

Full-Time Officer Group (FTOG)

12:00 - 13:30, Mandela Room

Present

Josephine Conway, Activities and Employability Officer (AEO) (Chair) Mikey Brown, President (President)
George Christian, Sports Officer (SO)
Jules Singh, Education Officer (EO)
Wei-Lun Chen, International Officer (IO) (Agenda Items 1-6 only)

Also in Attendance

Jo Thomas, CEO (JT)

Lucy Gill, Student Voice and Representation Manager (**LG**) (for agenda items 1-4 only) Thomas Snape, Campaigns and Policy Coordinator (**TS**) (for agenda items 1-4 only) Elliott Packham, HR Coordinator (**EP**)

Apologies

Aaliyah Simms, Welfare & Community Officer (WCO) Danielle Murinas, Postgraduate Officer (PGO)

No	ITEM FOR DISCUSSION	Notes	ACTION
1	Minutes from 27.09.2021	The minutes from 27.09.2021 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.	Approved
2	Strike Action	LG noted that if Officers judge that this will be a different dispute, then the Guild would default to the Beliefs and Commitments position.	Noted
		 LG noted that the Officers had three broad options: Follow the existing Guild Policy or Beliefs and Commitments. Call a referendum of students to gage opinion on whether the student body support the strike action. Don't follow existing policy and risk being held accountable for this. The President noted that the Guild's existing policy was approved through the democratic processes at the time. The President further noted that if Officers decide to oppose the strike action, then a referendum of the student body would be needed to justify this, given the gravity of the change from existing policy, and that option 3 was in their opinion, not appropriate. 	Noted

		The AEO noted their concerns about the disruption caused to students by the strikes. The EO noted that the University are also very concerned about this. The President noted that reaching quoracy for the ballot might be challenging for the local UCU branch, considering the timing of the strike action given the disruption to students caused by the pandemic.	Noted Noted
		JT noted that the NUS were in support of any strike action.	Noted
		The President noted that they viewed the current dispute as a different dispute to the previous strikes as a new ballot has been called, meaning that the belief and commitments position of support for the strike applies as the default position.	Noted
		LG further noted that, should they call a referendum, the Officers would need to decide upon a question to ask students, along with a set of actions that the Guild would take for each response.	Noted
		TS noted that separate campaign teams would likely be needed for each referendum answer. TS noted that Officers wouldn't have to be a part of these campaign teams, but could be if they wanted.	Noted
		The President suggested that Officers receive a briefing from both the UCU and the University before reaching a final decision.	Noted
		LG noted that a Referendum would need to be ready for 8th November, should the ballot pass.	Noted
		The Officer team decided that the current ballot issues represents a separate dispute from the previous one.	Noted
		The Officers will therefore follow the Strike Action policy set out in the Guild's Beliefs and Commitments, unless instructed to by a referendum, which would be considered at a follow-up meeting.	Noted
		The President agreed to arrange a meeting with the University and the UCU to provide a briefing on the disputes.	President
3	Elections Update	LG provided an update on Autumn Elections.	Noted
	Opuale	LG noted that Officers cannot run in Elections for the Democratic Structures but could attend NUS National Conference in Liverpool.	Noted
		LG noted that Officers should encourage students to run in elections and the deadline is Wednesday 13 th October at 4pm.	Noted

		LG noted that Guild Officers and Student Groups cannot endorse candidates.	Noted
4	Voice Report	LG provided an update on the Student Voice Report.	Noted
	Update	LG noted that the Student Voice Report will be discussed at University and College Education Committees and Officers will need to present this.	Noted
		LG raised a question about further communication to students.	Noted
		The EO suggested sending out the Student Voice Report to students. The President noted that the EO should do a video.	Noted
		The AEO noted that simple communication would be better. The President suggested sending a link to a landing page for students to read the Student Voice Report should they want to.	Noted
		Officers discussed a University session on the Student Voice Report, which is due to take place on Friday. LG and TS are to organise a briefing prior to this.	LG/TS
		LG and TS left the meeting at 12:55.	Noted
5	Open Day	JT noted that there has been a request from the University to have Officers available for the Open Day to do talks or tours. Officers agreed to take part.	Noted
6	VC Meeting Update	The President noted that they are all meeting the new VC on Wednesday. The President noted that some slides have been prepared. JT will circulate to the Officers.	Noted
		The President noted that each Officer should prepare one thing to discuss with the VC.	Noted
		The EO noted that they want to request a monthly forum with the VC.	Noted
		The IO left the meeting at 13:05.	Noted
7	Diaries	The Officer team discussed their key meetings for the week ahead:	
		SO – Meeting Andy regarding the Sports Strategy for 2021 – 2026. The SO further noted that a draft mentions improving the ties between the University and Guild.	Noted
		The SO is to send the draft strategy to JT.	so

11	AOB	JT noted that the University have requested to have the vaccination centre on the front car park. Officers agreed to this.	Noted
	Officers	The President noted that the Intersectional Feminist Association have decided to disaffiliate from the Guild.	Noted
10	Part Time	The President is to get in contact with the WO.	President
		The SO noted that MedSoc Groups are using QR codes for track and trace as part of their sessions.	Noted
9	Schools/ Colleges/Dubai Update	The EO noted that mask wearing policy discussed at UEC was discussed. The EO further noted that the Director of Educations discussed implementing making masks compulsory.	Noted
		Officers discussed their drop in sessions. The EO noted that they should be themed in future.	Noted
		The EO noted that the Commuter Students Mixer event was very successful.	Noted
	Campaigns/ Officer Wins	hockey club. The SO further noted that Brook's Bar is no longer serving food, other than for corporate events. Officers discussed this.	Noted
8	Priority	The SO noted that the Guild is hosting match teas for the	
		AEO – Venues Manager Meeting, Incident Reports, MDS meeting, student meeting, Good Campus Relations, Director of Engagement 1-1, UoBE Festival Meeting, Careers Network meeting.	Noted
		President – Rent right meeting, VC 1-1, Finance Committee, Honorary Degrees Committee, Good Campus Relations, Commonwealth Games Steering Group, Instagram Q&A for Autumn Elections, MedSoc President meeting, Forum For Global Challenges, Russell Group SU President, Activism Network Launch	Noted
		EO – Video for extenuating circumstances, Deborah Longworth, Student Academic Engagement Committee, Learning Analytics meeting, NSS meeting and GOG.	Noted