

Full-Time Officer Group (FTOG)

12:00 - 13:00, Online Meeting (Zoom).

Present

George Christian, Sports Officer (SO) (Chair)
Wei-Lun Chen, International Officer (IO)
Aaliyah Simms, Welfare & Community Officer (WCO)
Jules Singh, Education Officer (EO)
Mikey Brown, President (President)
Josephine Conway, Activities and Employability Officer (AEO)

Also in Attendance

Jo Thomas, Chief Executive (JT)
Sam Jones, Executive Assistant (SJ) (note taker)

Apologies

Danielle Murinas, Postgraduate Officer (PGO)

No	Item for Discussion	Notes	Action
1	Minutes from 04.03.2022	The minutes from Monday 4 th April 2022 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.	Approved
2	Democracy Review	The President updated the Officer team on progress on the Guild's planned democracy review following their away day on the 5 th April. The President noted recent conversations with Officers and Staff about changes to the Officer Team and liberation structures. The Officer Team discussed collecting inputs from across the organisation on possible Officer Role changes. The President suggested arranging a series of 1:1 meetings to discuss individual officer role feedback. The Officer team discussed seeking input and feedback from students.	Noted Noted
		The EO noted recent Officer role changes at the University of Manchester SU, which included several college-level full-time positions. The Officer Team agreed to move forward with a process of Officer Role reviews, beginning with a series of 1:1 meetings, informing a wider student-consultation on possible changes to the Guild's democratic structures.	Noted Agreed
3	NUS Anti- Semitism Allegations	The President noted a recent wave of allegations of anti-Semitism connected to the National Union of Students, particularly with a planned speaker at NUS national conference. The President noted a recent apology from the NUS President-elect for statements which they had made several years ago, which had been criticised as anti-Semitic.	Noted

		The President noted that wide-ranging criticism from national	
		Jewish and anti-racist student groups of the NUS's recent activity.	Noted
		The Officer team discussed NUS's behaviour and the recent criticisms made nationally. The EO suggested reaching out to Birmingham J-SOC to offer support and seek their views. The Officer Team noted several Students' Unions considering disaffiliation from the NUS.	Noted
		The EO agreed to arrange a meeting with Birmingham J-SOC.	Noted
		The Officer Team agreed to begin drafting a public statement on NUS's recent behaviour.	Noted
4	Welcome Week	The AEO noted that initial meetings had begun to plan Welcome Week 2022. The AEO asked for input into changes for the next Welcome Week programme.	Noted
		The IO suggested looking at expanding society's fair attendance.	Noted
		The Officer Team discussed building back from COVID-19 for Welcome Week 2022. The AEO suggested looking at more PG and International focused- events next year, which should be at the core of PG	Noted
		The EO noted the importance of retaining commuter students focused events in 2022. The WCO noted that Welcome Week 2021 had been very positive considering the additional complications of COVID-19.	Noted
		The AEO agreed to circulate a link for additional feedback by email.	AEO
5	Academic Support	The EO updated the Officer Team on planned activity for wellbeing support for students during the summer assessment period, including free hot drinks, snacks, wellbeing packs, motivation cards and UB sport activity.	Noted
		The EO asked the Officer Team about utilising part of the FTO manifesto pot to fund this activity. The Officer Team agreed to approve funding, subject to final figures.	EO
6	Guild Hardship Fund	The EO noted that the University had recently agreed £10k additional funding to the Guild's hardship fund, a significant increase. The Officer Team discussed a number of possible grants and services to fund. JT noted that the additional funding coincided with a new role dedicated to student hardship in Guild Advice.	Noted
7	Officer Key Meetings	WCO – Meeting with Campus Services, 'Safe Zone' meeting, UoBE Festival Steering Group meeting.	Noted
		EO – Commuter Review meeting,	Noted
		IO – EDI Committee.	Noted

		President – Bye-Laws Review Group, Catch-Up w/ Campaigns Coordinator, Leave. AEO – E&E Committee, Space Group, Gender Neutral Toilets	Noted
		meeting, UoBE Festival Steering Group meeting, Activities Committee Grant Meeting.	Noted
		SO – UB Sport Management Meeting, Sustainability Comms work stream, Meeting with Harper Adams SU, Grant Meeting.	Noted
8	Schools/ Colleges/ Dubai Update	The IO noted that they would be travelling to Dubai next week for the formal opening of the UoB Dubai campus.	Noted
9	Guild Communications & Social Media	No items noted.	Noted
10	Part Time Officers	No items noted.	Noted
11	AOB	The IO noted a recent meeting with Campus Services on changes to the University's Meal Plan programme. The IO noted that the University were seeking agreement from the Guild on changes to the scheme, including price rises.	Noted
		The AEO noted discussions at the recent Space Group meeting for privacy boards for the Officer Team office. The Officer Team discussed their preferences towards privacy boards in the office.	Noted