

Guild Officer Group Minutes

Present: Ellie Keiller (President), Natalie Cox (Activities & Development Officer), Chris Wilkinson (Education Officer), Izzie Nicholds (Housing and Community Officer), Brandon Hattiloney (Representation and Resources Officer), Georgie Freeman (Sports Officer), Ross Strong (Welfare Officer), Fran Nash (LGBTQ Officer), Alex Binnie (Womens' Officer), Nicky Woods (Ethical and Environmental Officer), Max Seitler (Satellite Sites Officer)

In attendance: Lewis Lay (Representation Coordinator) [Note Taker], Antonia Rossiter-Eaglesfield (Student Voice Manager)

Apologies: Rose Bennett (Postgraduate Students' Officer)

The Chair welcomed everyone and the meeting commenced at 17:30

No	ITEM FOR DISCUSSION	MATTERS DISCUSSED	ACTION
1	Welcome	EK welcomed everyone to the meeting.	Noted
2	Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising	<p>Minutes of the Last Meeting</p> <p>The minutes from the previous meeting were accurate and approved.</p> <p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Liberation Officer Accountability: BH outlined the work already being done on this and that not all associations have responded. BH asked if the group wanted BH to look to hold these this year or start talking to new association committees to get these organised for the next academic year. RS highlighted the need for a clear structure and how this could work with the relationship between officers and associations.</p> <p>Election Accessibility: BH updated the group that this is being worked on with the election review. ARE explained that a lot of feedback has been received about the election but not necessarily about accessibility. There also comes a point where the review moves on to look at next steps to be taken forward meaning feedback is needed soon.</p> <p>Gender Neutral Toilets: RS was unsure that a list needed to be created. RS and CW highlighted the issue with having difference leads in different colleges due to how each college operates. CW explained that these typically go to the Head of College who then direct it to the relevant staff member in the department. RS informed</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>RS and BH to discuss outside of meeting. BH to contact new association committees</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Update to be given at next meeting</p>

		the group that EPS has a good E&D committee. RS advises that students request in each of their departments ideally through the head of school or an E&D committee if they know one exists. ARE added that Guild Facilities is looking at a University policy on Gender Neutral Toilets and that new buildings should have a gender neutral toilet.	
3	Officer Verbal Updates	EK updated the group that nominations committee took place and mentioned who sat on this committee. EK decided to not to do Officer Verbal Updates with Officer Question Time (OQT) coming up and all Full-Time officers have their OQT video updates that can be looked at outside of the meeting.	Noted Noted
4	“Your Ideas” and Mandate Updates	EK pointed out that all updates are now online for any student to view. This includes a mandate tracker.	Noted
5	Officer Question Time	The next meeting of Officer Question Time (OQT) is taking place on Thursday 4 th May 2017 in Amos. EK mentioned that there will be a big push over the next couple of days. ARE pointed out that the Officer Accountability pages are now live on the Guild website allowing for a censure and reprimand process to happen. RS asked how this would work and if 3 censures still trigger a vote of no confidence. ARE explained how this process will work and that Officers can only be removed by either: Trustee Board, Vote of No Confidence triggered by a petition or through 3 censures. ARE highlighted that the webpage outlines why a student can submit a censure and that this should only be in relation to officers political conduct with other processes in place for other concerns.	Noted Noted
6	NUS News/Updates (Zones Conferences)	EK gave an update on what happened at NUS National Conference. EK told the group who were elected into the NUS Full-Time positions. EK explained that one of the NUS Delegates informed up the day before conference that they were unable to attend. Fortunately one of the candidates that just missed out on the position were at the conference supporting an NUS Candidate. BH as duty returning officer agreed that this student could take the now vacant NUS Delegate place meaning that we have a full delegation. EK gave an update on how delegates voted. GF asked why we record how delegate vote and this was explained. EK mentioned that our Mental Health Motion and Free Periods Motion passed. The Postgrad Officer Motion was not discussed and could not be deferred to NUS NEC as it needs to be decided through an AGM. EK is currently finishing the official report	Noted Noted Noted Noted
7	Student Equality and Diversity	RS explained that the last planned meeting did not take place and therefore there is no update.	Noted

	Committee Report	RS informed the group of the number of remaining meetings.	Noted
8	SGX Review Information	<p>NC explained to the group that SBX has been under review. ARE gave the group some background into SGX and why a review is taking place. ARE explained that the committee was separated from Guild Council and since then has been in a state of limbo with engagement getting poorer each year. NC outlined that the committee mainly recognises and derecognises Student Groups and funding decisions and the review is looking to split out these responsibilities.</p> <p>NC explained how the recognition process could now work. The group would talk to a staff member and get recommendations to complete the relevant form. This would go to the ADO who will take it to FTOG for decision with a separate appeals process. NC asked the group for their views. EK outlined a concern with the appeals process as Officers may have been involved with the original decision. NC pointed out that there is currently no appeals process so this is being added in. RS liked that this would solve the issue that groups could not be set up over the summer. CW asked if these groups would need to present to FTOG like it is currently done in SGX as this helped employability skills and outlining what is expected. NC explained that this already occurs when they communicate with staff and complete the form, the new process will have the ADO present their recommendations for FTOG with the ADO giving a synopsis.</p> <p>The Group approved this for process for recognising and derecognising groups.</p> <p>NC explained how group finances would work. Currently these sit under SGX but this would change to a Student Groups Finance Advisory Committee to meet once per term with a representative from each mini forum. The group would decide each terms spending with other officers present and create recommendations. Any rolling grant applications will be decided by the Student Groups Manager and the ADO. The ADO would then report recommendations to the finance committee for approval. RS explained how this may not work in finance committee that see top line and may not be appropriate for approval. EK and CW asked how this would work with representatives agreeing recommendations. NW highlighted how diverse a mini forum is and how these representatives may not be able to represent all groups. ARE outlined how the review group got to this recommendation along with other ideas suggested on how this could work. NW asked if the Jury service idea could work with committee members. BH explained how SGX and funding currently works. EK pointed out that GOG would not be able happy to approve this funding proposal and if the review group could look at this again.</p> <p>RS liked that the funding decisions would be coming from students and ARE explained that this will still need to be rubber stamps for finances. GF explained how this works in UBSport. FN asked if a mixture of elected representatives and Jury service could work. BH asked what the concerns were with the current process. NC</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>GOG approved</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>GOG did not Approve</p> <p>Noted</p>

		explained that it does work well and they do not want to remove the flexibility of a rolling grant. EK asked if it is clear what this budget is used for. ARE pointed out that a name change and clarity of the committee may encourage engagement and also pointed out how we could run elections for these and looking more general than mini forum specific.	
9	FTOG Updates	-	
10	AOB	<p>RS asked if liberation officers in the room could look at their relevant sections of the Guild Zero Tolerance policy and raise this with their respective committee for feedback.</p> <p>CW explained that the University is going for the Race Equality Charter. The University has started work on this and can take up to 18 months. CW explained what the Race Equality Charter is. CW explained that as part of this process there will be an institute wide survey. Focus groups are currently being planned to outline what the survey should ask. CW would like the group to encourage any BME students to take part in these focus groups by emailing studentreps@guild.bham.ac.uk.</p> <p>NW updated the group on plans for this term. NW is planning to show films on food waste and a clothing swap shop. If anyone is interested they need to let NW know. BH mentioned the Guild has information on food waste.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted BH to pass information to NW</p>

The Chair closed the meeting at 18:30
Date of Next Meeting: 25.05.2017