

Full-Time Officer Group (FTOG)

Online Meeting (via Zoom)

Present

Tinajie (Alice) Liu, International Officer (IO) (Chair)
Isobel Lawson, Activities & Employability Officer (AEO)
Acacia Matthews, Guild President (President)
Florence Craddock, Sports Officer (SO)
Reeve Isaacs-Smith, Welfare & Community Officer (WCO)
Benjamin Lockley, Postgraduate Officer (PGO)

Also in Attendance

Jo Thomas, Chief Executive (JT)
Sam Jones, Executive Assistant (SJ) (note taker)

Apologies

Vanessa Chigariro, Education Officer (EO)

The Chair welcomed everyone and the meeting started at 12:05.

No	Item for Discussion	Notes	Action
1	Minutes 14.02.23	The Chair presented the minutes of the previous meeting, dated Monday 14th March 2023, for the Officer Team's approval. The Officer Team approved the minutes as an accurate record of	Noted
		the previous meeting.	Approved
2	Private Accommodation Providers	The President and WCO updated the Officer team on student issues raised about private sector accommodation providers on campus. The Officer Team discussed the process for advertising accommodation to 1 st year students before their arrival at the University. The Officer Team discussed next steps to tackle the issue. JT to discuss with LS.	JT
3	Democracy Review	JT updated the Officer Team on progress to date with the Guild's planned democracy review, noting that the external consultants were reaching out to stakeholders including Guild Officer Group to give them the opportunity to contribute to the research. JT noted that the review consultation had been extended for several days, and the Guild was keen that Officers and Staff make use of the opportunity to feed into the review.	Noted
4	NUS Update President	The President updated the Officer Team on their experience attending NUS National Conference the previous week. The President noted that they had met with several SU Officers where NUS affiliation referenda had been called or were in the process of being called. The Officer Team discussed the possibility of the Guild holding a referendum on NUS affiliation.	Noted

		The President noted that they had met with national officers from the Union of Jewish Students at the conference, who were not currently advocating for SU's to hold affiliation referenda. The President noted their view that, at the present time, the Guild should postpone holding a referendum on NUS affiliation until after the results of NUS's anti-Semitism action plan could be properly assesses in the next 12 months. The PGO noted their view that the Guild should move ahead with a referendum on NUS affiliation to give student's the opportunity to have their say on the issue. The Officer Team discussed the possibility of holding a referendum on NUS affiliation. The President updated the Officer Team on the experience of the Guild's delegates to NUS National Conference. The Officer Team discussed the political direction of NUS. The PGO asked the Officer Team to chase their PTO buddies to respond to the GOG motion on holding a referendum.	Noted Noted
5	RGSU Update	The President updated the Officer Team on the impact and national coverage achieved by the Russell Group Student Union's research on student cost of living pressures, noting that the NUS VP HE had referred to the results of the survey in their speech to national conference and the survey had seen wide coverage in the media. The President asked the Officer Team to continue to promote the survey to students affected by the cost of living crisis. The President suggested sharing the raw data from the survey with staff in the Student Voice team as well as at the University Executive Board as a summary. JT to review.	Noted
		WCO to collate feedback from Community Pantry volunteers on the experience of students during the cost of living crisis. The Officer Team discussed media releases from students affected by the cost of living.	WCO Noted
6	Officer Diaries	The Officer Team discussed their diaries for the week ahead and possible clashes.	Noted
		President – CQAAC, Equality Change Programme Governance Group, Admissions Team meeting on accessible open days.	Noted
		IO – BIA Academy Committee, COSS Meeting, Study Abroad Team meeting,	Noted
		WCO – Student Living Group, EDI Committee, Community Living & Guild Summer planning.	Noted
		SO – BUCS Advisory group, BUCS 'Big Wednesday' launch dinner, E&E Committee, Sports Hardship fund meeting.	Noted
		AEO - Guild Awards, Space Group, lunch meeting.	Noted
		PGO – CAL UQAC, Graduate Research Board, SAPC.	Noted

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		EO – TOIL, Student Voice Interviews, SRSAB, SELT Project Team, SAPC.	Noted
7	Remits/ Projects	The IO updated the Officer Team on their support for the working hours campaign.	Noted
		The IO noted that last week's Language Café event had bene successful, with another event planned for the 27 th April.	Noted
8	Schools/Colleges/ Dubai Update	The WCO updated the Officer Team on discussions at the most recent EPS CQUAC meeting.	Noted
		The SO noted a clash for them at an upcoming CQUAC meeting.	Noted
		The IO update the Officer Team on the most recent meeting with University staff in Dubai supporting the Dubai Student Leaders, which had been out of contact for several months. The Officer Team discussed engagement with the Dubai Student Leaders and plans to both teams to meet in the coming weeks. The PGO asked about training for the Dubai Student Leaders. JT noted that the team had received training both from the University and Guild. JT noted that recent conversations with staff in Dubai had been positive and the societies at the Dubai campus were developing.	Noted
9	Part Time Officers	The Officer Team discussed the LGBTQ+ Officer's plans to hold a range of events in the coming weeks. IO to arrange a catch-up for them and the AEO.	Noted
10	AOB	The President updated the Officer Team on plans for the Sports Officer and Trans Officer By-election, noting that nominations were likely to go live after Easter, noting that the Student Voice team would be promoting the vacancy through usual Guild communication channels.	Noted
		The WCO reminded the Officer Team to respond about their availability to attend the Birmingham Pride march.	Noted
		The Officer Team discussed the content of the upcoming All Student Vote and the proposal on External Memberships. JT to review.	JT
		The Officer Team discussed the most recent All Student Meeting and the support and briefings provided for the Officer Team. JT to review.	Noted
		JT updated the Officer Team on progress to date with the Communications Review, noting that sessions would shortly be arranged with the external consultant.	Noted
		The PGO noted an opportunity for additional students to attend an upcoming meeting with West Midlands Police on community consultation. The PGO noted a recent theft in the Guild building from a society meeting.	Noted

The Chair closed the meeting at 13:15.