**Student Council 16 November 2017**

**MAIN COUNCIL BEGINS**

**CHAIR MISSING**

Mary: anyone want to go?

John: Vice chair previously and I will get through it in the right way.

Mary: Now we will vote.

(voting begins with instructions)

Majority vote for John as Chair for Nov 2017 Council.

**VICE CHAIR MISSING**

John: we need to vote for a vice chair

Caitlyn: I will do it

Majority vote for Caitlin as Deputy Chair for Nov 2017 Council.

1. **Declaration of conflict of interest:**
2. **Approval of the minutes from the last meeting**
3. **Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda:**
4. **Apologies received**
* **Avinash Sheo-Rattan** (Disabled Students’ Officer)– on placement
* **David Lewis (VP UD)** – ‘Unfortunately I am unable to attend Student Council this evening due to the fact that I am away at an ACUI conference in New York and Boston. In regards to my report please note any questions asked of it and I shall create a video answering them upon my return. If anyone would like further clarity please email david.lewis2@northampton.ac.uk. Furthermore the policies and byelaws proposed by myself have been seconded by people who are in attendance today".
* **Zoe Pape (Chair)** – work commitments
* **Natasha Theophilus (Societies Officer)** – work commitments

No other apologies received in time

Absent and without apologies:

* Bruna Tomsic (Societies) – second absence with no apologies
* Will Denbow (AU)
* Matthew Jones (AU)
* Andrea Maestri (Education)
* Katie Rushmer (VSEC)
1. **Motions**
2. **Discussion Points**
* Number of Councillors (Rebecca Chapman)

Rebecca: there seems to be confusion of the number of councillors.

John: because of the subject (prior) should we discuss this?

Rebecca: the number of councillors is not set in stone. If we believe there should be more councillors, we should support each other rather than fight each other.

X: (counter argument) we struggle to fill council roles year in and year out. In January, we do not fill all of the roles.

Rebecca: I don’t think it is about that, we have had some amazing BME forums and LGBT society. They do not have any way to get involved in council.

Arte: Maybe we go from here, it isn’t about not having them. We talk about it.

X: If those roles are not there then how do we know they wouldn’t be filled. If we are Student Council and student voice – then the liberation officers feel they need more voice then we should listen.

Sophie: At the liberation conference in London, we looked at how they approach these positions. It is between 2-3 people and delegation happens. 2-3 people could run together and as long as they run together then it’s fine. It is not making new roles but the role could be shared.

X: Possibility of created sub-committees and focus groups. Could we do this to see about engagement with student council and go from there?

Sophie: We did not know this could happen, the idea of having 2-3 people run together for an officer role would work better. Other universities do this.

Arte: I like that idea, there is still accountability. The point of being a representative is so you represent the student body. Sharing roles would help and if it works in other institutions it could work.

X: 2 people in the same role would work. Having more people on council is about proportional representation – we cannot fit everything group into the proportional representation. We need a structure.

Rebecca: We can add this into areas first, the importance of this meeting is to get them through and then positions can be filled and sorted after.

Raf: 2 running for same officer role is a good idea. The councillor positions can help build the representatives into head office. Asking liberation officers – could you fill these roles?

Arte: sorting out committees after voted in is difficult. This would need to be watertight and think about intentions.

X: 16 seats are too many for council. 4-6 would be ok and then a sub-committee. The committee should be the first thing to go forward.

John: I would like to move the vote to the end, and see how we are for time. If we have time we will reverse the procedural motion.

Students nod and John replied *Depending on time.*

WILL BE PUT TO EXEC, COUNCIL AGREED.

* **BME issues (Esther Olorunsomo)**

Esther: with the response with the NUS definition, I am asking that we do need to talk about BME students. We need to give an opinion and shoving out a voice that we voted in.

Arte: Some of the reasons I get told I cannot talk about this is because of my personal experience.

Cameron: I went back and collected data on it. I went and asked BME students.

Esther: in reply to Cameron – we are very quick to use procedural motions but under liberation matters we should not brush these away.

Sophie: In London at the liberation conference, some universities called it the ‘ethnic officer’.

X: I feel I do not have to go back and report back to as many people as other exec members. I still feel I am one of the most vocal members but you need to not be afraid to talk about these issues. Get involved and they are important issues.

Kelsey: if a liberation officer at student council is not being listened to then we should worry and start supporting each other.

Esther: if we do not speak about these issues then people will think BME officer role should not exist. We should be representing.

Raf: We should be looking across the body and look at our student population

George: looking at the bye laws – we must represent our student body.

X: Going back to the worry that people may say something wrong, then we should learn in this room what students want (all types).

* **Equality and Diversity Policy feedback (Raf Garcia-Krailing)**

Raf: We currently do not have an equality and diversity policy. Any added points please add.

* NUS’ Definition of ‘BME’ (Esther Olorunsomo)

Esther: The NUS definition, what could it be changed to?

Cameron: I did my research and Chinese students did not even realise they were classified as BME, and maybe ‘multi-ethic’ would be better

X: Split the role into black and then other minority officers, three roles

Arte: I wondered if using black is a problem – refers to an experience at an equality conference. We are basically talking about ‘non-white’

Jemma: I did some research and when students were talking about black students, they do not put Asian students in that category. ‘People of colour’ may be preferred which was raised through my feedback from students.

Sophie: At the conference in London, splitting into 3 roles is a bad thing. It is not realistic and sometimes people may not want to run for that officer. We should make sure the name fits people who go into that category.

Arte: Peoples of colour is problematic.

Observer: from an outsider perspective, I would not use this and put it as ‘minority of ethnics’

George: Splitting the role would help as it would reach out to more people and larger demographic.

Jess: Ethnics officer is a good idea, you could have people with multi-ethnic going for the role. This term works well.

Danjie: As an Asian student, we do not identify as BME. We are constantly told that ‘international students’. We need to look at how students classify and the different characteristics, I agree with the name change.

Cameron: having 4 different people from 4 different ethnicities would be ideal. Being from the same ethnicity would help build student voice.

Sophie: multiple people running together would mean they run together - as a ‘slate’

John: Would this be a job share?

Sophie: Yes

Jemma: When I looked at the discussion point, I thought we would be looking at the definition point as the NUS conference.

Esther: The discussion point has been discussed and will be taken to the NUS.

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Heather: There should be a focus group for disabled students. As much discussion would be best.

Sophie: Would you prefer a disable students committee? Or more options on council for students?

Heather: A bit of both.

Raf: Brilliant idea, let’s look at how best to do this.

X: I have never had any form of conversation with any of you. You are represented students you do not connect with. There is a disconnect and people do not know.

Raf: Spot on, it is how we can fix that. It is our failure.

X: People do not want to join SU as it is a lot of work. The committee idea is a good idea.

John: Raf?? Could you arrange a meeting with Raf please. Raf – please come back to us at the next meeting.

Jess: thank you for coming and speaking it. Student council does feel exclusive. This is a step forward for us, and now there is a conversation and it is step one.

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* **Strategic Direction Feedback (Raf Garcia-Krailing)**

Raf:

* **National Student Survey (NSS) Promotion (Raf Garcia-Krailing)**

Raf: Took to Education committee and others to get an opinion on NSS. I would really like to open up to opinions.

Arte: how many on education committee have done the NSS? Have you looked at the questions? It does not show much about the subject. It does not really tell us much and as a union, we should not be promoting. We should be educating. We have a duty to our students.

Jasmine: whether we support it or not, we are going to use it. Students will get persistence. Raf and Danjie could go in and talk to students about the process.

Arte: That is a problematic issue. As a union, we should be supporting students and not making students feel pressurising into doing it.

Raf: the real rationale why we should promote NSS is because we are a separate organisation. We can use the scores to help us know what we need to do. Staff use the scores for PDRs and we need independent data.

Alex: If the university are going through with it anyway, then why are we discussing it.

Raf: There needs to be more course related information. A benchmark is needed and they need data to compare themselves against other universities. We should educate our students.

Rebecca: The NSS is going to happen regardless, this is a chance for us to educate people and get it filled out so we can use the data as a Union. As a Union we could help tackle issues.

Raf: if we say no, it is huge to say no to. It is a strong statement. Our students have far bigger issues.

George: The NSS is not ethical, and the questions are leading. It is great for the university, but if we work with voice then we are not representing what the students think. They do not take into account all of the answers.

John: The university does not write the questions. The options are picked and not written by the university.

Arte: you talk about the NSS being positive, which questions?

Raf: we can use it liberally.

Arte: You are doing the same as the university, manipulating students. Saying no to this is not boycotting it but we can use different methods.

Raf: It touches different people who don’t touch the union, so we can use the data and research. All of the university plans are created from the NSS. Let’s educate to get students opinion.

Gareth: This brings opportunity to bring student reps on board.

Jemma: We already have a massive issue with marketing with students – student council, officers. Why would we put pressure on ourselves, and students will fill this in anyway. The constant phone calls do this.

Cameron: The university is going to use it anyway. We should fore-warn students to complete the form. Students are stressed anyway.

Arte: This is a stressful experience for students, then a Union should represent their members. If our students are being coerced into doing this then we should be doing something.

Alex: The university is promotion this regardless, if the union promotes it – what do we get out of it?

Danjie: The university use the NSS to think about changes to the university for example Joint Honors students choosing low satisfaction and thinking about ways to help. It is a metric we can use year on year for the university. As an international student who did the final year here and could not take the NSS – Chinese students use these metrics and data.

Samuel: Can you opt out of the NSS?

Jemma: Yes through the phone calls.

X: Regardless of whether we use it or not, the uni uses this to be judged. It is important to continue with it.

Samuel: We should be educating the students to let them know how they can opt out.

Sophie: You should opt out online, not the phone. We should promote this.

John: Raf, can you look at the opt out regulations for the next meeting.

Jemma: We do not need the NSS to collect student voice. Why would we use it to get student voice?

X: On the website for the NSS, there are opt out information.

Jazz: This is going to happen to third year students anyway, we should educate.

Jess: I did not look at the NSS data and looked for a specific of degree. To many people it does not matter.

Raf: Let’s educate our students – to opt out unless you want to have your say.

1. **Bye-Law Amendments**
* **Welfare Sabbatical\* (Raf Garcia-Krailing)**

\*This includes a Constitution change, needing a vote also.

Raf: changes we needed to do to have a welfare sabb, add an external trustee to balance the board. This may cause an issue around the room but we need a welfare sabb.

X: Would it be alumni or external trustee?

Raf: if we get someone frm a legal background, we can use that and explore that.

Gemma: we discussed this in exec, are they going to be a governor?

Raf: No, the role of president and Danjies role would be more appropriate and if council deemed that change then we can change it.

Raf: another option is having someone from a nightclub background.

Vote:

Yes 33

No 0

Abstain 0

**33 total**

* Positions on Education Committee (Rebecca Chapman)

Rebecca: it is a bye law change to add PG rep from each faculty. And also, a PG rep for PT and distance students.

Vote:

Yes 29

No 1

Abstain 2

1 not vote

**Total 33**

* Liberation Student Councillors (Rebecca Chapman)

Rebecca: this is to add 2 different groups of (4 BME, 4 disable, 4 LGBT, 4 interntional students) to add to student council.

Against – I feel that we do not need the members. We struggle to fill the roles anyway and we should be concentrating on the 16 seats anyway.

Rebecca: we are becoming more engaged and what is the harm in having these roles. If people do not run then we can get rid of them.

X: as a LGBT officer, that is a huge group of diverse people then it would help to have a trans student on council it will help. Having more voices like that will help to get things into place without me trying to do it and not doing it properly.

X: decrease the number to 2, 2, 2, 2 instead.

X: how are we going to vote these people in? We would have 4 extra sub-committees. How are we going to vote in? What stops people filling the roles if they do not fit into the roles (e.g. disabled student councillor not being disabled).

Rebecca: cross campus ballot will be completed. If we feel you can represent those students then it is ok.

Arte: 16 people who are not accountable to anyway. Non-portfolio councillors do not have to report to anyone.

Esther: the reason for these councillors as liberation officers find it difficult to represent certain groups. They would then hold officers to account.

Arte: Why don’t we have a sub-committee? Their report comes to the council.

Rebecca: maybe 4 is too much. We could lower to 2. As officers, we focus on campaigns and the councillors will be able to represent the student voice. We are PT and volunteers.

X: on our exec training we discussed this and having the sub-committees was discussed but being here on council is a different atmosphere then having a sub-committee.

X: Different sub-committees around the room, why don’t we have sub-committees for LGBT, BME, International, LGBT+. Having 8 (non-portfolio) councillors would be quite dangerous. We then should have sub-committees to report to councillors.

Rebecca: why do we need to hold them accountable?

X: Would I hold them to account?

Rebecca: I wanted to make sure it was about student voice.

X: This goes back to what Duncan said and Avindash being disability officer and not being disabled. They would put their own work towards it and it is not a matter of fitting in to the LGBT/BME etc. but supporting students.

*Additional motion*

John – Jemma is asking for this to be brought back.

Raf – I have been to events and there are a lot of liberation officers, and with Esther’s group she has to represent it is difficult. 16 may be too much but if we run with a procedural motion then we can empower groups. How can we get voice in to that area (white working class male)? If you don’t pass this through tonight then it will not develop through the academic year.

Jemma – some of us are for this and some are against it. We are going around in circles.

John - we are going to do comments and questions.

X - I am not against the issue of it but there needs to be a structure. The issue is that there may not be a structure.

Rebecca –

Raf – move it to later in the meeting

Arte – we should discuss it now

X – what if people want to pass it but want more structure to it?

Vote to move to next meeting

Yes 18

No 11

Abstain

John: we will wait for the discussion point.

* Postgraduate Role Split (Rebecca Chapman)

Rebecca: split the PG role into taught and research. It is what research students want to better integrate into the su.

John: Questions?

*None*

Vote

Yes 25

No 4

Abstain 3

* **Presidency 2 (Jemma Vobe)**
* **Complaints (Jemma Vobe)**

Jemma: the complaint system runs on a 14-day complaint. There is no standardise way to make a complaint and no member of staff to support. If you are a student you should be able to make a complaint whenever, and there should be a template. These are the changes I would like to take.

Raf: A designated member of staff is not appropriate. Whichever channel the complaint comes from, that’s fine. The template is a good idea and this would be useful.

Jemma: To clarify, there should be one member of staff to help fill in the form.

Cameron: Where does it say 14 days?

Jemma: on the bye law it states 14 days, and this is not long enough.

Raf: 14 days is the time it comes in?

Jemma: 14 days from the occurrence. It should be any time you feel ready to.

Amanda: Is this for student-staff?

John: HR would be if the student is working.

Bethel: I like the idea of getting rid of the 14 days. I don’t agree with having one designated person to help with the support.

Jemma: You could go to any member of staff but there needs to be one point of call.

Alex: I completely agree, but my concern is the indefinite time period.

Jemma: Sexual harassment can go through this bye law however; 14 days is not long enough.

John: is this a legal issue? Bye laws are overridden by law.

Cameron: All staff members should be trained on how to fill in the template form proposed.

Gemma: Do we need a date end as what if we finish university?

Jemma: It should still be logged.

Rob: You should have a figurehead of complaints.

Holly: What about the element of bullying?

X: We would always take the complaints taking seriously whenever it comes in.

Cameron: What if it was something if the student did not want to bring it up as it could affect them e.g. their lecturer bullying them and then it affecting their grades.

John: Complaint against the university or the SU?

Cameron: university.

John: Then we don’t deal with it.

Raf: I would like it if complaints could go to me.

Jemma: The complaint needs to be logged before the student graduates.

Gemma: Does complaints outside of the university only get assessed within the 14 day period?

*We still look and assess them outside of the period.*

X: would this affect previous complaints?

Yes 24

No 4

Abstain 4

* **Media and Broadcasting (Raf Garcia-Krailing)**

Raf: media and broadcasting are not single entities and they need their own funding structure and governance.

Sophie: I am a member of UN TV. They want to get involved with the SU and this is difficult; equipment costs are expensive. We should use this team to help with videography. They would be to be more involved and want to set up a student initiative.

John: What is this asking for?

Raf: To not be a society, and to become a Student Initiative.

Jess: Is this like a sub-committee?

Sophie: UN TV works by having Managers then people put themselves forward for the roles. Meeting’s only happen when projects are available.

Gemma: Would you be getting rid of student videographers?

Sophie: Instead of paying someone then you can go through the Student Initiative and they would not be charging.

Gemma: If it a really good idea, but the student videographers may not have a job.

Cameron: This is a great idea, getting work place experience through the Student Union is a good idea. How would they work on the council process?

Sophie: It would be good to get someone to stream the Student Council. It is beneficial for many other areas.

Jemma: The way it currently sits does not work. They need their own set of rules and committee.

Amanda: Media and journalism group – committee would they have their own rules and regulations?

Raf: Jemma’s point is excellent, they need to be independent.

Cameron: It is something we could easily implement.

Jess: Will they be sitting on council? What is initiative?

Raf: Media and broadcasting area – David Lewis policy – and I support it but not sure of the finer details.

Cameron: There needs to be a structure.

Jemma: It would be a separate sub-committee. I cannot remember if it has seats on council or not.

Gemma: Would they be in competition with the student union (student videographers)?

Raf: I think you need to look at it in two separate entities. We should enable scrutiny.

Danjie: Good project, but needs a clearer structure and if it is a sub-committee then it would run in the same way as education etc.

Jemma: It would include media and broadcasting officer and a committee same as AU/SOCS

George: It is a good idea to reach the student body, we can gain a better perspective from the students we are representing.

Jess: This would prove that the SU cares about student welfare and also keep it under the same roof.

Sophie: UoN TV are keen for this to go on – having the body will get rid of the ‘cliquey’ aspect of media and journalism degree programme. It is not taking away work from the student videographers.

Raf: It is a superb idea, and we should engage with those that we do not engage with. Let’s try and change to get more student voice.

Yes 27

No 1

Abstain 4

* **First Year Reps (Jemma Vobe)**

Jemma: we have 9 positions for our students, we do not hold elections. I am suggested 9 reps, 3 integration, 3 housing, 3 support services.

Raf: I like it, and behind 1st year representation but the positions and naming may be difficult.

Jemma: These are ideas from students so let’s give it a go.

Cameron: I am for it; the names are a little iffy.

Esther: We should elect first then train in the appropriate areas.

Jess: How is the best way for first years to know about it?

Observer (Samuel): alongside the course rep system.

Jemma: The names may not be the best. They will be elected on the 1st January and run for the calendar year.

Alex: If that happens then in the new academic year, they will be 2nd years and may not be representative of the first year.

Max: what if people do not live in halls – where do these go?

Jemma: it is split and they need to be a first year to run for the role and not strictly for students in halls.

Jess: You could have a working website.

Gemma: if they are repeat first years, can they run?

Jemma: Yes

Max: are foundation students able to?

Jemma: Yes, anyone who identifies as a first year.

Rebecca: could this be PG too?

Cameron: First years and first time at the university.

Alex: At April student council, we deratified the first-year positions. Would these roles be filled?

Move to a procedural motion

Vote

Yes 26

No 1

Abstain 4

Jemma: voting on first year reps being on council. Let’s make it happen.

Vote

Yes 24

No 1

Abstain 6

* **Socs Development (John Lewthwaite)**

*Conflict of interest as John is chairing, Gemma volunteered*

John: SOCs tier 4 funding – societies would like to get this implemented quickly

Cameron: this is confusing.

Alex: It would make sure no one can abuse the tier 4 funding.

Jess: how are society meetings going to find the time?

Jemma: the report does not mention the tier 4 funding.

Cameron: We need to get the society funding through.

Chair: Let’s move this to the next meeting when Dave is here.

Alex: I know you want to get this through but there is no information about the funding criteria on the document.

Max: we should put this through to the next meeting as the relevant officers are not here.

Jemma: there are two things –time limit, and we don’t know what we are voting on and in exec it will be clearer with the relevant contacts present.

Against the procedural motion – Alex would like to move this to later in the minute and put the document on view.

Gemma (chair): Let’s move this to an emergency student council meeting.

Vote for procedural motion to move to exec

Yes 20

No 4

Abstain 7

* **Disciplinaries (Max Wilkinson)**

Max: As mentioned by David Lewis, the initiation policy will be brought to Student Council. If the student group has initiation processes and all student groups then they will be disbanded.

Gemma: How are you going to classify an initiation?

David: David has written this. It is stuff that a student would find reasonable and then to do with willingness.

Max: this is where it may come into a case to case basis.

Jess: does this include contracts?

Max: You would have to ask David Lewis.

John: David is looking into that at the moment.

Alex: it is not a case by case basis – if you are forcing someone to join a group.

X: It doesn’t matter what it is, anything against someone’s will is wrong.

Cameron: As SOCS we voted on this.

Vote

Yes 27

No 1

Abstain 4

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Bye law passed

* **President name (Jemma Vobe)**

Jemma: I think we get more people run for the president role due to the name. Why do we have 7 people running for President and 2 for VP Education? I think the election should be different, and presidents (vice presidents) should be changed to Community and Development. Then the elected VPs get voted in at Student Council.

Raf: We would be taking away the right for our student body to vote in the president. Why should we vote in the student council? The title is needed to help change the community,

Jemma: All of our sabb officers should be paid the same and should be respected equally.

Cameron: The president needs to be elected at the same time as the Sabbs. The reason why we have a president is self-explanatory and we should not go backwards.

Sophie: There is something powerful to elect a figurehead and want to vote for someone to lead their union. We already have a small turnout.

Rebecca: If we did this, this could potentially ruin the relationship between the sabs. It would ruin the dynamic.

X: We voted in the welfare role so it did not all lie on the President’s shoulders.

Arte: We should educate people.

Observer: It is a student body that chooses. Because of the exclusivity of the group we do not know what we are voting for anyway.

X: It is about the face of the Student Union.

Esther: do you think students would want this? I feel students do not want this, and I don’t think it is.

Cameron: President has the most votes (last year). We need to educate students better but not eliminate a role.

Holly: If the role of president is not there, they need a contact and then community and engagement will decrease.

Bethel: if people do not know about the VP roles then students need to be educated on that role.

Jess: Are there any other student unions who do not have a President? We could also talk to the students to find out if they know what the president does; we need to educate students.

George: I don’t think it is a good look. Students should know they have a right to vote.

Rebecca: We have an issue with students running for roles. All students need to know that they can run.

Cameron: What if all of the VPs decided if they didn’t want to be a president?

Jemma: If you don’t want to take on the president role, then you should not have ran.

Cameron: If I went for a role I would go for VP Education, and I can want to only go for VP not president.

Raf: I wasn’t in council last year, and I went for the role for that reason.

Alex: people who run for VP because they are passionate for that area. The president is to unite everyone there, the president’s job is to bring together the student body.

Alex: (to Jemma) you have said that students should want to be a president.

John: there is a large lean towards being against this.

Jemma: Clearly, this is not going to pass, and I was going to do this as a discussion point. There is confusion about where power lies and what the roles mean. I am now fine to let this drop.

1. **Policy Proposals**
* Discrimination Policy (Sophie Turner)

Sophie: Band of protection for disabled students.

Jemma: The policy needs amending

Alex: there needs to be a hardened approach, and should be zero tolerance.

Cameron and Alex: it should be a zero-tolerance policy

Sophie: This is a policy to say that the SU has a zero-tolerance policy, straight to disciplinary

Vote

Yes 29

No 1

Abstain 0

* Email Policy (Rebecca Chapman)

Rebecca: Everything should go through email.

Vote

Yes

No

Abstain

* Plastic Straws Policy (Jemma Vobe)

Jemma: To encourage bio-degrable straws, behind the counter and people ask.

Alex: Have you got recommendations for alternatives?

Jemma: there is a separate pot available to use.

X: would it not be better to just get rid of plastic straws?

Jemma: exec unanimously said no to this so I came up with an alternative.

Sophie: Have you thought about what material you would use?

Jemma: we as a union use more environmentally friendly straws.

Alex: can we put the straws being the desk so people cannot take them freely?

X: I work at the SU and on a tues/wed night, students would not like this policy. It’s a good policy for the environment but students would oppose it.

Raf: Our students use the straws for activities and they would not be happy if they were no longer there.

Vote

Yes 18

No 11

Abstain 2

Procedural motion to skip PT:

Jess: It is late and people want to go home. Can we skip the PT roles?

Raf: We should not skip these

Alex: It has been a busy student council

Jess: I am not depowering people, the fact is that people cannot watch or hear anyway.

Max: by skipping PTOs it will make the next student council longer.

Cameron: we should be giving the reports as this is what students want us to do.

George: we should be able to hear the PTOs.

Vote to move to next meeting

Yes 7

No 17

Abstain 7

* ~~Drugs and Alcohol Policy (Jemma Vobe)~~ removed for legality
* Subtitled videos (Raf Garcia-Krailing)

Raf: How we can make our accessibility better for our students by adding subtitles.

Vote

Yes 32

No 0

Abstain 0

* Initiations Policy (Alex Lopez)
* Plastic Bag policy (Jemma Vobe)

Jemma: Similar to the plastic straws – we should be encouraging students to not use plastic bags.

Alex: how would it affect the shop?

Jemma: you would not have single use bags but bags for life.

Max: is that not the point of having 5p bags so people do re-use them?

Jemma: It is to get rid of single use plastic bags in line with the NUS?

Procedural motion whether to vote or not

Vote

Yes

No

Abstain

* Trained Councillors (Jemma Vobe)

Jemma: Students who have not competed their councillor training. We should be offering this before student council.

Raf: Can we use online training? This should be pushed.

Alex: Yes, this would be great.

George: are you saying we cannot come to council if we have not had training?

Procedural motion – moving it to the next meeting.

Jemma removed the policy.

* University’s Support Services Policy (Rebecca Chapman)

Rebecca: we would like to promote student services, over the summer some students had their studies terminated because they were not aware of the services.

Vote

Yes 25

No 1

Abstain 3

* ~~University’s Job Policy (Rebecca Chapman)~~ Withdrawn
1. **Officer Mandates**

\*No new Mandates\*

Updates required from last Council meeting, on mandates:

1. All Sabbs – Updates Regarding Waterside, specifically:

‘To create a document which lists all of the questions which has been asked by students on waterside and then list the answers given. This then needs to be made available through the SU website.’

1. VP Education – Video Mandate, specifically:

‘VP Education needs to create a video for Course reps so that they know how to complete the following on the SU website:

-How to access the VPE officer report

-How to access the Education Committee minutes, and where applicable Faculty rep reports

-How to access any policies, mandates, bye-law amendments or discussion points that are education based on the website.

-How to find contact details for the Faculty reps, VPE and the Student Voice coordinators.’

1. President – World Mental Health Day, specifically:

‘That the President, for World Mental Health day in 2018, needs to create a campaign with others highlighting the following:

-the services available for students such as Nightline, Counselling, PAT’s etc

-That the SU sees the person rather than the mental illness and that it is an open and welcoming community.

-A petition or other form of activism to try and secure an additional counsellor due to excessive and therefore ineffective waiting times.

**-**a video which includes the exec team as this mandate has not been completed by the 2016-2017 exec team.

This campaign should include Park, Avenue and Moulton College.’

1. **Trustee report**

No trustee report

1. **Finance report**

No questions

Vote

Yes 26

No 0

Abstain 2

1. **Green Impact Report**

Vote

Yes 23

No 0

Abstain 5

1. **Officer reports**
* **President**

Vote

Yes 24

No 2

Abstain 2

* **Vice President, Union Development**

*Ask questions in the next meeting*

* **Vice President, Education**

Vote

Yes 24

No 3

Abstain 1

* **Sports Officer**

Vote

Yes

No

Abstain

Jemma: what have you been doing with This Girl Can?

Gemma: getting people who do not normally get involved in sport, get them involved. Messaged basketball and cricket. Sophie has asked that we have a policy around homophobia.

Francine: Are you working with the women’s officer?

Gemma: Yes, they are working with Kelly and David.

Vote

Yes 24

No 3

Abstain 1

* **Societies Officer**

Cameron: I would like to raise issues.

Raf: Will investigate.

* **Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Students’ Officer**

Vote

Yes 21

No 1

Abstain 0

* **Disabled Students’ Officer**

Removed report – ask questions

* **Entertainments Officer**

Jemma: is the report you submitted the correct one?

Alex: Wrong report, not much has changed.

Submit via email and Facebook – ask questions and a video report back.

* **Ethics and Environment Officer**

Esther: How are Tuesday talks working?

Jemma: Although it’s on a Tuesday, I do vary the times and go between campuses. I try to vary it and see different students.

Francine: what do they involve?

Jemma: I ask about environmental issues and have further discussions about it.

Vote

Yes 22

No 3

Abstain 5

* **International Students’ Officer**
* No report submitted
* **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) Students’ Officer**

Vote

Yes 26

No 1

Abstain

* **Mature Students’ Officer**

Jemma: The updates on your report are not applicable.

Francine: Awaiting responses and updates.

Vote

Yes 26

No 2

Abstain 0

* **Moulton College Officer**
* No report submitted
* **Postgraduate Students’ Officer**

Jess: Should the last point on the report be yellow? Is it ongoing?

Rebecca: Probably

Vote

Yes 26

No 2

Abstain 1

* **Women’s Officer**
* No report submitted
* Submit via email and Facebook – ask questions and a video report back.
* **Changemaker Officer**

Vote

Yes 26

No 1

Abstain 1

1. **Committee meetings (ratify minutes)**

* **Education Committee**

Vote

Yes 23

No 1

Abstain 4

* **AU Committee**

Vote

Yes 25

No 2

Abstain 1

* **Societies Committee**

Jemma: when you said the tier 4 ratification process? Do SOCS know about this?

John: it was discussed at a separate meeting

Jess: it was not linked to ratification

Go to the societies meeting

Vote

Yes 19

No 3

Abstain 6

* **Volunteer and Social Enterprise Committee**

Vote

Yes 24

No 3

Abstain 0

1. **Any other Business**

Jemma: do we not need to discuss the mandates?

John: after this.

Sophie: Because we are moving over to Waterside – gender neutral toliets are being asked about. Can I go to trustees to ask about this to see if it can implemented?

Jess: Yes, I am up for this.

Raf: We can raise this in our student union buildings as long as it does not affect anything else. Trustees don’t have much to do with Waterside and this may not be the right direction. Maybe we are talking to the wrong person. Ask at the Waterside Q and A or we take it somewhere else in the university.

Esther: if people are not accepting reports but not questioning them – why?

John: I can look at the voting and see if the same people are voting each time and I will talk to Raf.

Francine: With the MSA, should I concentrate on my role or the MSA?

Jemma: Focus on your role and student voice. If social stuff comes up then try to engage them to be part of the MSA.

Francine: Can I scrap the MSA?

John: You can do an indicative vote.

Jemma: it was 18 months of campaigning and 8-10 weeks is not long enough. Give it a year before you shut it down.

Esther: maybe reduce the amount of positions available on the MSA.

Raf: it comes down to representation and mature students have chosen Francine in her role.

Jemma: The students are saying they want the MSA but don’t want to be involved.

Esther: how many that voted in that petition for the MSA have left the university?

Jemma: I can check…

Jess: We need the communication to be right.

Indicative vote for Keeping the MSA, split between keep and abstain .

Alex: I mentioned before about representing people’s views, I was trying to be encouraging to other members of the council and that you can represent people and sub-groups you don’t necessarily belong to.

* **Vote on Election Dates (Raf)**
* **Term starts:** 8th Jan
* **Announce elections:** Mon 22nd Jan
* **Candidate Academy:** Feb

*-3 weeks since announcement-*

* **Nominations open:** Mon 12th Feb

*-7 days -*

* **Nominations close:** Mon 19th Feb
* **Candidate briefing (1):** Tues 20th Feb AM
* **Candidate briefing (2):** Weds 21st Feb PM
* **Question Time (Avenue):** Tues 27th Feb
* **Question Time (Park):** Thurs 1st Mar

*-12 days worth of campaigning (minimum)-*

* **Polling Opens:** Mon 5th March

THIS NEEDS VOTING THROUGH BY STUDENT COUNCIL

COUNCIL AGREED.

* ~~Sophie Turner discussion~~
* AGM date, proposed: 25 Jan 2017