

Trigger Warnings: History months and Campaigns, Trans and non-binary student experience, Disabled Students experience.

Present

Committee members: Dean Turner (DT, Welfare and Community Officer), Fern Warwick (FW, Student Member), Aoife O'Driscoll-Paton (AOP, Disabled Students' Officer)

Non-Committee Members:

Staff Members: Jane Baston (JB, Senior Voice Coordinator & Minute Taker), James Lindsay (Director of Community and Representation)

Apologies

Absence Without Apologies:

Bipasha Biswas (BS, International Representative), Lucianelle Semou (LS, Student member), Semmer Preet Singh (SPS, Ethnic Minority Students' Officer), Robin Hayward (RH, Trans and Non-Binary Officer), Trinity Barson (TB, LGBTQ+ Students' Officer), Ollie Cotena (OC, Student Member), Sukhmam Singh (SS, Student Member)

Item No.	Item Title	Meeting Notes	Time
Start			
1	Welcome & Introductions	DT welcomed everyone to the meeting. All officers and attendees introduced themselves.	14:05 – 14:06

2	Officer Updates	<p>AOD has been working with AC on PEEPs and fire safety to look at improving those procedures.</p> <p>AOD noted that neurodiversity celebration week is in March and she's been working with the staff network on that.</p> <p>DT has been working on the Community Breakfast, with some special guest who will be attending.</p> <p>DT noted that the Graduate Support Team will be attending the next event to talk about funding and bursaries available.</p> <p>DT mentioned that Pause are coming in during March to do a crafting session.</p> <p>DT noted that at the end of March the Community Safety Team will also be attending the Community Breakfast as well.</p> <p>DT noted that he's also been working on harm reduction and a paper has now been passed at Guild Trustee Board. There is a Steering Group that is working on implementing this plan.</p>	14:06-14:15
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		<p>FW asked DT how successful the Community Breakfast has been.</p> <p>DT noted that they've been well attended with an average of 60-100 students. This demonstrates the need for this type of support.</p> <p>DT noted that most student tend to attend between 8-9am.</p> <p>DT noted that it's good that students are able to access this support but is concerning that students are having to rely on these types of things.</p>	
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3	Democratic System Update & Ideas	<p>JB updated that the democratic system has a number of ideas that are progressing through it. Committee members will be invited to any relevant action groups.</p> <p>DT noted that we don't have all of the Committee present so we should update them via email regarding the changes.</p> <p>DT mentioned that we are looking at improving representation and support for issues that welfare and liberation deal with.</p> <p>FW mentioned that there had only been 1 Idea that had meet the Student Demonstration of Interest. Have there been any others?</p> <p>JB noted that there has been another idea that passed the threshold. We're also looking to extend this period within the democratic system.</p> <p>AOD asked if there had been any more discussion around comms support for the democratic system.</p>	14:15-14:25
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		<p>JB mentioned that this hasn't yet been fully picked up but will be after Officer Elections.</p> <p>JL noted that there are currently discussions ongoing about how we maximise communications across the Guild.</p>	
4	Guild Elections	<p>DT mentioned that the Guild Elections applications close tomorrow and encouraged members of the Committee to consider standing.</p> <p>JB noted that any member of the Committee would be encourage to apply and to share the information with anyone that they think would make a good Officer.</p> <p>DT mentioned that the Part-Time Officer role will be paid for the next year.</p>	14:25-14:27

5	Harm Reduction	<p>DT noted that the Guild is now committed to working with the University to deliver a harm reduction strategy.</p> <p>DT noted that this means that instead of taking a punitive approach to drugs and alcohol abuse we'll be taking an educational approach.</p> <p>DT noted that there is a big link between substance abuse and mental, as well as how they impact different liberation group.</p> <p>DT welcomed thoughts and views from the Committee.</p> <p>DT noted that he would be keen to include Liberation Part-Time Officer in the work going forward to ensure that the work meets the needs of those groups.</p> <p>FW commended the idea and supported the new approach to this.</p> <p>JL noted that the University is likely to be doing a research piece on substance approach. It would be useful to understand if the Committee feels that this is something</p>	14:27-14:37
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		<p>that would be welcomed by the student community.</p> <p>AOD mentioned that it would likely to well received as long as it's clear about what's being done with the data and information. It's unlikely to cause concern.</p> <p>FW noted that knowing who's handling the data and what will be done with it is a key point and would be important for students to know.</p> <p>JL agreed with the points raised. It's not yet determined who will be running this research yet.</p> <p>JL noted that we want to ensure that we avoid survey fatigue with this as well to ensure that we get robust data from it. It may be included as part of other surveys that are run throughout the year.</p> <p>DT agreed with the points raised. It's important to build that trust in the data and the research.</p>	
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		<p>AOD noted that having it as a separate survey to other survey's would be important. Students may not want to share that data if it's part of another survey.</p> <p>JL noted that the biggest challenge is anonymity. In the wellbeing survey this isn't anonymous whereas we would want this survey to be anonymous. The challenge is driving the engagement in it.</p> <p>DT asked if the Committee had any further thoughts on the destigmatisation piece and how that might feed into the liberation communities.</p> <p>DT noted that if anyone had any further thoughts or comments on this topic they'd be welcome to email him.</p>	
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6	AOB	<p>AOD asked about the All Student Vote on Healthcare. It didn't reach quorum.</p> <p>JB noted that as it didn't pass the All Student Vote it has now lapsed and is no longer Guild Policy.</p> <p>JL asked if there's a time-limit on resubmitting an Idea or Policy to the system.</p> <p>JB confirmed that there is no limit on when the policy can be resubmitted.</p>	14:37-14:40
End		Meeting Ended	14:40

Date & Time of next meeting: TBC