

## Guild Officer Group Minutes

**Voting Members Present:** Ellie Keiller (President)[EK], Rose Bennett (Postgraduate Students' Officer)[RB], Jess Levy (Representation & Resources Officer)[JL], Helena Bailey (Sports Officer)[HB], Kris Ali (Housing & Community Officer)[KA], Adam Goldstone (Education Officer)[AG], Henny Green (Welfare Officer Elect)[HG], Shannon Farmer (Activities and Development) [SF], Cameron Beavan-King (Community Action Officer)[CBK], Lucy Bleichroeder-Baker (LGBTQ Officer)[LBB], Nat Crawley (Ethical and Environmental Officer)[NC], Mirabel Chu (International Students' Officer)[MC], Sheimona Jahan (Black and Ethnic Minorities Officer) [SMJ].

**Also In attendance:** Sam Jones (Campaigns Coordinator) (Note Taker) [SJ], Lucy Gill (Student Voice Manager) [LG]

**Absent without Apologies:** Max Seifler (Satellite Sites Officer)[MS]

**The Chair welcomed everyone and the meeting commenced at 17:30**

No	ITEM FOR DISCUSSION	MATTERS DISCUSSED	ACTION
1	<b>Welcome/Introductions</b>	EK opened the meeting at 17:05 and welcomed the team. EK reminded the team of the purpose of GOG and explained the structure of the agenda. The officer team themselves and their roles, as did the staff members present.	<b>Noted</b>
2	<b>Minutes from the previous meeting and Matters Arising</b>	<p><b>Minutes of the Last Meeting</b></p> <p>EK ran through the minutes and actions from the previous meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were agreed to be accurate and approved.</p> <p><b>Matters Arising from previous minutes</b></p> <p>RB mentioned that following the action in the previous minutes, the team had looked into moving Autumn elections to earlier in term 2, but it hadn't been possible due to a number of reasons.</p> <p>EK spoke about how, as auctioned, the PTO's had been emailed to confirm the length of their terms of office.</p> <p>EK invited the FTO's to give updates on what they had been working over the summer:</p> <p>SF spoke about the restructure of the SGX (Student Groups Executive), outlined the role of SGX and reduction in positions on the committee from 8 to 6 positions. 9 people stood for election at the previous mega forum and 6 were elected.</p>	<p><b>Approved</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>

		<p>AG ran through the on-going progress of improving Panopto and how the Student Voice report was being used to look at area in teaching and learning that needed improvement. Also working on improvements to study space on campus and the accessibility of the library for student who want to eat and drink while studying.</p> <p>HC mentioned that during an induction with staff at the library, they had mentioned that hot drinks areas and signs were coming soon</p> <p>JL spoke about the on-going work to make elections more accessible, in particular for term 2 elections, but that the team generally felt there was more progress to be made on this.</p> <p>EK mentioned that the view of the team was that elections had become more accessible, but the view that more progress could be made.</p> <p>BL said that DAMSA were keen to work with the guild to make elections more accessible next year and would be in touch to discuss.</p> <p>HG outlined how work on implementing Gender Neutral Toilets is still on-going, but they are aiming to support students in identifying contacts in departments to start discussions.</p> <p>HC Asked for clarification what assessment group is and whether there was now going to be a trans rep on it.</p> <p>EK outlined the role of Assessment Group and said that the issue of a trans place would be discussed later in the meeting.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Fortnightly Meeting Updates</b>	<p>EK explained the role of the new monthly meetings between PTO's and their FTO buddies. PTO's should look out for meeting requests in the next few weeks. Since these meetings are once a month, two weeks before and two weeks after GOG, PTO's would have contact with the guild at least every two weeks.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>"Your Ideas" and Mandate Updates</b>	<p>EK explained to the group the purpose of the Your Ideas mandate tracker document, and why it is a standing item on the GOG agenda; So the officer team can divide up new your ideas mandates and track progress.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Officer Accountability / Officer Question Time</b>	<p>JL explained the role of OQT as a replacement for Guild council in allowing students to hold the officer team to account. Students can submit questions before the meeting or ask them in person. All officers should attend if they are able.</p> <p>AG asked since no new chair has been elected, who would chair the meeting and when the election would happen.</p> <p>EK replied that since there was no student chair currently, JL would chair as RRO. A new student chair would be elected in Term 1 elections.</p>	<b>Noted</b>

		<p>HC asked if PTO's were also required at OQT.</p> <p>EK replied that they were.</p> <p>JL added that there was some consultation last year on asking liberation officers to attend OQT due to a risk of outing. Last year liberation officers were supposed to be held to account at association, but this only happened once last year. They added that the view of FTOG was that liberation officers should be held as much to account as any other officers, and that this should happen at OQT.</p>	
6	<b>Student Equality and Diversity Committee Report</b>	<p>HG reported that the group will be meeting soon and will be looking to involve PTO's as much as possible.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
7	<b>Election of GOG Members to GPDG (Guild Policy Development Group)</b>	<p>JL introduced the team to GPDG (Guild Policy Development Group) and its replacement of Assessment Group. The issue low voting numbers through Your Ideas has meant that many new policies worked on by staff and officers have not met quoracy and so not passed. JL explained that GPDG would be a new body to approve policy in principle, subject to a proposal not falling on Your Ideas, making a vote 'opt out' rather than 'opt in', so the group's power was still limited by students.</p> <p>JL presented a paper on GPDG to the group and suggested the team read through it for a few minutes.</p> <p>AG added that the policy had already been passed by the trustee board, but that officers were free to discuss possible improvements for the future if they wanted.</p> <p>EK explained that GOG had 3 places on GPDG, and that all officers were eligible to stand for election to it.</p> <p>AG asked that if a member of GOG didn't get elected to GPDG from GOG in this meeting, would they still be eligible to run for the open student places in the term 1 elections.</p> <p>EK confirmed that they would be.</p> <p>EG asked if all places were generally filled in previous elections to assessment group.</p> <p>LG confirmed that they were generally, but often uncontested.</p> <p>LBB asked if liberation officers could run.</p> <p>EK confirmed that they could.</p> <p>SJ Explained that the 3 nominees would be elected by STV by the officer team and the results would be circulated after the meeting once the votes had been counted.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>

		<p>EK asked for officers to put themselves forward for GPDG.</p> <p>LBB ,CBK ,RB , HC and AG all put themselves forward to stand for GPDG.</p> <p>Each of the candidates were given a minute to make their case on why they should be elected.</p> <p>An election was held using STV by secret ballot. After the meeting it was confirmed that RB, LBB and AG had been elected to the GOG places on GPDG.</p>	<b>Noted.</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Election of GOG Members to Appointments Panel</b>	<p>EK outlined the role of Appointments Panel in considering and appointing external members to the trustee board, meeting on an ad hoc basis. GOG appoints to members to Appointments Panel, and those members cannot already be members of the trustee board, meaning that only Part-time officers can fill the GOG places on Appointments Panel.</p> <p>For the two places to fill, SMJ and BL put themselves forward. Since the election was uncontested, SMJ and BL were appointed to the GOG places on Appointments Panel.</p> <p><i>LG left the meeting.</i></p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>FTO/ PTO Buddies and monthly meetings</b>	<p>EK outlined again the reasoning behind the new monthly meetings between FTO's and PTO's, and the new action tracker to be completed at each meeting.</p> <p>EK explained that since there were no updates for this meeting, there would now be 15 minutes for buddies to get to know each other.</p> <p>The group broke for 15 minutes for individual discussions.</p> <p>AG asked what kind of communication PTOs would prefer to arrange the meetings.</p> <p>SJH replied that email was best for them.</p> <p>HC Said that Facebook was preferable.</p> <p>The group agreed to use a mix of communications going forward.</p>	<b>Noted</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Liberation Intersectional Work</b>	<p>RB outlined how they would like to see more Intersectionality work at GOG, particularly between the liberation PTOs and proposed setting up a new subcommittee of GOG to look into this, in an informal manner through a Facebook group or similar.</p> <p>The group agreed to the idea.</p>	<b>Action</b>

11	<b>GOG Social</b>	<p>EK spoke about how she wanted the Officer team to all go out for a social in the next few weeks so officers could get to know one another better. She proposed a date, and several options for venues.</p> <p>The group agreed on a venue and date.</p>	<b>Agreed</b>
12	<b>AOB (Any Other Business)</b>	<p>SJ explained the role of GOG in signing off campaigns pot applications, but explained that since FTOG meets every week it was unlikely that any campaigns pot applications would be signed off by GOG this year.</p> <p>SJ actioned to circulate all received and approved campaigns pot applications to GOG.</p> <p>JL reminded the team about term 1 elections, the positions available and asked them to pass to their groups and societies.</p> <p>LB asked about LGBT+ NUS delegate elections, specifically around problems in previous years with disclosing the identity of trans place candidates to all students via the website. They asked if it was possible, for safety, to hold elections at association meetings, as they had been in previous years.</p> <p>JL responded that she understood the concerns, but not all students that self-defined into a particular group regularly attended association meetings, and a change like this could exclude those students from participating.</p> <p>EK suggested running a trial of LGBT+ elections in cycle 1 before they went live, to make sure there was no chance of outing.</p> <p>LBS agreed to take this information back to LGBT+ association and discuss it further.</p> <p>RB told the group about the new strategic plan working group, and it's role in writing 3 year targets for the Guild. There is one place for a PTO on this group. RB asked for volunteers.</p> <p>No PTOs put themselves forward for the strategic plan working group.</p> <p>RB said they would send around more information, and that anyone interested should reply.</p> <p>LBB asked for an update on the possibility of a trans officer.</p> <p>EK reported that a review of the officer structure is currently underway and proposals are being looked at to make the team more representative. EK mentioned that they support the introduction of a trans PTO personally, but discussions with other stakeholders were on-going.</p> <p>AG reminded PTO's that they could scrutinise the minutes of FTOG and ask questions about the decisions taken there at GOG. These are available on the Guild's website.</p>	<p><b>Action</b></p> <p><b>Action</b></p> <p><b>Action</b></p> <p><b>Action</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>

		EK thanked everyone for coming and reminded the team to check their guild emails and the Facebook group for the time and the place of the next meeting.	<b>Noted</b>
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**The Chair closed the meeting at 18:51**

**Date of Next Meeting: 17:30 – 19:00, 26<sup>th</sup> October in Nuffield Learning Centre, Room G13.**