted with the Deputy Chair on 28 January on the tabling of a certain number of those proposed Motions for the Council's 14 February meeting. They were selected based on the Council's current priorities; the limits on discussion and debate; its remit; and the differentiation of propositions from already existing Motions or policies.

Whilst certain proposed Motions have not been selected to be put before the Council at its 14 February meeting, it is both possible and probable that they can be laid before the Council at a later meeting.

The Chair recognises that certain postponed or differed proposed Motions may have a high-importance impact. The Chair wishes to reassure colleagues that these proposals will be considered at a future meeting and will not be kicked into the long grass.

	PROPOSED MOTION	STATUS	COMMENT
a	More activities and societies that don't involve going out and drinking afterwards/events at the student union pub. Many students do not drink or commute and drive and feel excluded from drinking events	Not selected	Sports and Societies are already bound to this by Students' Union guidelines.
b	More ways for students who aren't in a sport or society to get involved with the SU	Not selected	The Students' Union already offers regular weekly and special events.
c	More events for students of Pagan or minor religious groups within the University. As a Pagan myself, I find myself in a minority group that doesn't receive the same care and attention as other, larger religious groups within the University. It not only can feel disheartening, but also excludes the possibility to find and connect with like-minded people.	Postponed	This proposal is postponed pending further consultation on feasibility.
d	Revision of Student unions Equal Opportunities Policies. Students and Our People (More depth scope of Equality & Diversity and the inclusion of all students) Refer to the http://www.legislation.gov.uk Equality Act. Prohibited Conduct: Racial Discrimination, Harassment, Victimization. I want to see this change because York St. John Student union is a campaigning and representative	Tabled	NA

	organisation that needs to support and represent its diverse membership.		
e	More diverse representations of BAME students and their culture in our media and marketing of SU content and around the university. I want to see this change because displaying diversity and inclusion are powerful tools in promoting pluralism. This can help to build an understanding of those whose lives are different to ours. It helps those typically marginalised in society to share personal stories that only they can tell. This then creates new and interesting content that is not exposed by typical university approaches. This can also contribute to sustainability and bridging the BAME attainment gap.	Tabled	NA
f	Diversifying content in the Library Learning Center on BAME literature, resources and materials. Regarding diversity and equality within the university and changing demographics; recognize that diverse points of view and ways of thinking enrich the educational experience, and the use of higher education to further social justice and socioeconomic equality. This content should be available to all of our students because it is important to embrace with in the library of an inclusive and diverse institution.	Tabled	NA
g	Diversifying in the Curriculum. I want to see this change because embedding liberation, equality, and diversity in the curriculum means ensuring that all students have access to the same learning materials, content and resources to have equal chances of success. It will enable issues of liberation, equality, and diversity to be integrated into the curriculum as much as possible and that the learning environment is inclusive to all.	Tabled	NA
h	Finding housing for second year has been one of the most stressful parts of university over the past few months. Having to quickly decide who you want to live with, organising viewings with reliable companies, asking the right questions, eventually putting down deposits, signing documents etc, can be extremely overwhelming for students and cause unnecessary	Postponed	This is a current priority and manifesto commitment of the President of Wellbeing and Diversity. The proposal is differed pending the election of new Officers.

	<p>stress. If the university or SU could properly talk through the searching for housing process this would help immensely and reassure first years that they do not need to panic sign into a house as there are options available and it will work out. We have the housing fair in the SU but earlier on in the term perhaps a lecture style event should be given advising on the process etc.</p>		
i	<p>Improved street lighting on routes to halls from uni. Certain routes back to uni halls from uni itself are very dark at night. Eg, the Foss Bank area is extremely dark near the Sainsbury's car park, a concern for people living at Brickworks, Central and Percy's. There should be enough lighting around here that you can feel comfortable walking home in the dark from uni - at present, it does not feel very safe or well lit.</p>	Postponed	<p>This is a current priority of the President of Education and the President of Wellbeing and Diversity.</p> <p>The proposal is differed pending the election of new Officers.</p>
j	<p>All students to be provided with the safezone app/ or equivalent. It is a great way of helping students, especially those who are disabled or vulnerable to remain safe both on and off the campus.</p>	Not selected	<p>This can be achieved through communication and does not require a resolution of Council.</p>
k	<p>With Pollution becoming a bigger and bigger issue, I think it is important that the SU and the Uni work to reduce the amount of recyclable waste; putting an additional charge on coffee cups is not enough to encourage people to use reusable cups.</p> <p>Food and drink outlets should go over to using biodegradable packaging. e.g. vegware compostable takeaway coffee cups and other plastic free recyclable alternatives for sandwiches or hot food being taken out of the canteen/costa/Starbucks</p>	Postpone	<p>This is covered by S66 – <i>Go Green YSJ</i>. It is a current priority and manifesto commitment of the President of the Students' Union.</p> <p>The proposal is differed pending the election of new Officers.</p>
l	<p>Throughout the 3 years at YSJ timetabling has caused issues for all OT students by changing dates and times of lectures and not notifying students, or have over/under scheduled students for lectures and seminars. We have also been told we would not have more than 2 hours between lectures on the same day and have often had over 4 hours. There</p>	Postponed	<p>This is a current priority and manifesto commitment of the President of Education.</p> <p>The proposal is differed pending the election of new Officers.</p>

	needs to be better organisation of timetabling and better communication of changes. Timetabling should not be able to change times of lectures without 48 hours' notice as mature and commuting students often need to make arrangements for travel, children and part time work		
m	A lot of my fellow course mates, have found it difficult to go and sit in one small office and be productive getting feedback, sitting elsewhere will benefit the student in terms of productivity of feedback and acting on it. There needs to be a more comfortable setting / atmosphere around students being able to go and talk to lecturers and meet them in other places rather than just an office	Postponed	Due to the Council's priorities, this proposal is differed.
n	Feedback to be given BEFORE the next submission deadline. Being in our final year my class feel it's ludicrous that feedback from our first assignment came after our next submission date. Our degree classification rests on this year's results so it's imperative to get the best results we can. We have all agreed we could have improved our work if we had known the feedback beforehand.	Postponed	This proposal is postponed pending further consultation on feasibility.
o	Another student on my course put this forward but they suggested a mentoring scheme for mental health, I think like a buddy system? It gives everyone someone to talk to, even if they're too nervous to go to the wellbeing team themselves. Encourages people to talk about how they feel rather than bottle it up	Postponed	This is a current priority and manifesto commitment of the President of Wellbeing and Diversity. The proposal is differed pending the election of new Officers.
p	I expressed concerns about a flat mate and their well-being but was not sure that anything had been done. If expressing concerns about someone else to be kept updated, just so you know something is being done. Also the flat mate expressed that there was little appointments so they could not get help when needed so there needs to be more well-being appointments	Postponed	This proposal is postponed pending further consultation on feasibility.
q	More awareness about drug use and the dangers/consequences of this. I think it is a much bigger issue than is spoken about and there is a lot of pressure to use drugs without enough	Tabled	NA

	<p>said about the consequences. I know far too many people that suffer with their mental health as a result of drug use, multiple of which have ended in suicide or suicide attempts. I think it needs to be advertised that there are people you can speak to at uni if you are struggling with drug use as with it being an illegal activity I think people are scared to talk about it and therefore suffer in silence</p>		
r	<p>All lecturers should be sent the LSPs of students in their lectures. If you have mental health issues or SpLDs you don't want to have to make a fuss or it to be known by other students. If lecturers know in advance, then they could adapt slides/lectures/rooms etc. in advance for students with additional needs</p>	<p>Tabled</p>	
s	<p>Wellbeing staff visibility. Students with autism or anxiety find it hard to go to a wellbeing drop in or first appointment and not know who they are seeing. So, a poster on the door that leads to the wellbeing rooms with all the wellbeing staff pictures, names, and jobs would be really helpful</p>	<p>Postponed</p>	<p>Due to the Council's priorities, this proposal is differed.</p>
t	<p>More subject specific areas and subject specific libraries like the law library. It would make books easier to find and mean there was designated areas for students to be able to study when the library is over run or if there was a need to do group work or practice presentations</p>	<p>Postponed</p>	<p>Due to the Council's priorities, this proposal is differed.</p>
u	<p>Specific bookable rooms/study study spaces for students with intellectual disabilities (student services) with accessibility in term and out of term.</p> <p>I want to see this change because as a student with ADHD I have found it overwhelming frustrating and difficult to study in the library on any floor. As I have tried to work around these challenges with student disabilities support, there is still no solid solution. I find the best times to get my work done is out of hours and late nights; usually weekends when I can. Also because I have an LSP and am often</p>	<p>Postponed</p>	<p>Due to the Council's priorities, this proposal is differed.</p>

	<p>given extra time to complete my work, these deadlines often fall outside of term time when 1/2 floor of the library shut, leaving only a silent but loud distractive space on the ground to get work done. For these reasons having a designated space available specifically for students who have these challenges would help a great deal with getting assignments complete.</p>		
v	<p>A quiet library. The Library is often treated like a social space with people shouting etc rather than as a place to study. ILS staff should be able to quick people out if they are being too loud and disruptive and stopping people working. No matter how you work best, shouting is not conducive to any learning environment</p>	Not selected	<p>This is covered by ECO4 – <i>Silence in the Library.</i></p>
w	<p>Free printing offered to students for compulsory printing. These prints are compulsory for our course so should be provided.</p>	Postponed	<p>This is a current priority and manifesto commitment of the President of Education.</p> <p>The proposal is differed pending the election of new Officers.</p>
x	<p>I would like to see printing costs re-evaluated, to be made either cheaper or free for third year students. As a Media Production student, I do a lot of print evaluative work which I prefer to do on paper rather than noting on a screen, and the same applies for proof reading dissertation and other essay work. The cost of printing to do so seems a little excessive for third year students. It got to the point that in my third-year semester 1 Magazine module, we were queuing up for our lecturer to print off our written work for free so we could sub-edit each other's work; something that was vital to the module however we were not prepared to pay for the excessive printing ourselves.</p>	Not selected	<p>This is a duplicate of proposal (w).</p>
y	<p>I would like to see funding for printing credit for Graphic design to be put in place. Other courses seem to have help with printing costs, but not graphic design.</p> <p>A lot of my peers struggled to afford the printing costs with amounts getting up to £70. Some reported that they struggled to afford food that week due to having to pay large amounts for</p>	Not selected	<p>This is a duplicate of proposal (w).</p>

	printing. Other courses such as interior design have a printing budget in place to help with this, and I feel this would be very beneficial on the graphic design course as we have to print a lot for our portfolios.		
z	Study space in the SU. It would make studying easier.	Not selected	The proposal has been previously rejected by the SU due to lack of feasibility.
aa	A study space that is specifically intended for students taking an MA. There is a feeling among postgraduate students, including those who I represent, that the university's resources are overwhelming centred around undergraduates, and students taking a PhD course have a study space that is only accessible to them, where they can meet for academic and social reasons.	Postponed	Due to the Council's priorities, this proposal is deferred.

Summary:

Proposed Motions for Change **(d), (e), (f), (g), (q),** and **(r)** have been selected to be tabled at the Council's 14 February meeting.

Proposed Motions for Change **(c), (h), (i), (k), (l), (m), (n), (o), (p), (s), (t), (u), (w),** and **(aa)** will be considered later.

Proposed Motions for Change **(a), (b), (j), (v), (x), (y),** and **(z)** are not selected to be tabled.

Should colleagues wish to object to rejected proposed Motions, they may do so by privately approaching the Chair.



Dan Grayson
Chair, Executive Council