

Student Council Minutes

November 9th 2022

Chair

Merian Alit – Union Chair

Apologies

Jack McDonald – Activities Officer

Archie Robinson – Sports Officer

Attendance

Nic Farmer – Liberation Officer

Rhiannon Jenkins - President

AnneMarie Deeb – Education Officer

Hoor Pathan – Wellbeing Officer

Ashton Mallard – Trans & Non-Binary Officer

Trisha Spencer – Mature & Part-Time Officer

Jade Thomas – BAME Students' Officer

Anurag Pasari – Postgraduate Officer

Sai Murugesh Geethanjali – International Students' Officer

Jade Rowe – LGBTQ+ Officer

Kavita Rani – Women's Officer

Adam Morgan – Accessibility Officer

Sheeba Asad – Distance Learning Officer

Chris J.R. Carinci – Scrutiny Committee

Celeste Hogan – Scrutiny Committee

Hannah Cheeseman – Scrutiny Committee

Jiarong Tian – Scrutiny Committee

Barry Yang – Scrutiny Committee

Oliver Goodwin – Course Rep

Vlad Makar – Course Rep

Haleigh Gregory – Course Rep

Ivy Griffiths

Lauren Croft

Paisley Giblin-Doyle

Frankie Lau

Harvey Burns – Sports Council

Didem Karaer

Agheme Kevin

Ansah Akhtar

Riya Mathew

Rabiatou Aliyu Njapdounke A. Njapdounke

Shafi Ullah

Hafsah Hafesje – Student Staff

Megan Robertson – Staff

Opening:

The regular meeting of the student council took place on the 9th of November and was called at 6:05pm by Megan and the student union chair in Gee's.

Agenda for meeting highlighted by SU Chair and floor was open to any students present as to whether they had anything to discuss, or to email on Su-council.

Present:

Consult Attendance List and those who joined online via Teams

Business from previous meeting:

Election results:

The election results have been released and all positions have been elected for the scrutiny committees and part time officers. New representatives were asked to introduce themselves if they wanted to. Also, Jack's Sustainability proposition was passed.

Upcoming Elections:

New role up for elections towards the end of the year. Individual would have to attend a conference, where travel and accommodation would be provided by the Student Union. Members were asked whether they had queries and if so, to email the Students Union.

New Business:

Sticky Campus update

Sticky Campus update by Rhiannon, who mentioned how this notion was executed to make campus more accessible. Updates included the deli confirming £3.50 Meal prices, which is matched to local supermarkets such as Tesco. They have also been broadened to include all dietary requirements for Halal and Vegan. Additionally, membership to all academic societies have been made free. Her future updates include having a gaming room where the latest gaming equipment would be installed for students to use as well as a common room to be made for all schools, to increase sociability.

Regarding campus, the Sticky Campus is also looking at having an outdoor art exhibition and basketball hoops. They are also hoping to propose and have a book stall where students can exchange books and text books for similar prices. She also plans to have a student conference later on in the year, where she is hoping to have around 50-70 students present.

TEF Update

The TEF update was given by Anne Marie D who explained that there have been 510 responses to the TEF survey but is still pushing for more students to fill out the survey. Together with Rhiannon, Anne Marie also spoke with individuals from TEF and have gained insight to how it will be judged. She still plans to have more TEF meetings with individuals in the field.

The floor was then opened to any representatives who had anything to share and discuss

Representative updates:

Mature Students Officer

Trisha introduced herself as the Part Time Officer for Mature students, where she is hoping to build more connections with mature students. She has organised a Meet and Greet session for mature students in G's and has organised a series of wellbeing sessions for mature students, but is also open for everybody and everyone.

Updates and Opportunities from Officers:

Education Officer:

Anne Marie D began by mentioning the success of the Student Leaders conference and the Academic rep forums. She updated everyone on Wonky Catch-up where she has networked with policy makers and attended two sessions focused on general educator and post graduates. She gave feedback on the My UoL app where she has mentioned that they are revamping the app, and also making it easier for students to find attendances and academic resources.

Sports Officer:

As Archie was absent, Anne Marie gave the updates on behalf of him. She started with the success of the event Archie has been organising, where Leicester Tigers have accepted his event proposal and he hopes to have guest speakers present at the event. She updated the meeting attendees of his new initiative which is recognition in sports. By doing this, he hopes to reward students and increase student participation. He is also working with Rhiannon by documenting participation on passports. Anne Marie also mentioned how Archie has also worked on transport by allowing free travel for all students between Monday and Saturday.

President:

Rhiannon spoke about looking at awarding students across the university, and creating more opportunities for reward. Breaking down how the Union will be improving student experience through money acquired from the University, Rhiannon did a cost breakdown where,

- £5000 – free events
- £3000 – De-stress
- £5000 – Jack – New starter packs
- £2000 -TEF
- £3000 – Passport Schemes

- £10,000 – Nick –Liberation Projects
- £2,000 – Part Time officers

She was happy to take suggestions on any ideas representatives and members had. She is also working with Anne Marie making sure there is a student voice on all levels, and has raised talk on the cost of living by emailing Liz Kendall and John Ashworth followed by lobbying the House of Lords on the suggested change to the Freedom of Speech act.

Student Forum updates:

As Jack was unable to attend, Hoor took the role of giving student forum updates on his behalf. Jack has set up a new student group start up fund where £5000 has been dedicated to go to new start up groups as well as £100 being put in their fundraising account. He has made improvements which will be made in the New Year regarding room bookings. Students will be able to book spaces to use for societies and events through a simplified booking process.

Wellbeing Officer:

Hoor started by mentioning the success of the free breakfast initiative. She notified that on the 22nd of November, there will be a workshop in Ken Edwards Building between 5 and 6:30pm where support will be offered to students regarding the cost of living crisis. The University security has been made aware of spiking awareness and changes are being made to the safety procedures.

Liberation Officer:

Nic started with mentioning the success of Black History month, including the barber shop which was well attended. Nic received good feedback following from the success of these events and has a De-stress campaign planned for the next semester. The Student Council was updated on discussion regarding decolonising the university which was great and mentioned of a meeting taking place on the 24th of November, online, with students and staff. A Trans Remembrance Day has been planned in collaboration with De Montfort University giving recognition to those who lost their lives as well as celebrate their lives. Students can attend the vigil on the 18th of November at 5pm, and will be able to light candles in their remembrance. There will also be a LGBTQ+ ally training in November which adds to the stamps.

A ballot box was put at the back of the room where students could give anonymous feedback on the cost of living. Those who attended online were asked to put it in the Teams chat, or alternatively, email Student Union Voice. The meeting was ended after asking members and representatives for any thoughts and suggestions, followed by pizza and food.

Close of meeting: 6:45 pm