

## Full-Time Officer Group (FTOG)

12:00 - 13:00, Hybrid Meeting (Zoom/ Mandela)

## **Present**

Danielle Murinas, Postgraduate Officer (PGO) (Chair)
Mikey Brown, President (President)
Josephine Conway, Activities and Employability Officer (AEO) (Left at 12:30)
George Christian, Sports Officer (SO)
Jules Singh, Education Officer (EO)
Wei-Lun Chen, International Officer (IO)

## **Also in Attendance**

Jo Thomas, CEO (JT)

Sam Jones, Executive Assistant (SJ) (note taker)

Tom Snape, Campaigns & Policy Coordinator (TS) (Agenda Item 1-2 only)

## **Apologies**

Aaliyah Simms, Welfare & Community Officer (WCO)

No	ITEM FOR DISCUSSION	Notes	ACTION
1	Minutes from 16.11.2021	The minutes from the 16th November 2021 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.	Approved
2	Priority Campaigns	TS updated the Officer team on progress on their priority campaign for mental health.  TS noted that approximately 30 student volunteers had now been recruited and trained. TS noted that the target of the campaign in terms of conversations held was still ambitious and would require prioritisation. The Officer Team discussed possible incentives for students to take part in their conversations. The President noted the possibility of incentivising the volunteers to hit their conversation targets.  The President noted that one Officer 'Roadshow' event had been arranged for the 25th November. TS suggested each officer arranging their own conversation event, in order to reach their conversation targets. TS noted the need to prioritise the campaign in terms of reaching the targets.  The Officer Team discussed a number of upcoming events where campaign conversations could take place. JT suggested reviewing the Guild's Roombookings calendar to identify when the building was expected to be busy. The President suggested engaging students and Hall Reps Christmas Events on the Vale.	Noted Noted Noted

5	Officer Key Meetings	President – University Council, Officer Road Show, Academic Registrar 1:1, Aston SU President meeting.	Noted
4	Graduation Timetable	SJ updated the Officer Team on arrangements for their attendance at December Graduation Congregations.	Noted
		TS and LG left the meeting at 12:55.	Noted
		The Officer team discussed the limited time available in the upcoming ASM and the prioritisation for items for discussion.	Noted
		motion. The EO suggested discussing a possible amendment to the motion with the proposer.	EO
		issue. The President noted the limits of the Guild's actions under charity law in terms of the current wording of the	
		The Officer team discussed the issue of Uighyr Muslims in relation to the ASM. LG noted an outstanding motion on the	
		timings for the agenda. The IO noted that a newsletter to International Students would shortly be sent out. The Officer Team noted the priority items for discussion at the ASM.	Noted
		The Officer Team discussed the quoracy for the meeting and	
		The Officer team discussed possible items to propose as a team, including possible strike action.	Noted
3	All Student Meeting	LG updated the Officer Team on upcoming items for discussion at the next All Student Meeting (ASM).	Noted
		The Officer team agreed to an incentive package of £250 to incentivise conversations.	Agreed
		suggested attending the Medical School, University Centre and Starbucks on campus for locations to discuss.	Noted
		The Officer Team discussed plans for a 'Road Show' event on the 25 <sup>th</sup> November, to invite student volunteers to attend also. SJ to speak to C&M for backpacks. The Officer team	
		The SO noted several upcoming sports events which may suit for a campaign launch.	Noted
		ahead of Christmas.	Noted
		and promotion of the Guild's referendum on UCU strike action policy.  The Officer team discussed the timeline for the campaign	Noted
		The Officer team discussed a range of events where possible conversations could be had before Christmas. The President noted a conflict between promotion of the priority campaign	
		TS noted the original deadline for holding 1,000 conversations with students by the 6 <sup>th</sup> December.	Noted

		Sports – BUCS West Midlands Meeting, Catch-Ups w/ UB Sport, Anti-Social Behaviour meeting, Not On Training, Student Safety Meetings.  IO – University Council, Officer Road Show, University Education Committee meeting.	Noted Noted
		Education – 1:1 PVC Education, University Misconduct Hearing, National Education Officers meeting, University Education Committee meeting.	Noted
		<b>PGO –</b> 1:1 PVC Education, PG Careers Team meeting, Fitness to Practice panel hearing, University Education Committee, Officer Roadshow, meeting w/ Dean of PG;s	Noted Noted
		<b>WCO –</b> Officer Road Show, Campus Community & Safety Group, University Misconduct hearing.	Noted
		<b>AEO –</b> Society Meetings, Complaints, Activities Committee agenda setting, A/L.	Noted
9	Schools/ Colleges/ Dubai Update	The EO noted that School Education Plans would be presented to UEC this coming week, and that they would feedback to the Officer Team.	Noted
		The President noted negative feedback from a number of students regarding Physics exams. The EO noted ongoing conversations about the current 24-hour format for Physics exams. The President noted some science exams were being held online while others were held in person. The EO noted that student rep opinion was split between across schools on holding exams either online or in-person.	Noted
		The IO noted the possibility holding exams online into 2 <sup>nd</sup> semester	Noted
10	Guild Communications & Social Media	The Officer team discussed their planned communications for the coming week. The Officer Team noted the following items for promotion:  • UCU Strike Action and Guild Referendum.	
		<ul> <li>'Change in Mind' Campaign</li> <li>All Student Meeting</li> <li>Disability History Month events.</li> </ul>	Noted
		The President agreed to discuss Officer Roadshow promotion with C&M.	President
11	Part Time Officers	The PGO noted ongoing work with the LGBTQ+SO for LGBT+ history month, with plans for a range of events across the month.	Noted

12	AOB	The AEO noted that issue of Gender Neutral Toilets had been discussed at Health & Safety committee and passed to Space Group for discussion.  JT noted several absences for the EEO at University sustainability meetings. SJ noted that they EEO had been absent at the last E&E Committee Meeting. The President noted an upcoming sustainability town hall event on the 29th November. The SO noted that the University's sustainability manager position was currently vacant. JT to email University contacts.  The Officer team discussed the usage of the Amos room for	Noted
		usage as a 'Zoom Zone'.  The AEO updated the Officer Team on feedback from several student groups on the Guild's decision that Student Groups would not be permitted sponsorship from nightclubs. The AEO noted that University affiliated sports teams as well as MedSoc were often sponsored by night clubs in the city, and there was a perception of unfairness that the Officer Team had previously prevented societies being sponsored by nightclubs.  The AEO noted their view that societies should be allowed to be sponsored by nightclubs. The President noted their previous concerns about reputational risk for the Guild, however they were happy to change the Guild's previous position. The Officer Team agreed to allow student groups to receive sponsorship from nightclubs.  The President feedback from a recent forum on drinking spiking and student safety which they had attended, hosted by Preet Gill MP and representatives from hospitality venues in the city. The President noted improvement programmes from the City Council in the city centre and Broad Street for safe spaces and wardens for the night-time economy. The President noted that West Midlands police had confirmed several instances of drink-spiking in the city, however no reports of spiking by injection investigated by WMP had resulted in positive tests for drugs.  JT updated the Officer Team on progress on student safety in the Guild's venues.	Noted  Noted  Noted  Noted
13	Meeting Reflection	No Items Noted.	Noted