

Full-Time Officer Group (FTOG)

Hybrid - Mandela Room/ Teams

Present

Cat Hardiman, Sports Officer (SO) (Chair)
Dean Turner, Welfare & Community Officer (WCO)
Harry Brooks, Activities & Employability Officer (AEO)
Tianjie (Alice) Liu, International Officer (IO)
Benjamin Lockley, Postgraduate Officer (PGO)
Joseph Hill, Education Officer (EO)
Amira Campbell, Guild President (President) (Chair) (left at 12:25)
Joseph Hill, Education Officer (EO)
Amira Campbell, Guild President (President)

Also in Attendance

Jo Thomas, Chief Executive (JT) (arrived at 12:20) Sam Jones, Executive Assistant (SJ) (Note taker)

Apologies

The Chair welcomed everyone and the meeting started at 12:05.

No	Item for Discussion	Notes	Action
1	Minutes of the Previous meeting (26.02.24)	The Chair presented the minutes of the previous meeting, dated the 26 th February 2024, for the Officer Team's approval. The Officer team approved the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.	Noted Approved
2	Honorary Degrees Committee - 12.05.24	The President noted that they had been invited to the University's next Honorary Degrees Committee meeting in May, where possible recipients of honorary degrees from UoB would be discussed. The Officers agreed to share potential names with the President.	All
3	Vice-Chancellor's 1:1	The President noted an upcoming 1:1 with the Vice-Chancellor. The Officer Team discussed the following potential agenda items: • MDS College Restructure • Drugs & Alcohol Harm Reduction. • International Tuition Fee rises. The Officer Team agreed to share additional items with the President.	Noted
4	Mayoral Elections	The President updated the Officer Team on progress with the joint SU West Midlands Mayoral Election Hustings being hosted at BCU SU. The President noted that joint communications to promote the event had now gone live, and a student manifesto was being developed through student workshops.	Noted

5	English Collection of Prostitutes Sex Work Policy	The President updated the Officer Team on a student proposal for a new policy addressing student sex work. The President noted a NUS survey which had found that 1 in 5 students had engaged in sex work due to cost-of-living pressures. The President noted that student sex workers often faced other social stigmatisation such as eviction from rented accommodation. The Officer Team discussed the issue of student sex work. The PGO note the importance of respecting student's decisions to engage in sex work. The IO and WCO noted the importance of the Guild engaging in a harm reduction approach to sex work, and reducing the social stigmatisation of student sex workers. The President and WCO agreed to meet with the student proposers.	Noted President/ WCO
6	Hairdressers	JT joined the meeting at 12:20.	Noted
	Progress	The Officer Team discussed progress on the Black Hairdressers project. The President noted that they were now not expecting a new hairdressing business on campus to open during the current academic year.	Noted
7	Activists Conference with EEO	The President updated the Officer Team on plans to hold an Activist Conference event in May 2024, delivered together with the Ethical & Environmental Officer.	Noted
8	Officer Diaries	The President left the meeting at 12:25. The SO took over chairing the meeting.	
		The Officer Team discussed their key meetings for the week ahead: IO – Farewell party planning for Exchange Students, Candidate question time event, IST Team meeting, EDI Taskforce Meeting, Careers Network Internal Audit meeting.	Noted
		WCO – Community Breakfast Special Edition w/ Graduation & Funding Team, Time to Talk Student Workshop, Recruitment for Community Breakfast assistant.	Noted
		AEO – Redbrick Proofing Week, A/L, Health & Safety Committee, LGBTQ+ Officer 1:1 meeting,	Noted
		PGO – PG Research Committee, Meeting with Shadow University's Minister, Campus Masterplan/University Life meeting.	Noted
		EO – Scrutiny Panel, AI in Education meeting, Shadow University's Minister Meeting.	Noted
		SO – Midlands Cup sports event hosting, Filming for Elections promotion, Scrutiny Panel.	Noted
		President – University Council 1:1 meeting, Trustee Board, Candidate's Questions time, International Women's Day planning, RGSU meeting, A/L.	Noted

9	Officer Projects	The IO noted plans to host another Language Café event at the Guild of Students on the 18 th March.	Noted
		The PGO noted a planned PG & International Spring Party in Joe's Bar on the 21 st March.	Noted
		The AEO updated the Officer Team on the recent final Alumni Impact Fund meeting, where the group had allocated over £14k to student groups projects.	Noted
		The WCO updated the Officer team on the expansion of the Community Pantry & Breakfast project with a new staff position, which was being recruited this week.	Noted
10	Schools/Colleges/ Dubai Update	The EO updated the Officer Team on their input into the planned MDS institutes restructured, which was being simplified and reduced in scale. The PGO noted their concern that the much of the outputs from the most recent Vice-Chancellor's Integrated Review for MDS may be lost during the restructure. The Officer Team discussed the importance of the new structure being simple for students to navigate.	Noted
11	Part-Time Officers	No Items Noted.	Noted
12	AOB	The IO noted a recent case in the School of Psychology where year abroad opportunities had been allocated by lottery, rather than based on grades, as it operated in other University departments. The Officer Team discussed the value of recognising student's achievement during their 1 st year.	Noted
		The IO noted a recent change to immigration and student visa requirements in Canada which had added additional costs for universities in the that country to secure a visa, meaning that some UoB student's allocated years abroad in Canada may now not be able to take up their place.	Noted
		The EO noted recent feedback from a Student Rep System Advisory Board meeting, where senior University staff had appeared pessimistic on the expected turnout at UoB Xtra. The AEO noted that at a recent steering group meeting for UoB Xtra, discussions had agreed to focus on the first two weeks of the planned three-week period. The Officer Team discussed communications to students on UoB Xtra and events to encourage students to stay on campus into June.	Noted

The meeting finished at 13:00