

## Student Council Meeting Minutes

5pm 27<sup>th</sup> February 2018, TS 011

### 1. Welcome to Student Council

Meeting opened by (SGR).

Quorum was not met so no votes on motions could be taken.

#### 1.1. Attendance

##### 1.1.1. Sabbatical Officers

(HH) Hanna Head	VP Welfare and Community	Non-Voting
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##### 1.1.2. Student Officers

(SGR) Sebastian Graves-Read	LGBT+ Students' Officer (Acting Chair)	Voting
(RL) Rebecca Latchman	Mental Health Campaigns Officer	Voting
(RN) Richard Neale	Postgraduate Students' Officer	Voting
(LA) Lotty Astbury	WMA Liaison Officer	Voting

##### 1.1.3. Student Leaders

##### 1.1.4. Students' Union Staff

(JS) Joshua Smith	Student Voice Coordinator (Secretary)	Non-Voting
(LW) Leigh Wilson	Academic Case Worker	Non-Voting

#### 1.2. Apologies

(LC) Lewis Cleminson	VP Education	Non-Voting
(NF) Naomi Fry	VP Employability and Engagement	Non-Voting
(IM) Izzy Mana	BME Students' Officer	Voting
(MT) Mollie Tuck	Disabilities Students' Officer	Voting
(KL) Katharina Laube	EU & International Students' Officer	Voting

#### 1.3. No Apologies

(BC) Bethanie Clarke	Women's Officer	Voting
(LMN) Lulu McNally	Societies Council Chair	Voting
(DD) Daniela De Palma	Sonar Media Representative	Voting

## 2. Ratifications

### 2.1. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting (30.01.2018) were handed round and run through on the screen for ratification. No amendments were made.

**Ratification of the previous minutes unanimously approved**

### 2.2. Reopening of Policies From Last Meeting

(SGR) explained that the meeting was not quorate to the policies could not be reopened. This would be taken to the next meeting for voting on and if that was not quorate would be instead voted on via an email vote.

**ACTION: Vote on policies to be reopened to occur at next Student Council meeting.**

### 2.3. Student Trustee Ratification

(SGR) explained that the meeting was not quorate so the Student Trustee could not be ratified and that would instead be done by an email vote.

**ACTION: (JS) to send round email vote to ratify the new Student Trustee.**

## 3. Policy Developments

### 3.1. Policy Register Updates

There were no lapsing policies to discuss.

## 4. Student Motions

One student motion was submitted but could only be discussed and not voted on.

### 4.1. Study Space for Students

(RL) ran through her student motion explaining that:

- Would like the SM basement to have more study spaces and individual pods where groups or individuals can study without disturbing others.
- There are currently computers in the SM basement but these are not for general use by students.
- Would like pods like in the library which would allow groups to practice presentations without disturbing others.
- The pods in the library aren't soundproof.
- Could put some of the library in the SM basement.

See appendix 1 for full student motion.

(SGR) read out a comment from (MT):

*"I agree with this, more so about the group study pods. My course is 95% group based therefore the pods are ideal for us to use every week for meetings and to create presentation. Because my course is film based we often watch things that my put off other students which it why the group pods are perfect. However they get filled very quickly and the system only allows you to book two weeks in advanced with is very annoying. Having extra study group pods in the SM building would make life so much easier for a lot of students. On a disabilities point of view the individual pods are very anxiety and stress inducing meaning that they aren't fit for purpose for a lot of students. These pods are open at the top meaning you can hear other people around you and this can stress students out as they are needing to be quite so that the people in the other pods can't hear them. These need to be changed so that the pods are closed off from top to bottom (like the group pods) allowing students to not feel too over whelmed by every little noise they make."*

(LA) agreed it was a good idea and asked if students can just use empty classrooms.

(HH) explained that the university don't like it and are strict on room bookings.

(HH) added that the university has been moving all library recourses to one place where they can be better supported so it is unlikely that they would be moved from there to the SM basement.

(SGR) added that from a School Rep prospective he knows that the university is planning to move all teaching out of SM and that it will become a business innovation space. The university had applied for funding to do this.

(SGR) suggested focusing on the library study spaces instead of the SM basement.

(RL) asked if all of SM would become an innovation space.

(SGR) explained all of it would apart from the first floor.

(RL) asked what was happening with level 3 of the library.

(SGR) explained that SLTI were there now.

(RL) added that the slit between quiet and non-quiet areas on level 3 was weird and suggested that extra pod space could be created there.

(RL) raised that it is not possible to book group study space as an individual.

(SGR) summarised that the motion would be amended to:

- Lobby for more group and individual study space around the university (not just SM).
- Lobby for these study spaces to be closed off (i.e. soundproof).

It was decided that the motion would be voted on by email to ratify.

**ACTION: (SGR) to reword motion.**

**ACTION: (JS) to send round motion for an email vote to ratify.**

## 5. Sabbatical Officer Reports and Questions

### 5.1. VP Education

(LC) submitted no report and was not present to give a verbal one.

### 5.2. VP Employability and Engagement

(NF) submitted no report and was not present to give a verbal one.

### 5.3. VP Welfare and Community

(HH) gave a verbal report about what they had been up to:

- Busy with lots of meetings.
- Had been preparing a bid for £50,000 of funding for looking at the overlap of religion and sexuality in the student community and hopefully increase hate crime reporting.
- She explained there was 1.5 weeks left to apply and that the university would match the funding through staff hours.
- The second mental health research had come back.
- Lorna Reavley (SU Chief Exec) would be attending a conference about it.
- Had sat on 4 disciplinary panels.
- The Refreshers Fair had got good feedback back.
- Was involved in Welcome Week planning and hoped to have better structure for it this year.
- Had been working on the charity image of Solent Students' Union so it was more of a brand.
- Was part of a space planning meeting.
- Working with lots of students around consent.
- Draft budget was due in Friday.

## 6. Student Leaders Updates

### 6.1. Societies Council Chair

(LMN) submitted no report and was not present to give a verbal one.

### 6.2. Sonar Media Rep

(DD) submitted no report and was not present to give a verbal one.

## 7. Student Officer Reports and Questions

### 7.1. Disabilities Students' Officer

(MT) provided a written report (see appendix 2).

### 7.2. LGBT+ Students' Officer

(SGR) provided a verbal report of what they had been up to:

- Going through motions for the LGBT+ NUS conference.
- Had been reached out to by the delegate running it.
- Attended Hampshire Pride.
- Was looking into a possible unconscious bias around a high achievers and aspiring high achievers event in the School of Business, Law and Communication.

### 7.3. Mature Students' Officer

This position is currently vacant.

### 7.4. Postgraduate Students' Officer

(RN) provided a verbal report of what they had been up to:

- The post graduate and mature student society AGM was the following Friday.
- It had 15 members.

(HH) raised that there had been more complaints from post graduate students and asked if they could talk about how to identify if there was an issue.

(RL) asked how they found out.

(HH) explained that it was noticeable from the advice centre and university.

### 7.5. Warsash Maritime Liaison Officer

(LA) provided a written report (see appendix 3).

(RL) asked why they needed access to showers

(LA) explained that many cadets jog or cycle in.

(SGR) suggested that staff and students maybe couldn't share shower facilities due to safeguarding issues as there are cadets from 16 years old.

(LA) further raised that they were not authorised to access branding guidelines on portal.

### 7.6. Mental Health Campaigns Officer

(RL) provided a verbal update on what they have been doing:

- Needed to meet up with (MT) and (HH) to discuss splitting the role of (MT).
- Would be unable to attend the NUS Disabilities conference.

### 7.7. Trans Students Officer

This position is currently vacant.

### 7.8. BME Students' Officer

(IM) provided a written report (see appendix 4).

### 7.9. EU & International Students' Officer

No report submitted.

### 7.10. Women's' Officer

No report submitted.

## 8. AOB

### 8.1. Women's Officer Attendance

(RL) raised that (BC) had missed four Student Council meetings and had only given apologies once.

It was clarified that in line with Bye Law 4.3.3 that the Chair of Student Council could call a vote to remove (BC) from Student Council.

(RN) asked what the point would be of removing (BC).

(SGR) explained that a replacement could be co-opted onto Student Council.

(HH) added that it would make sure women are being represented and have actual student representation.

(LA) asked if (BC) had received a final warning.

(HH) explained that she had in her 1:1.

(RL) added that although her absence was due to her being ill, she should step back and reapply next year when she could fulfil the role better.

(SGR) explained a vote on removing (BC) from Student Council could not be taken as the meeting was not at quorum so postponed the vote until the following Student Council meeting where (BC) would have a chance to attend and explain her absences.

**ACTION: Have vote on whether or not to remove (BC) from Student Council at the following meeting.**

### 8.2. Officer Committee

(HH) explained that an Officer Committee meeting was needed at the beginning of March and suggested the 6<sup>th</sup> of March at 3pm-4pm.

## 9. Confirmation of the Next Student Council Time and Date

Next Meeting Date: 17<sup>th</sup> April

Meeting End

## Appendices

### **Appendix 1: Student Motion: Study for Students**

**Proposer:** Rebecca Latchman

**Secunder:** Sophia Gordon

#### **A longer explanation of the motion:**

Part of the SM building to be a smaller library for students and/or individual study pods and group study pods for presentations.

#### **Explain how you feel the proposal will benefit members of the Union or of the particular group it is referring to:**

We think it will create students an easier and quicker way to study. At present, the students in SM take some time to choose the books they require then have to then get settled on the computers meaning it could only be less than 40 minutes they have to study before they have to come back to SM for lessons. The second issue being as much as we have a chill area we need bigger space to do presentations and the pods in the library fill up quicker but we also have nowhere else quiet we can work as a team in SM. Also individual study pods aren't suitable for presentations in the Library, and as business students we have quite a few presentations we do have to do, including video presentations.

**Appendix 2: (MT) Disabilities Officer – 27/02/2018****1. Summary**

- This report is an update on what I have been doing for Disabled Students in February 2018.

**2. Recommendation**

- Ask what other students would like me to do.

**3. Detail**

- **I attended a “Project Aurora” meeting which was to do with creating an app based on the portal. I added input to make it more user friendly for students with physical and learning disabilities. These features including: text size options, light and dark option, changing themes and/or appearance of the app and making it customizable for students. I also mentioned this issues that the desktop portal had that I had mentioned in last month’s student council meeting and they have said they plan to work on it also.**
- **I also attended a rep preparation meeting in which I learnt there is little support for the mental health of academic reps as well as learning and physical disabilities. I want to work with Rebecca on this matter to see what we can do to improve this.**
- I still want to work with Hanna and Rebecca to improve Extenuating Circumstances policy for students, focusing on Disabilities, more so on students with mental and learning issues as well as the form linked to this and the issues that could flare up for students with disabilities more so with learning and/or visual impairment and/or Autism (and/or something similar).
- I’m waiting for a update to join the library Accessibility group to review the library to make it easier for students in general but focus on triggers for students with disabilities. I want to proposal a chill out space to the library also.
- I am waiting on a update to do with brail is around the university.
- I am still looking into have a meeting with Charities outside of university, Including Spectrum to see if we can collaborate on something.
- I’m still hoping to help change and improve the access agreement in the next few months.

## Appendix 3: (LA) WSA Liaison Officer – 27/02/2018

### Summary

1. This paper provides an update on the activity of Warsash Maritime Academy and its cadets, and the issues raised by those working and studying at this academy.

*NB: I recognize that the details of our course and the general running of our college is considerably different to a typical degree at the university so I am happy to try and answer any questions you may have.*

### Detail

#### 2. Healthier Vending Machines

It has been brought to my attention that some cadets would like to see healthier options offered in our vending machines as currently only crisps, sweets and chocolate are available.

#### 3. Student Accommodation

As cadets we are obliged to live in halls for both our first and last phases (5 and 3 months respectively) and consequently we want to ensure that this accommodation is of the best standard it can be. Which accommodation would be best suited for officer cadets? Is it affordable (arguably £137.20 per week is not)?

#### 4. Water Fountains

We have one water machine in the building (located on the first floor in the common room area) – it has been out of service for several weeks and there is no other drinking water source on site.

#### 5. Warsash Clothing

Cadets and staff would like to request that varsity clothing with the Warsash Maritime Academy branding is made available for purchase. We have been waiting a very long time for such products and many have already missed out in going to sea before it has become available.

#### 6. Temperature of the Building

Why is it always like a sauna or a freezer!?

#### 7. Provisions in Library at weekends

Would it be possible to have a food and drink facility open within the university at the weekend for those using the library on Saturday and Sunday?

#### 8. Access to Staff Facilities

- A lot of cadets feel that staff interests were put above those of the students following the move to the City Centre.
- For instance, our timetables were negatively influenced to benefit those teaching on both the old and new campuses, and although shower and kitchen facilities were promised to both students and staff, we are now nearly one year in the new building and only the latter have received such facilities.
- We would like to request that these facilities (specifically showers, a hot water facility and a microwave) are made available to everybody using the building or that specific facilities for the students are provided.

## Appendix 4: (IM) BME Students' Officer – 27/02/2018

### Summary

9. This paper provides an update on the activity of the BME against their manifesto.

### Recommendation

10. Student Council is asked to note the paper.

11. Members of Student Council and students are encouraged to ask questions.

### Detail

#### 12. Manifesto point 1

I have organized a meeting with Ilyas, who is the NUS BME officer to discuss my role in more depth and to give me some guidance on how I can make a difference within my role.

#### Manifesto point 2

- I plan on starting up the ACS society since I was not able to reach anybody who is in the society. Which makes me believe that it is no longer active. I believe it is an important society for the AC students to have access to within Solent.
- I'm planning on ways on how I could advertise it.

#### Manifesto point 3

[detail an update progress against this manifesto point]

#### Other Activity

[Insert here details of any other activity you have undertaken that isn't directly related to your manifesto]

- I've been to some black history month events which has given me some ideas for which we could use to make people aware of BHM.

End of Appendices