

Student Council Meeting Minutes

31st October 2017, TS 007

1. Welcome to Student Council

Meeting opened at 5:08pm by (LC).

Quorum of is met.

1.1. Attendance

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|
| (LC) Lewis Cleminson | VP Education (Acting Chair) | Non-Voting |
| (NF) Naomi Fry | VP Employability and Engagement | Non-Voting |
| (MT) Mollie Tuck | Disabilities Students' Officer | Voting |
| (SGR) Sebastian Graves-Read | LGBT+ Students' Officer | Voting |
| (RN) Richard Neale | Postgraduate Students' Officer | Voting |
| (RL) Rebecca Latchman | Mental Health Campaigns Officer | Voting |
| (KL) Katharina Laube | EU & International Students' Officer | Voting |
| (IM) Izzy Mana | BME Students' Officer | Voting |
| (DW) David Woolley | Student Involvement Manager | Non-Voting |
| (JS) Joshua Smith | Student Voice Coordinator (Secretary) | Non-Voting |

1.2. Apologies

| | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|------------|
| (MM) Megan Maddex | President | Non-Voting |
| (HH) Hanna Head | VP Welfare and Community | Non-Voting |

1.3. No Apologies

| | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|--------|
| (LA) Lotty Astbury | WMA Liaison Officer | Voting |
| (BC) Bethanie Clarke | Women's Officer | Voting |

2. Ratifications

2.1. Minutes of Last Meeting

(LC) forgot to bring or circulate the minutes so they could not be ratified.

ACTION: Minutes to be ratified in next meeting.

2.2. Student Trustee Application

There are three Student Trustee places on the Student Unions' Trustee Board. Applications for these roles are approved by the Trustee Board and then ratified by Student Council.

Student Council is to vote on whether to ratify the application of (SGR) to become a Student Trustee. (SGR) declared a conflict of interests.

(MT) asks why (SGR) wants to be a trustee.

(SGR) explained that using his experience he wants to bring a business mind to the Trustee Board and make the Students' Union more independent of the university.

(SGR) leaves the room while voting takes place.

VOTING: Unanimously Approved

3. Policy Developments

(LC) ran through the policy register spreadsheet on a computer explaining:

- Each policy on it lasts three years.
- After three years a policy is brought back to Student Council.
- Student Council then either vote continue or lapse the policy.
- Policies are colour coded: Green = Success, Amber = Started, Red = No Progress

ACTION: Policy list to be emailed out to all Student Officers.

3.1. The Students' Union should lobby the University for free water fountains on every floor of every building:

(LC) updated everyone on the development of the motion:

- The Spark has put water fountains on each floor.
- There are also now water fountains in the Dock and reception area.

Should this policy remain open for another three years or be closed?

(RL) raises concerns about a lack of drinking water access in the SM building.

(MT) highlights the same concerns about the JM building.

(RL) raises further the issue that although you can get drinking water at a Doozy it's not free and suggests that free drinking water should be available on every floor.

VOTING: Keeping the Policy Open Unanimously Approved

ACTION: Policy to be kept open.

3.2. Create a part-time trans officer role at Solent:

(LC) updated everyone on the development of the motion:

- The role of Trans Officer now exists so the policy is complete.
- Unfortunately no one ran for it in the Student Officer elections.
- Position is currently vacant.

Should this policy be closed as it is now complete?

(RN) asked if there would be another election to fill the position.

(LC) explains that:

- The decision would be up to Officer Committee in a couple of weeks who could decide to reopen nominations and hold another election.
- Alternatively Student Council could co-opt someone into the role but they would have no voting rights and not contribute towards or against quorum.

(SGR) says he would be happy to take on the responsibility of the role until it is filled as it fits in with his LGBT+ role.

VOTING: Closing the Policy Unanimously Approved

ACTION: Policy to be closed as complete.

3.3. The SU bar should be opened later:

(LC) informs everyone that the policy has now been closed by the Trustee Board as they have closed the SU Bar due to it not being financially viable.

There were no questions.

4. Student Motions

4.1. Motion Submissions

(LC) explains how the old method of students submitting motions has been updated:

- The form used to be a pdf form that had to be printed out and filled in by hand.
- It is now online as a google form which was made by (NF).

(SGR) asked if it makes clear that either the proposer or seconder of a student motion needs to attend a Student Council meeting to present it.

(NF) looked through form and confirms that it was not made clear on the online form.

ACTION: (NF) to update form to clarify that either the proposer or seconder of a student motion needs to attend a Student Council meeting to present it.

4.2. Emergency Motion

Due to the lack of a Student Council Chair (LC) proposes that byelaw 4.1.2 be updated to allow Council Chair to be decided by a majority vote of the Student Council. This would allow a Student Council Chair to be appointed in the next Student Council meeting.

There were no question.

VOTING: Motion Unanimously Approved

ACTION: Emergency motion to go to Trustee Board.

5. Sabbatical Officer Reports

5.1. (MM) President

No Report submitted prior to meeting.

5.2. (HH) VP Welfare and Community

No Report submitted prior to meeting.

5.3. (LC) VP Education

(LC) brought up their manifesto on the screen and ran through that he's done:

- RepFest combined Course Rep training into one day rather than multiple sessions spread over two weeks as it had been in the past. Some recordings of the guest speakers from the training session will go onto the SoL site.
- Produced the Course Rep Handbook which has been sent out to all Course Reps.
- Attended an NSS away day to discuss course quality and extra curriculum activities.
- Is focusing on getting more academic societies set up and thought that he had set on up.
- Has worked with (NF) to get additional resources for societies.
- Has ratified some new societies.
- Worked on getting a more colourful union by getting The Den redecorated with new furniture and recycling the old stuff upstairs in the SU Lounge.

- Has booked out an entire day to decorate the union for Christmas.

Before taking questions (LC) promised to have more updates next time.

(RL) questioned why not every Course Rep had been informed about RepFest.

(LC) explained that only Course Reps that lecturers have registered can be contacted. All of these were told about RepFest by email and on the SoL site.

(RL) asked what (LC) was going to do about lecturers not registering Course Reps.

(LC) explained that he sits on a number of committees within the university and would be putting pressure on them to get lecturers to register all Course Reps.

(MT) asked where all the colour was.

(LC) explained that he would be contacting the university to ask if it would be possible to paint the walls a different colour around the Students' Union.

(RN) added that when his research group asked a similar question they were told they could as long as when they handed the space back to the university it was in the state they originally got it.

(RL) further asked why it was so dark in The Den.

(LC) explained that they considered taking the frosting off in The Den to let more light in but that behind the windows was the bins which were not a nice view.

5.4. (NF) VP Employability and Engagement

(NF) ran through a prepared report on the projector of what she's up to:

- Encouraged collaborations between societies.
- Is working to create a database of what societies are up to so when students ask for information on a certain society they can be told when and where the next event is.
- Worked with Student Involvement and oversaw the society training at RepFest.
- Is working on organising awards night.
- Has been working on society promotion and can now get adverts on the big screens around the university campuses.
- As there is no Societies Council Chair the Sabbatical Officers will take a lead on Societies Council.
- Has been joining 'Pop up Union' to get outside and talk with students.
- Is trying to keep the Sabbatical Officer office door open between 10am-4pm to be more welcoming to students.
- Has been working with Solent Futures to see what sort of CV workshops and support they can offer students.
- Has been waiting for volunteers for community projects like beach cleaning and supporting the farm.
- Wants to bring together short term volunteering opportunities for students to get involved in so they can try stuff out without having to commit as students don't have much time.
- Organised a Bake Off for Sonar.
- Got an office for Sonar TV, Film and Magazine.
- Coordinated Puppy Room and a video of which has been seen by 3,000 people.
- Some of the Puppy Room money raised is being used to have a Solent Student Union sponsored dog.
- Is looking into getting a Santa's grotto at the AGM.

- Is working to make society funding fairer for liberation groups who currently cannot apply for funding from the Students' Union as they don't charge a membership fee.
- Has secured a pot of funding specifically for liberation groups to apply for this year.
- Is working on Refreshers Fair.

(SGR) asked if the Puppy Room video had acknowledgements of the Student's Union on it.

(NF) confirmed that it did.

(RL) asked where societies would be in Refreshers Fair this year.

(NF) explained that it would be a smaller event and everyone would be in the Guildhall and not the art gallery like they were in the Fresher's Fair.

(SGR) asked when the next Societies Council would be.

(NF) informed everyone that it would be next week.

(RN) raised concerns that a lot of societies were not at the Fresher's Fair.

(NF) explained that:

- They only have contact with active societies.
- None of the active societies declined spaces at the Fresher's Fair.
- There are a number of inactive societies that students can adopt and restart if they can get five students involved.

(RL) raised concerns that not many students knew about societies being in the art gallery.

(NF) explained that next year this would not be an issue as they can go back to the old model.

(RL) raised concerns that Student Ambassadors got conflicting information about what was going on at Fresher's Fair and did not point out to students that societies were upstairs in the art gallery.

(NF) explained that this would no longer be an issue as they were going back to the old model and that they would be working on better signage.

(LC) added that the space for Fresher's Fair in 2018 could be booked and secured for the next three years.

6. Student Leader Updates

No Sonar Media Rep or Societies Chair had been elected so no reports were given.

7. Student Officer Reports and Questions

The Student Officers had only just been elected so had no updates to give.

8. Any Other Business

What Happens Next

(RL) asked what happens next for Student Council.

(LC) explained that:

- **(HH)** is putting together a Student Officer handbook.
- That Officer Committee will meet in two weeks.
- Each Student Officer will get an individual meeting to through each of their roles.
- Student Officers will be linked up with relevant student committees for their roles.

- (LC) will create a Facebook group for all the Student Officers.

(SGR) questioned why (HH) was dealing with Student Officer stuff as that was part of the president role description.

(LC) explains that as this was part of (HH)'s manifesto it has been delegated.

8.1. Next Meeting Date

28th November at 5pm in room TS 011.

All apologies must be sent to: student.involvement@solent.ac.uk

Meeting Closed: 6:09pm