**Student Council 22 March 2018**

**MAIN COUNCIL BEGINS**

1. **Declaration of conflict of interest: N/A**
2. **Approval of the minutes from the last meeting: 23 yes 5 abstain**
3. **Matters arising from the minutes not elsewhere on the agenda: N/A**
4. **Apologies received**

Salomen, Ashish

1. **Motions**

**1st - Vote of no confidence motion**

(A VNC has been submitted by four Councillors in regards to the 3 Sabbs.)

Jemma: The point of a mandate is for it to be done and this one should have been done in October to complete an action, about a waterside Q&A document. It is not on the website and it shouldn’t be taking 6 months for full time officers to complete an action.

Raf: Danjie talks to more students than any of us and he has put in exceptional work

It has been an incredibly difficult time for the SU and David has supported him so much in the past 2 months and stepped up a lot in the role to an extent where he couldn’t have felt more supported.

David: He believes they went above and beyond by doing the posts and videos and a microsite to explain everything in a bit more detail. Instead of a word document, they created a more engaging way for students to get information.

Danjie: He has put in a lot of hard work with campaigns, students he talks to and disappointed that students can’t see that. He understands council have the right to say things but it feels like students are looking down on the hard work that all the sabs have put in this year. There are other ways to achieve the goal rather than a document so therefore they did a website and can’t understand why students aren’t happy with it. It’s better to speak to students face to face.

A: why did it go straight to vote in confidence instead of discussing the problem first and speaking to them about it? It is not the right time to put in a vote in no confidence.

J: This has not come from no-where. Jemma has asked and spoken to the sabs multiple times and brought it up lots of times at student council and the mandate was very important.

A: Do you know the month that students and staff will move to waterside?

D: 1st August is one of the main dates for moving to Waterside.

G: there is a lot on the website, what is actually missing?

J: the importance of it was to have a document for students to read the Q & A and refer back to them.

A: There is no factual proof that Jemma went to speak to the sabs and e-mailed them and Antonia has seen them speak to students and done everything they can to help.

If the sabs speak to students face-to-face then its better.

It’s not the best route to do a vote in no confidence and it has annoyed a lot of people especially because the sabs have done so much good work this year and they have seen how much hard work they have done.

The point of the vote in no confidence is to hold the sabs in account and Jemma didn’t know how else to sort something out when she had been trying to sort the mandate out for 6 months.

Vote to move the vote in no confidence to a vote: 25 yes 2 no

**Vote to put through the vote in no confidence: 3 yes 23 no 2 abstain**

J: we have the right to mandate people and they have not completed the mandate for 6 months.

**Normal motions:**

1. **Discussion Points**
* *Election discussion (Rebecca)*

Only 5000 students can take part in voting and more ways to get more students engaged and improve it for next year.

There won’t be any issues next year in regards to people not being able to vote but it was actually a great turnout for people who voted.

There should be better rules for people putting themselves forward because there has been so many complaints.

You have to go out and speak to students, it’s quite important.

One of the big issues for people not voting is because of students not being signed up to the student’s union. It has been changed for next year but if the box is still going to exist then it needs to be changed and amended. It’s important for students to be aware that they can change their vote.

Lawrence: there was strict rules and unfortunately there were people that broke the rules and always try and get away with more that they can do. The staff did a good job to stop the students from breaking the rules.

Have the candidate briefing from earlier on and get more people involved. If you give them a much longer time you should get more people involved to vote.

A lot of students don’t know what the SU and it should be promoted through classes in the university. Candidates have limited time to campaign and students get confused with the whole process.

Student engagement isn’t great but you will never get 100% because you will always have students who don’t care about it because they don’t want anything to do with the SU. There’s students that don’t know what the SU is and just see it as a place to have a drink. Marketing needs to be better to show that the SU engages with sports, societies, the community and education. It’s something that the whole SU and the university has to do and not just the sabs.

Students don’t know how much the SU has an impact on the university. A candidate should be disqualified from rules that they break with bribing people.

Some students don’t know enough and lack of knowledge about the elections. It’s a case of having it explained in lectures and having them know more about it and push them more to vote and get involved.

The two main things are making people aware about the officers and committees. It’s our responsibility to make students more aware of who we are and what we do.

* *Green Impact Action plan (2 reports) (Jemma, David)*

Looking at which sab should be the leader of the green impact.

David: how can we make the SU a more sustainable environment? It fits under any officer but its about working as a team and approaching it all together.

Raf: there is a project lead for everything they do but it fits better under VPUD because of the knowledge that they have of everything to do with green impact.

Alex agrees that it should be under VPUD.

J: would the president come to meetings about green impact?

Raf: yes, he would, but sometimes he just does not have the time to come to all of them.

D: wants to get some input on whether the students are happy with the Green Impact Action Plan. He has been looking at how they can make the buildings as sustainable as possible and whether they are doing it well or not. Making sure that lights are turned off at certain times at night etc.

Vote to accept the Green Impact Plan as a smart objective: yes

* *Treatment of staff (Raf)*

It is not appropriate to talk to some staff in the way that students have spoken to staff. It disgusts him that some students aren’t seeing the amount of hard work that staff have put in and the way that some students have treated staff and not appropriate in any work place. Please go to sabb officers to raise any issues or concerns.

G: we represent a lot of students in the uni and there should be professionalism from students because it wouldn’t be tolerated in a work place and shouldn’t be tolerated here at university either.

The officers are looking to do some more equality training classes for students to understand it more.

Think about the way you speak and interact with staff.

1. **Bye-Law Amendments**
* *Executive Committee By law (David)*

Create a by law to set a term of reference for exec committee.

Vote: 25 yes 0 no 1 abstain

* Election Poster (Jemma)

Should have leaflets printed on recycled paper and cant use external companies. To reduce the native of the environment.

It’s important for all candidates to be able to print the same amount. They should all have the same resources.

Surely it will restrict the amount of colour that people can use and it can get a bit boring and it wont get students engaged if its small paper and boring and not colourful.

Its good for candidates to choose what they want and be creative and professional and it can have an effect on their campaigns and if you want to speak to people when you are campaigning you need a lot more leaflets.

J: it didn’t stop people being creative 4 years ago and it was still good to do, it was just using recycled paper.

A: it was nice to know that he put in effort with the posters. It’s going to take the creativity away from campaigns. He would rather have the flexibility of using his own company than having it given to him.

It would restrict candidates from using external companies.

J: you can design and create anything you want as long as its done through the student’s union on recycled paper.

J: the number of posters being used will be announced at candidate briefing and students can only have a limit.

Students can print at home and add business cards or brochures and it is not covered in this.

**Vote to accept Jemma’s motion:** Instead of it being printed by the union it will be overseen by the SU – yes.

**Procedural motion:** to have a budget of posters instead of having a number of posters – 15 yes 2 no 9 abstain.

J: It is specific because there won’t be as many areas to put up posters. There are only 4 places to put posters up.

**Vote to accept the by law amendment for the posters:** 17 yes 6 no 3 abstain.

* EU Officer (?)

Talking about the role and the way it was put.

Ana: some places are still wrong and hasn’t been represented as clearly as she wrote it in the first place and worded differently to how she proposed it in December.

Have to pass the by law today in time for trustees.

Ana can make notes of what she wants to change and not happy with and it is going to be voted through soon.

**Procedural motion:** *change international and European to EU students* - 23 yes 0 no 1 abstain

**Vote by law** – change words to EU: 23 yes 0 no 1 abstain

* Motions (Jemma)

Open things up to students where students can put forward their ideas rather than just.

G: we are the reps and spokesperson for the students. We are their voice.

An example is Ana being able to say something here today rather than going through others.

D: we could have loads of random people say things which aren’t relevant.

If someone is to submit a motion, then it has to be accepted by exec or an officer and discussed whether it can be brought to council.

Jemma says that if it is seconded by an officer or councillor it can be ignored just because someone doesn’t like it.

**Procedural motion:** a motion proposed should be seconded by an officer. This is to amend the motion which Jemma submitted. He agrees that other students should have their input but in a controlled manor. VOTE TO ACCEPT: 16 yes 3 no 5 abstain

Danjie: it would be chaotic if we let everyone get involved with student council and pointless to have officers.

We are all elected to sit here and if students had a problem they would go to the elected officers. They can be brought to council from us.

J: an example is that there is no ethics and environment officer next year so no one can go and raise a concern about the environment so it would be good for them to come and bring their issues and ideas to council.

If there was a passionate point about something then it can be discussed and brought forward.

As elected reps we should be bringing issues forward anyway.

VOTE FOR MOTION BY LAW AMENDMENT TO BE ACCEPTED: 8 yes 11 no 5 abstain

* ~~VNC (Jemma)~~
* Observer questions (Esther)

There should be unlimited questions for observers to have and any questions can be mentioned at any point.

VOTE TO ACCEPT: 24 YES

1. **Policy Proposals**
* Liberation Events (Esther)

Should make all liberation events happen by exec. Make sure that these events are not missed.

VOTE TO ACCEPT: 24 YES

* ~~Freshers Events (David)~~
* Holocaust Memorial Day (David)

As a union we should do something to remember the day.

Procedural motion: amend the motion to change wording.

VOTE TO ACCEPT THE AMENDMENT: 24 YES

VOTE TO ACCEPT THE POLICY PROPOSAL: 23 YES 0 NO 1 ABSTAIN

* Printing During Elections (David

A lot of student groups do far too much printing and using way too much money for promotion. Student groups should have a printing budget the entire year. Election marketing material should have a watermark on it and it means that everyones in the same boat.

VOTING TO ACCEPT: 21 YES 1 NO 2 ABSTAIN

1. **Officer Mandates**

**New:**

* President Mandate (specific mandate title unknown) (Rebecca)

Look at where we can put our posters at waterside for elections and working with the university to ensure that posters don’t get ripped down early by staff again.

VOTE TO ACCEPT MANDATE: 19 YES

* Sub Committee QT Mandate (Jemma)

This can be a good way to make people more aware and be able to vote and want to be involved in the elections.

VOTE TO ACCEPT: 19 YES 4 NO 1 ABSTAIN

* Volunteer Recognition Mandate (Jemma)

Sports awards have colours to remember them and to recognise volunteers and to make sure certificates are given out to course reps and faculty reps and their long term commitments.

David: it would take such a long time to get every course reps involved on stage and a massive cost involved with having 400 course reps.

J: its them being nominated exactly the same as sports or societies.

D: It would take such a long time to award course reps. Already have the course rep reward system and its nothing to do with STAR.

A: it’s important to show what these awards are for and what they are being nominated for.

Procedural motion: to amend the motion to remove course reps from this. 16 YES

VOTE TO ACCEPT THE MANDATE FOR ALL SABB OFFICERS FOR LONG TERM RECOGNITION: 7 YES 14 NO

D: too cost effective and too time consuming.

Don’t agree with the argument that they don’t get recognised because they get recognised through changemaker.

* BME Attainment Gap Mandate (Esther)

Mandate all sabs to make sure they put the bme attainment gap on the agenda and there should be a unified front and all sabs should be involved in it. Writea statement conemdning the attainment gap and to individually do it.

Specify the roles in future and how the BME attainment gap should be involved in all sabb roles.

VOTE FOR MANDATE: 21 YES 0 NO 2 ABSTAIN

* VP Ed Mandate - Anonymous marking policy within the university for VP Ed (Esther)

Students felt that they get marked down if they do certain things. Its important for the VP Education to look into this and the anonymous marketing policy.

VOTE TO ACCEPT:21 YES 0 NO 2 ABSTAIN

**Updates:**

* ~~Equal Access Mandate~~
* ~~International Officer Mandate~~
* ~~Sports Officer Mandate – what do sports want from Waterside?~~
* VP Union Development – supporting societies

STILL ONGOING.

* What provision for Disabled Students at Waterside? Hearing loops

Doing things online and out and about helping students. Split the role into 2. Getting feedback from students.

ONGOING.

* World Mental Health Day – Raf to update

Working on loneliness, home sickness etc.

* Waterside Mandate

ONGOING

1. **~~Trustee report (none)~~**
2. **~~Finance report (not submitted, extenuating circumstances)~~**
3. **Green Impact Report**

Already discussed.

VOTE TO ACCEPT: 22 YES 0 NO 1 ABSTAIN

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

VOTE TO ACCEPT: 21 YES

* **Vice President, Union Development**

Is there any progress with the Q&A for societies and sports? Yes.. It is being written and we are getting the answers put together.

VOTING: 21 YES 1 NO 0 ABSTAIN

* **Vice President, Education**

The success of the BME campaign and forum. 174 signed up to the BME survey which is amazing.

VOTE TO ACCEPT: 21 YES 1 NO 0 ABSTAIN

* **~~Sports Officer– not submitted~~**

**GEMMA HAS RECEIVED A CENSURE**

* **Societies Officer**

If the manifesto points overflow her time as officer, she will still do them as promised.

VOTE TO ACCEPT 21 YES 0 NO 1 ABSTAIN

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

All the faculty reps did so much. BME scholarship will be happening but its still going through some procedures at the minute. Thank you also to Danjie for his hard work.

VOTE TO ACCEPT: 21 YES 1 NO 0 ABSTAIN

* **Disabled Students’ Officer (resigned, Faculty Reps have replacement report)**

The faculty reps have been working together and they are there to help.

VOTE (indicative) TO ACCEPT: 22 YES

* **Entertainments Officer**

Apologise for the lack of visibility in last councils. Comment on the amount of yellow vs green. A lot of the work he is doing or has done he wont stop doing it when his role stops. working with entertainments management students. Capture the flag event is happening after easter (looking to do). Working with Karolin to organise a societies quiz night.

Max: the capture the flag event has been on the go for around 3 months, how has it taken so long to run a simple event?

Alex: doing at the beginning means it is very rushed and when he raised it with Kelly initially, this is something he wanted to do and the dates were to coincide with nicer weather and more involvement. The date was approaching and the weather was bad so they pushed it back. With the other date, varsity was so close therefore it got pushed back again and also with the elections it was too much. We had all the other events to organise as well so now nothing is happening after easter, it would be good to get new committee members involved.

Procedural motion to actually run the event by the 4th May: VOTE 20 YES 0 NO 2 ABSTAIN

VOTE TO ACCEPT REPORT: 21 YES 0 NO 1 ABSTAIN

* **Ethics and Environment Officer**

VOTE TO ACCEPT REPORT: 19 YES 2 NO 1 ABSTAIN

* **International Students’ Officer**

VOTE TO ACCEPT REPORT: 20 YES 0 NO 2 ABSTAIN

* **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer (LGBTQ) Students’ Officer – not submitted**
* **Mature Students’ Officer**

VOTE TO ACCEPT REPORT: 19 YES 0 NO 3 ABSTAIN

* **Postgraduate Students’ Officer**

David: Rebecca doesn’t attend student council enough and she is putting in her reports the events that she has attended such a long time ago. The report never changes and she is not being proactive in her role.

Procedural mandate: to mandate the officer to turn up to the next council.

Ana: why not all the reports and not just one?

Alex: if it’s something that Ana wants to go forward more and put further, then it needs to go to a specific rep to put forward to council and discussed more.

VOTE TO ACCEPT THE PROCEDURAL MANDATE: 21 YES 0 NO 1 ABSTAIN

VOTE TO ACCEPT REPORT: 5 YES 12 NO 5 ABSTAIN

* **Women’s Officer**

International Women’s day –event for insane Tuesdays and during the week.

VOTE TO ACCEPT REPORT: 21 YES 0 NO

* **Changemaker Officer**

VOTE TO ACCEPT REPORT: 21 YES 0 NO 1 ABSTAIN

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

* **Education Committee –** late submission, not uploaded

Minute taker hasn’t been turning up so they cannot send in minutes they don’t have.

* **AU Committee**

Tier funding has been sent out to the clubs to tell them what they need to do. Things have gone quite well with sports.

VOTE TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES: 22 YES

* **Societies Committee**

A few societies that haven’t turned up over the year will be voted at the next meeting. No issues raised and no reports were rejected.

VOTE TO ACCEPT MINUTES: 22 YES

* **Volunteer and Social Enterprise Committee**

VOTE TO ACCEPT: 21 YES 0 NO 1 ABSTAIN

1. **Any other Business**
2. Ana: why is there not a By law set for certain PTO’s and Sabb’s to not be able to re run for their role or run for a different role if they have not been doing well.

The main point to remember is that they are democratically elected.

Ana: there are a lot of students that don’t know what their officers are actually doing and some students vote for them randomly to vote for someone or just because they know them.

You have to be careful by saying ‘you cant run for a role’.

Everyone should have the same opportunity to run for a role.

Roger says that there is a big difference in being removed from council and being disciplined.

1. Lawrence: we have mentioned about the holocaust event and now we are getting to the end of the year and nothing has been mentioned about Remembrance Day. Some students have gone to him upset and a staff member have said that they wanted to make a point of it and the university do nothing every year for Remembrance Day. Why does the university not have this and what can we do to solve this?

Procedural mandate: to mandate VPUD to do something for Remembrance Day.

1. David: Thanks to everyone throughout the year for everyones hard work and best of luck for the future.
2. Jemma: she asked about when they were going to have the reports from someone about the elections.

It is going to be done next time.