

## **Full-Time Officer Group (FTOG)**

12:00 - 13:00, Online Meeting (Zoom)

## **Present**

Danielle Murinas, Postgraduate Officer (PGO)
Mikey Brown, President (President)
Jules Singh, Education Officer (EO)
Josephine Conway, Activities and Employability Officer (AEO) (Chair)
Aaliyah Simms, Welfare & Community Officer (WCO)
Wei-Lun Chen, International Officer (IO)

## Also in Attendance

Sam Jones, Executive Assistant (SJ) (note taker)

## <u>Apologies</u>

Jo Thomas, Chief Executive (JT)
George Christian, Sports Officer (SO)

No	Item for Discussion	Notes	Action
1	Minutes from 27.06.2022	The chair presented the minutes of the previous meeting.  The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as an accurate record of the previous meeting.	Noted Approved
2	Graduation Hardship Fund	The EO updated the Officer Team on uptake of the Graduation Hardship fund, noting that 9 students to date had been supported to cover graduation costs totalling £525.	Noted
		The Officer Team discussed the remaining funding for hardship and possible remaining funding from the campaigns pot. The Officer Team discussed transferring their remaining campaigns funds to the Guild Hardship Fund for 2022/23. The President suggested ring-fencing the funding for graduation hardship funds for the next academic year.	Noted
		The WCO suggested additional spending on the University's community pantry project, including for supermarket vouchers to be used for the Guild's hardship funding over the summer. The EO and WCO agreed to discuss with the Finance Team.	EO/WCO
3	Officer Handover Planning	The Officer Team discussed their progress on handover documents to the incoming officer team. The PGO noted that they were finalising their document imminently. The AEO and WCO noted that their documents were nearly complete. The Officer Team agreed to finalise their documents by the end of the week.  The Officer Team discussed planning for the 'Campus Politics' training session on the 13 <sup>th</sup> July, and what content to share and	Noted

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		what University colleagues to reference. The EO updated the Officer Team on plans for the timings of the session. The EO agreed to circulate a final presentation and timetable.	EO
4	Handover FTOG	The Officer Team discussed arrangements for the following week's handover FTOG meeting.	Noted
5	Democracy Review	The President updated the Officer team on their draft paper on the Guild's planned democracy review. The Officer Team agreed to discuss the democracy review at the next meeting. SJ to include on agenda.	SJ
6	5 Day Extension	The PGO updated the Officer Team on the University's extenuating circumstances process, which had been expanded during the COVID-19 pandemic.	Noted
		The PGO noted that the Guild had recently become aware of the University's plans to remove the self-certification five-day extension for submission deadlines, and had expressed concerns on possible negative impacts for students. The PGO noted that the incoming Officer Team felt strongly that the self-certification process should be maintained, and the issue was likely to continue into the next year. The EO noted high rates of self-certification in some colleges.  The President noted that the proposal had recently been approved by University Education Committee. The EO noted that in future, all deadline extensions would require evidence. The EO noted their understanding that no student consultation had been conducted on the change. The WCO noted the additional staff resource required to administer an evidence-based system, and the financial costs of accessing multiple GP fit notes.  The Officer Team agreed to discuss in the issue with their incoming team. The President noted the need for an urgent campaign to oppose the decision.	Noted Noted
7	Officer Key Meetings	President – VC 1:1, COSS Education Committee, SMT, University Relationships, Selly Oak Stakeholders meeting.	Noted
		EO - SAEC, HEFI Festival, University Relationships.	Noted
		IO – 1:1 PVC International, Academic Integrity meeting, University Relationships, Handover time.	Noted
		<b>AEO –</b> WW Coordination Group, CWG Engagement Group, MDX, JunkBusters outreach, UB Sport Leadership session.	Noted
		<b>PGO -</b> Student Mental Health Conference, SAEC, University Relations, SVRM 1:1.	Noted
		<b>SO</b> – n/a.	Noted
		WCO - n/a.	Noted

8	Schools/Colleges/ Dubai Update	The EO noted that the previous issue for nursing student accommodation during placements had now been resolved. The Officer Team noted their thanks to the University Accommodation Team.	Noted
9	Guild Communications & Social Media	The Officer Team noted the following items  • Officer Wins	Noted
10	Part Time Officers	No Items Noted.	Noted
11	AOB(Any Other Business)	The President noted that a museum in Germany had recently returned a Benin Bronze from modern day Nigeria, which had been looted in the late 18 <sup>th</sup> century. The President noted that a similar sculpture was house in the University's Barber Institute. The President noted that the Nigerian government was seeking the return of all artefacts looted from Benin by the authorities of the British Empire.	Noted
		The Officer Team agreed to request that the University follow suit and return the artefact in its possession. The President agreed to discuss with the Vice-Chancellor.	Noted
		The Officer Team discussed their attendance at the upcoming degrees dinner.	Noted
		The Officer Team discussed the terms of reference for Engagement Committee. SJ to discuss with JT.	SJ