

Committee Name: Guild Officer Group

Date & Time: 08.10.2025 12:00-13:00

Present:

In attendance	Apologies	Absent without apologies
In Attendance: Antonia Listrat – Guild President Abby Kendrick – Welfare & Community Officer Aliasgar Gandhi – Postgraduate Officer Abhijeet Patel – Sports Officer Emeline Brown – Activities & Employability Officer Simrah Inamdar – International Officer Max Williams – Sustainability Officer Lucy McCabe – Women's Officer Sabrina Ahmad – Trans & Non-Binary Students' Officer Also in attendance: Molly Purcell, Senior Voice Coordinator (Secretary) Jane Baston, Voice and Representation Manager	Jacob Dyke – Education Officer (Arrived at 12:45pm) Jo Thomas, Chief Executive (or an SMT Representative)	Olivia Bonner – Disabled Students' Officer

	Item for discussion	Questions/Comments/Voting Decision From Discussion	Action
1	Welcome	AL opened the meeting and everyone introduced themselves and their roles as the first GOG of the year.	
2	Minutes from the last meeting	Action tracker and minutes will be circulated via email after the meeting.	
3	Officer Projects	Standing Item for updates from Officers on projects they're working on. AG: Outlined progress with the PG and Int forum. Is working with careers network for opportunities for students. Working with registry with JD. Working on PG community registrations with around 200 sign-ups. Working with Comms on tailored comms for PGs.	

		<p>EB: Working with Activities dept on Chair's Network to have greater staff and officer presence. Is meeting with Gemma to assess feedback on how to improve next network. Planning for other networks and roles within committees. Working on collab between worklink and Reslife. Working with Careers Network for more opportunities for Int students with SI and further work with PTOs.</p> <p>SI: Working on Int. Food Festival going ahead on 16 October. Working with AK on CoL for food on campus. Supporting plans for orientation programmes for Int. Students. Collating cultural calendar and working with societies on this. Working on PG and Int Forum with AG, is underpinning specifics. Working with EB for Careers Network, with panel discussion on 19 Nov. Supporting plans for Chinese New Year with the society.</p> <p>AP: Working on widening participation in sports clubs with UB Sport. Working on a MR request for this. Working with venues to enhance Sports Night to make it more engaging.</p> <p>RR: Working on cultural events to increase funding such as BHM and Diwali. Has a PTO training session today.</p> <p>LM: 16 Days of Activism work, supporting a student to start a society for survivors. Self defence classes with ambassadors and MMA society towards end of Nov. Planning for Reclaim the Night, has some people interested in speaking at the event. Has met with WMCA Mayor's team. Has generally supporting new women's societies. Black Women's project and WOC society funding.</p> <p>AK: Liberation Forum is next Tuesday. Chat for Change event with Al Carns is next week who will be speaking around safety for students. Has started working on SHAG Week and has had the first working group on this with a diverse range of activities. Working on Zero Tolerance policy on transparency with students. Keen to set up a Health Hub on the website to signpost for students on how students can stay safe.</p>	
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4	NUS Priorities & Democracy	<p>Info on NUS Democracy here</p> <p>JB outlined how the NUS has changed their democratic involvement in events. Conferences are being moved to more regular democratic events for NUS England and similarly through their liberation collective. Nominations close at 4pm today. 4 additional NUS England Reps are eligible to nominate themselves as well as AL who is nominated through the bylaws.</p> <p>NUS Conferences are now being moved to priority submissions from SUs, through GOG. Asking for one SU priority and one for liberation groups. Deadline is 14 October for this. List of priorities are on the NUS website, if there is a new priority this can be added, or you can participate in an existing priority.</p> <p>AL suggested on aligning with RGSUs, suggesting CoL and decolonisation. Asked the group for feedback. Unanimous agreement on this suggestion.</p>	

		<p>JB brought up the form that needs to be submitted, JB and MP to draft this and send round for approval and then submission upon approval.</p> <p>■</p>	
5	PTOs and Liberation Forum	<p>AL outlined that herself and AK have been looking at launching this from research from other SUs and how this is integrated within the democratic system, to create a support system for PTOs and officers. Proposed that GOG write a paper together to bring to the Trustee Board. AK outlined how they want to create the networks and feedback loop/communication for PTOs to hear from communities and campaigns as a useful tool. Opened to the room for feedback.</p> <p>LM: Asked around expected numbers and how it would work around intersectional community members.</p> <p>AK: Assured that no network would be held at the same time so accessibility isn't an issue and that intersectional issues can be raised.</p> <p>AK: Isn't sure about numbers yet and needs to check with staff, it depends who will come on the actual day.</p> <p>JB: Outlined that number tracking or prediction is difficult without ticketing. Reminded PTOs that this could go over 7 hours a week but will be discussed in training.</p> <p>AL: Suggested that this would be considered in the paper.</p> <p>AK: Suggested a debrief to ensure that PTOs are involved in the process.</p> <p>MW: Mentioned they are happy to drop in where appropriate for sustainability.</p> <p>LM: Questioned practical timelines.</p> <p>JB: reminded paper deadline has passed and can have a conversation about this after the meeting.</p>	
6	PTOs coming to Joined Up Conversations ,Free Speech and EDI	<p>AL: Asked the PTOs if they would like to be included in this space. Outlined that joined up conversations are with the University on making sure the University and Guild are aligned. There is a meeting tomorrow at 1pm and invited PTOs</p>	

		<p>into the space. Will be hearing from the University's freedom of speech expert.</p> <p>JB: shared the potential restrictions as University may not be able to allow for attendance at this stage.</p>	
7	Decolonise, Decarbonise, Demilitarise	<p>AL opened with asking around the group's thoughts on this campaign. Had a meeting with SOS-UK who have provided resources and a campaign at Sheffield SU.</p> <p>MW: Mentioned tying this in with People & Planet Divestment campaign (University still investing in fossil fuels and arms trade, campaign to stop this).</p> <p>AL: Spoke about the arms trade motion that has gone through at the Guild and how to delegate the subsequent work being Officer-driven.</p> <p>JD: Suggested that they must hold a good relationship with University and asked about how to manage this relationship considering this proposal and still championing the cause.</p> <p>AL mentioned this has already been mandated through the democratic system and how we navigate this.</p> <p>JB: Mentioned the EPS relationship and the relationship they have with arms companies, reminded GOG of the democratic system and how EPS can campaign through the democratic system. In terms of 1-1 relationships that this can be supported at the same time and helping staff to understand how we work as an organisation.</p> <p>MW: Mentioned that the AT policy was written in conjunction with an EPS rep so their voice has been considered.</p> <p>JB: Fossil Free careers policy is up for renewal this AY and will go through the democratic system again, which is another way of engaging with EPS students.</p> <p>SA: Suggested if JD could abstain from the campaign if it is difficult relationship-wise.</p> <p>JB: Reiterated that officers are expected to implement them as it is democratically mandated.</p> <p>AL: agreed the consensus.</p>	

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The Chair closed the meeting at: 13:01
Date of next meeting: xxx