

## **AGENDA**

### **Student Senate 4pm Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2018 TW106**

1. Welcome and Introduction (LoS)
2. Minutes of the previous meeting/Matters arising
  - S66: Go green YSJU

#### **Section A: Items for Decision**

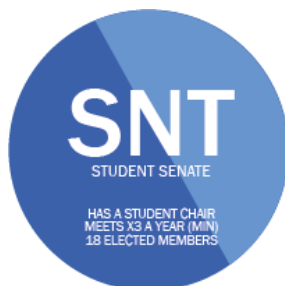
3. Ideas for change:
  - S67: Postgraduates: A fair freshers
  - S68: Toilet neutrality
4. Honorary Life Membership vote

#### **Section B: Items to note**

5. Exec team reports
6. Lapsed policies

#### **Section C: Any other business**

#### **Section D: Open discussion**



## **Student Senate** **Monday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 4pm** **CD001**

### **Present**

#### **Chair**

Vikki Uden – Leader of Senate (LoS)

#### **Students' Union Officers**

Steph Foxton – President of Education (PE), George Coombs – SU President (PRES)

#### **Chairs of School**

Stella Woolnough – Chair of School: Art, Design and Computer Science, Georgina Lunn – Chair of School: Education, Alex Terry – Chair of School: Language and Linguistics, Sophie Howell – Chair of School: York Business School

#### **Senators**

Shannon Clay: LGBTQ+ Officer, Tene Dowling: BAME Officer,

### **Apologies**

Sarah Jackson: Societies Officer, Celeste Marques: International Officer, Tene Dowling: BAME Officer, Emma Sayce: Disabilities Officer, Zoe Buckton – Chair of School: Humanities, Religion and Philosophy, Ebony Collier – Chair of School: Psychological and Social Sciences, Annie Severn – President of Wellbeing and Diversity (PWD), Anna-Louise Leyden: Postgraduate Officer, Joe Lynch – Chair of School: Health Sciences, Holly Sloan – Chair of School: Performance and Media Production

### **Welcome & Introductions**

LoS welcomed all in attendance to the meeting and presented all in attendance with the opportunity for introduction

### **Items for Any Other Business**

None were taken

### **Declaration of Interest**

None submitted

## Agenda Items

- 1. Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising**
  - S48: Every Second Counts
  - S49: Removal of a Programme Rep
- 2. Ideas for change: S66 & S67**
- 3. Officer team reports**
- 4. Lapsed policies**
- 5. Any other business**
  - University Chancellor
  - Liberation Senators
  - University updates
  - Annual Student Awards
  - Learner Analytics
  - Digital Literacy (added in the meeting)
  - Mature/disabled students (added in the meeting)

### 1. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the meeting (May 2017) were passed by the members with some minor alterations which had been highlighted by staff.

The Presidents each updated on the matters arising from the 2016-17 academic year.

#### 1.1 Matters Arising

##### **S62 – Lecture room temperatures**

PE updated that conversations had happened with estates and that, as a matter of urgency thermometers would be placed in a number of pilot spaces – namely Fountains (Library), Music Block (MB) and Quad South Hall (QS030) and these would be placed by PE once obtained from the estates department

PRES asked if there was such thing as a ‘too high’ cut off

PE stated there is, it is the duty of the academic/university staff to acknowledge the temperature and determine the continuation of the session.

##### **S63 – Roving laptop chargers**

PRES updated members that this has been researched into but not yet purchased due to budgeting for the next year currently taking place. Conversations have taken place with members of staff from ILS and it is about searching for the most cost effective outcome.

##### **S64 – Sexual protection for all**

On behalf of PWD, PRES stated that the inclusive options are now available in the SU.

LGBTQ+ Officer stated that there had been conversation with PWD regarding the demand as the stock is removed quite frequently and they are not cheap products. It may be that a new approach needs to be taken i.e. placing them behind the information point. OR removed on a daily basis.

## 2. Ideas for change

### S66: Go green YSJSU

PRES introduced the motion stating that due to student confusion on the systems for rubbish disposal on campus, there would be extra identification so that students are aware of the dedication to sustainability from both the union and university.

PE stated that the waste on campus, regardless of how it is disposed of, is sent to a sorting company after collection who will then allocate to the right disposal unit.

PE also stated that the term 'green' could hold multiple interpretations – additionally that of a literal green space on campus, due to the implementation of the new creative arts centre a large segment of green (social) space would be lost and the campus would look rather industrial.

LAL, EDU and ADC both presented ideas for spaces which could be better utilised such as behind Cordukes, the SU garden etc.

PE requested that, to add clarity to the motion and to incorporate the additional interpretation of green, Procedural motion E be actioned and that the motion should be re-written as this point in the meeting.

LoS called for the vote from the members



**Procedural Motion passed**

LoS called for a vote from the members for the amended change

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**Change passed**

## **S67: Postgraduates: A fair freshers**

PRES introduced the change which requests a specific Freshers fair for PG students.

BAME Officer requested that Procedural Motion E be submitted so that the change was amended to include mature students at a UG level too.

PE felt that the motion needed further clarification and that PG Officer should be present for the discussion. This was a sentiment shared by all.

PRES requested Procedural Motion B to be put forward and that the change be deferred to the next Senate in April.

LoS called for a vote on this



**Procedural Motion passed**

The change will be referred to the meeting on 16/4/2018

## **3. Officer reports**

PRES delivered a verbal report in which he discussed:

- Community projects and volunteering opportunities
- Committee support for Sports and Societies
- Accreditation for Sports and Societies

- Summer Archies to become a summer festival
- Facility issues for Sports and Societies
- Governing body: Finance & Capital Development
  - **Action to bring papers to SNT**

PE delivered a verbal report in which she discussed:

- Know Your Rep campaign
- Process for early rep elections
- The Student Engagement Partnership (TSEP) conference
- Equality Elephant in the room (work with PWD)
- Study booklet (pre/during/after exams)
- Misconduct – self-plagiarism
- Appeals panel processes
- Right HEAR Right Now campaign

ADC delivered a verbal report in which she discussed:

- Met with HoS and organised catch up for new CoS
- ADC society engagement levels are up
- Issues with design suite have been highlighted and resolved

BUS delivered a verbal report in which she discussed:

- Working on specific PG campaign with Brendan
- Business School end of year event
- NSS for all 3<sup>rd</sup> year students
- Assisting in Open days for Business School
- Discussions surrounding dissertation issues
- Interviews being held for a new DHoS

LAL delivered a verbal report in which he discussed:

- Improvement to Gateway House
- Continuing development of the Languages Society
- Wellbeing Reps with PWD and LG as next year's CoS
- Focus Groups on the programme re-validation

EDU delivered a verbal report in which she discussed:

- Increased rep engagement in the current semester
- Investigations into student concerns
- Spoken about the role to students who are considering for future elections

## **EDU left the meeting at this point (16:50)**

LGBTQ+ Officer delivered a verbal report in which he discussed:

- Lack of support and evidence of such in the Students' Union
- Work has been done on the contraception with PWD
- Upcoming Drag Race event
- Neutral toilets
- Trans awareness week after Easter
- Pronoun badges

BAME Officer delivered a verbal report in which she discussed:

- Looking to the future and what can be done better for BAME students
- Attending a number of upcoming conferences in London and Sheffield Hallam
- Look at engagement of BAME students within the SU in partnership with the Presidents and staff

#### 4. Lapsed policies

LoS handed to the Presidents to discuss current lapsed policies

S48 – Every Second Counts

PE discussed that this policy was originally passed with the intention of granting extensions to those running for a sabbatical post in the elections. However, since the inception of this motion the scope was rejected by the Academic Board, and deadlines have now changed so that the impact is not as heavy at that time of year.

LoS called for a vote on the lapse



**Policy lapsed**

S49 – Removal of a Programme Rep

PE discussed that this policy was originally passed with a remit of granting students the ability to remove a rep, under specific circumstances of offence – in line with the Zero tolerance policy. However, the policy was never finalised and therefore a call was placed to the members to keep this policy so that PE can work on it and release it for the 2018/19 academic year.

LoS called for a vote on the lapse

**ADC left the meeting at this point (17:20)**



## Policy upheld

### 5. Any other business

#### A. University Chancellor

PRES welcomed discussion from the members on the new Chancellor, explaining their responsibilities and the process.

A number of suggestions were made and a call was put to staff to create a survey for the members to complete with final suggestions.

#### B. Liberation Senators – Part-time Officers

PRES introduced the conversation by providing feedback that the level of work done by the officers deems this to be a viable option.

LGBTQ+ Officer backs the ideology of this, however, how will it work in the coming year.

PE elaborated that the Students' Union would elect, as normal, in October but then bring the election to February too

PRES stated that this year would be a risk to run two elections. It has however been done before and does not incur any detriments

#### C. University updates.

PRES provided an overview of updates from YSJU with regard to:

- Creative Arts centre
- Ongoing mini projects
- Governing body – specifically Finance and Capital Development.

#### D. Annual Student Awards

PE updated on the event and welcomed thoughts

Members stated that the awards should be categorised

LGBTQ+ asked if the awards were purely academic related

PE stated that it wasn't necessarily the focus. PE invited members to the student panel which was set to meet on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> March.

#### E. Learner Analytics

PE discussed her involvement in the university led project and also iterated that there is currently no evidence to support the investment. A vital flaw is the inability to accurately track students on placement.



LGBTQ+ felt that this limitation could have a potential resolution by contacting the specific placement location.

PRES stated that it is at the request of the governors that this is in place in an attempt to develop a digital presence for retention.

### F. Digital literacy (staff)

PE brought to the attention of the members, some research currently being developed into the minimum expectations of Moodle – a project which hasn't been reviewed since 2015. PE handed out the expectation outlines to the members.

It was iterated by all that and instigated by LAL that development and support should be a vital, essential item for Moodle.

BAME Officer also stated that feedback should be standardised within Moodle as it can be vague at times.

PE stated work will be done into this. It was agreed that PE would bring the feedback policy to the next meeting.

### Action: PE to deliver university feedback policy

### G. Mature/disabled students

BAME Officer brought a request to discuss the provisions of learning space for mature students with learning difficulties such as ADHD

PE suggested that this be put forward in the form of a motion/change for the next meeting.

### Date of Next Meeting

April 16<sup>th</sup> 2018

### Summary of changes

Change reference	Page reference	Scope of change	Mandated to	Passed or failed to
<b>S66</b>	3	Go green YSJSU!	PRES	PASSED
<b>S67</b>	4	Postgraduates: A fair freshers	PRES	PCM B ENACTED



# YSJSU | MEETING MINUTES

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**Officer Reports**

4

To deliver the report from  
F&CD

PRES

N/A

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**Lapsed policy**

6

Removal of a Programme  
Rep updates

PE

UPHELD

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**Learner analytics**

8

to deliver university  
feedback policy

PE

N/A



### **What should we change?**

To create specific freshers fayre events for post graduate students during the initial weeks of starting university.

Having spoken to students it was suggested to me that some of them didn't feel it was appropriate to attend freshers event's or they were not invited to these events, with one student telling me that they didn't even know where the local supermarkets were because they were new to York. They also feel that they have not had the opportunity to meet other post grads outside there courses. It has also been clear that engaging with post graduates can be challenging.

### **How should we change it?**

Having fresher's events that are specific to Postgraduate students would mean that we would be engaging them from the start of their time at York St John, hopefully meaning that we could keep them engaged throughout the rest of the year. It would also mean that they would have the opportunity to meet other postgraduates. This in the long run could improve there overall student enjoyment whilst at the university.

### **Who should lead the change?**

President of the Students' Union



## **S68 TOILET NEUTRALITY**

### **What should we change?**

A change to all SU based toilets, from gender specific to gender neutral.

### **How should we change it?**

This would be beneficial to all students, especially those who identify as trans/non-binary. For those who identify as trans or non-binary, generally there are only one or two options for neutral toilets within the Students' Union. Those being the neutral and disabled toilets. Therefore when it is busy etc. it provides them with even less options as both toilets are usually taken. Having neutral toilets would eliminate the congestion problem or the occasional need for some trans people to go into toilets they do not identify with as all toilets can be accessed by everyone.

It also seems unnecessary to gender toilets that are simply toilets and are no different whichever gender is indicated on the front. Making all toilets neutral would not only benefit trans/non-binary people but also all students, as someone who (since coming out and identifying as male) has used both male and female toilets in the Students' Union I have noticed the amount of general congestion because of the small amount of male toilets, on a busy night the area can become extremely congested purely because their identified gendered toilets are occupied, but as said previously this seems unnecessary when all toilets are essentially the same.

### **Who should lead the change?**

President of the Students' Union & President of Wellbeing and Diversity