**Standing Committee Minutes 19.10.22**

**ATTENDEES:**

* Ruth Day
* Ashlesha Deshmukh
* Lu Macey
* Hassan
* Adam Michael
* Francesco Sacchi
* Yolan Ankaine
* Ellie Lamb
* Sanskriti Bahuguna (on behalf of societies chair)
* Lucy Matthews
* Toby Farris
* Kelsey Parsons
* Umran
* Sam Williams
* Aleena Garr
* Izzy Russell
* Melati Afandi

**INTRODUCTION**

Names, pronouns, agenda

**OFFICER PRIORITIES AND UPDATES**

**Adam:**

* Public forum: was a great success
* has been reacting to the Iranian crisis and been working with students, UoB staff and with Ashlesha on this, has a meeting with Christy about this tomorrow (20/10)
* been supporting elections

**Lu:**

* Supporting the university and putting together listening sessions for PGRs with senior university stakeholders
* aiming to get feedback from PGRs about what support they’ve been receiving about Cost of Living crisis and what could the University do better.
* With the other officers has met with Bristol West MP to discuss how CoL crisis is affecting students.
* Held another postgrad social event which went very well, has been getting very positive feedback in this regard.

**Lucy:**

* Travel passes for students going to Coomb Dingles
* finalising the She Can, They Can Campaign
* developing with Careers the plus awards and Sports Development.

**Q:** how did people get to Coomb Dingles before the buses?

**A:** different ways, some people drove, or took a car but it was always a massive hassle.

**Hassan:**

* has been working on alternate ways of communications, how to get info across to international students.
* International foundation program for international students

**Izzy:**

* Been working on campaigns like my rent my rights, sustainability month in February
* Been working on the SU shop which is going to open soon.
* Had AMM recently which was good
* Had a residential with important UoB staff and they promised funding which was good
* Went to Wills Halls formal with Ashlesha and that was fun
* Met some MPs and was very positive

**FEEDBACK ON THE FIRST SU PUBLIC FORUM**

Happened at the Loft, Adam is very happy about it; thanks everyone for the support and says he definitely wants to have more public forums in the future.

**How the forum works:** for two hours they let the students lead and talk about various topics. This session’s topics were: Welcome Week, the first week of teaching, Cost of Living crisis, TB1 Elections

Next time will restrict the amount of topics to 3 because there wasn’t enough time

Next time will leave more time for open forum (where students can take the floor and discuss)

A lot of people engaged in productive discussion and the discussion felt very solution based

**Reflections from Adam:**

* should have done more comms related to it so more people come
* should have the agenda up at least a week beforehand so students are able to come just for the issue they’re interested in.
* Needs a mic for next time.

Summary of what was said in the forum will be done and will be sent to everyone.

**Sam’s reflection:**

* would like a larger venue because it felt a bit closed off for the people who arrived a bit later.
* needs more advertising

**Umran’s reflections/questions:**

* some people wanted to speak but were too shy so in the future would be good to have anonymous feedback; Adam: we did have pen and papers to do that but I forgot to mention it.

**Sans’ reflections:**

* sounds like a lovely initiative and something’s that’s quite important right now
* communication wise, letting people know that this is happening will improve the whole situation

**Umran:** Officers have a certain hierarchy of priorities, how do you plan to prioritise what is important to students? If I have something that is not on the agenda can it still be brought up during public forum?

**Adam:** the items were chosen with a discussion with L&C; the open floor part of the meeting is for that but yesterday we didn’t have a lot of time.

**Umran**: Are we going to get officer updates every public forum?

**Adam:** We will talk about it and see

**Sam:** likes the idea of being kept up to date on this.

**Lu, re: anonymous feedback during public forum:** we will look into having online solutions towards that.

**Toby:** could promote the public forum on his network’s instagram

**WHAT ARE REPRESENTATIVES MOST PROUD OF THIS MONTH**

**Toby:**

* isgoing to run a fundraiser before the Christmas break, they haven’t chosen a cause yet but have some ideas
* has met with Charlotte from SU
* will meet with his committee members tomorrow

**Ash**:

* has been working with Adam in response to the situation in Iran, trying to support students – attended session at global lounge and has been putting out statements and trying to see what can be done about it.
* Has also been trying to up the network’s Instagram following, emailing the entire network
* Wrote a little feature for the network for the International Newsletter that’s going out next month
* will work with GL for global food fiesta event in November – has started getting the word out to societies to sign up so they can bring food to the event
* There was a lot of feedback yesterday at the democratic forum regarding wanting resources so she wants to compile resources for international students and upload it by the end of the month

**Kelsie:** Has just been elected so only been reaching out to new committee members

**Sam:**

* has had first FFSLC that went really well
* things to look forward to: has been working on a paper in the faculty of engineering regarding the issue of 20 credits units

**Sans:**

* societies forum where they invite representatives from all societies to see what they need and how the network can support them. This month (17th October) there was great attendance and it was a good success – had representative from 44 societies attending, there were around 46 representative. Were also able to secure some funding.
* Looking forward to collecting the feedback and sending it over, as well as doing another forum like that before Christmas to see trends and recurring issues

**Yolan:**

* managed to set up a groupchat for effective communication between all course reps for her faculty – managed to discuss issues that she had raised in her manifesto, which is to introduce reading weeks; they had a discussion about it and whether they do have reading weeks in their courses, how they’re structured and how they feel about it some expressed some displeasure with the reading weeks, so they’re now working on how to raise these issues with the Faculty head.
* Attended the Faculty Education Student Experience Committee Meeting with staff; most of what was discussed was changes related to courses and programs they’re trying to put together – such as exams, coursework and extensions. She’s meeting with one of them later to discuss how students and staff can work together to achieve the same goals

**Ellie:**

* Had finance training with Jo and Katie from SU and it was really helpful
* Had first finance and governance meeting
* have the first trustee board meeting this Thursday

**Francesco:**

* got in contact with his new committee
* setting up the new instagram page for the sports network so they can get in contact with students

**Aleena:**

* talking to individual people about their problems.
* What is good is that most people seem to know who their course reps are and they’re all in touch.
* Positive: knows who to talk to to get things in motion.
* Next thing will be going paperless in the Faculty of Arts

**Lu to Sam:** I have lots of meetings about the things you’re excited about so I would love to catch up with you about

**Adam to Ash**: I have a lot of contacts to help you with global lounge so will organise together

**CAMPAIGNING BIDS FROM REPRESENTATIVES**

SC has a pool of £4000 and have spent £150 of it so far

**FIRST BID:**

**Lu:** asking for £300 on behalf of everybody. The Postgraduate Network holds an event every month – attendees have requested more games etc. has occurred to Lu that getting these resources would be beneficial for every network because this would be a collective resource library. Lu would agree to manage this library at first until a system is set up.

Would be an investment that all networks would benefit from.

**Ash:** how will you prevent loss and theft?

**Lu:** it will be stored in SU office; will be limited so that only chairs or assigned committee members will be able to book them out; will work like a library in that it will be recorded if people loan these things out

**Ash:** art supplies would need to be replenished regularly, are the 300 accounting for that or will you need to bid for them again?

**Lu:** we have a limited amount of art supplies already but we want to refill them and try it out to see if its

**Umran:** Legos are small, how are you making sure they all go back?

**Lu:** I don’t want to get lego sets, just a collection of bricks so there won’t be issues if a few pieces go missing.

**Umran:** who is able to access these libraries?

**Lu:** anybody who is elected as Faculty Rep or NC, when applying for a loan of them they have to specify what they need it for

**Toby:** lego is quite expensive, have you thought of any alternatives?

**Lu:** it doesn’t need to be the branded lego, I’ve also thought about using charity shops/fb marketplace

**Sam:** I support even more money going to this because of the longevity potential of it

**Lu:** doesn’t necessarily need to be for mingles, could even be for the chair to bond with their committee etc.

**Kelsie:** have you thought about doing an online library of virtual games/ a digital collection?

**Lu:** that’s a good idea

VOTE TIME:

* FOR: 16
* AGAINST: 0
* ABSTAIN: 0

**BID PASSED**

**SECOND BID:**

**Lucy:** bidding for £140.6 for She Can They Can campaign. This is a campaign to encourage women and non-men to join sports. Breakdown of how the money will be spent is:

* £45 for carnival fitness instructor (ideally, we'd have 2 but definitely need 1 2 = 90)
* £5.07 Bend It Like Beckham DVD
* £4.99 King Richard DVD
* £10 glowsticks
* £30 snacks for socials and film screenings
* = 95.06 (£140.06)

**Ash**: why is ‘Bend It Like Bekham’ £5.7

**Lucy:** that’s what it says on amazon

**Ash:** would it be possible to look at second hand things rather than new to bring the cost down?

**Lucy:** yes happy to look at that

**Ash:** can we look at getting the dvd second hand

**Lucy:** it’s not a physical copy but on a digital library

VOTE TIME:

* FOR: 13
* AGAINST: 0
* ABSTAIN: 1

**BID PASSED**

**THIRD BID:**

**Ash:** two years ago we lost our instagram handle and we lost a lot of following, I have now done a lot of work on the ground to rebuild the following, but I think we need a giveaway to incentivise students. Bidding for £100 for the giveaway. Breakdown of it is: £50 sainsburys gift card, £50 UberEats giftcard

**Lu:** how are you going to ensure that the people doing the giveaway are actually international students at UoB?

**Ash:** I want to cross reference ig accounts with people on the Int Network mailing list. How does the SU do it?

**Sabrina:** we do a verification after they’ve won, asking for a student card

**Ash:** that’s probably what we’ll do then

**Yolan:** it sasys the last post is in march, can we not try posting first?

**Ash:** we’ve been putting up stories pretty frequently, that’s how we’ve been raising engagement; but putting an actual

**Melati**: would it be possible to get SU ig account to promote the Int Network Account?

**Lu & Izzy:** yes we could probably do

**Adam:** we did a lot of reposting during International Mingle

**Melati**: Have you tried promoting through emails?

**Ash:** Yes however even the mailing list doesn’t include all int students so even though we got quite a few followers

**Umran:** if Ash does a takeover of the SU ig can she promote the giveaway?

**Adam & Izzy:** not sure

**Toby:** how many followers did you have before and how many do you have now

Ash: before we had about 450 but lots were not UoB students. Before WW we had 90ish; now we have around 200. It’s a solid start but I’d like to offer some more incentive. There’s about 6000 students in the Int Network so it’s p disproportionate to have such a small following on ig; wants to reach out more to int students

**Melati**: what’s your target following goal on ig?

**Ash:** we found it’s easier to get people to follow them on ig rather than get them to sign up to the mailing list because people don’t want more ‘spam’ emails

The goal is to have 1000 followers by the end of the year. As for content, campaigns and day-to-day social side of the network will be posted; stories about events and social

Prior to this approached the Global Lounge and asked for funding for them but bc they’re affiliated with the UoB rather than the SU they can’t give funding.

VOTE TIME:

* FOR: 13
* AGAINST: 0
* ABSTAIN: 0

**BID PASSED**

**SPACE FOR GENERAL THINGS THAT ARE NOT ON THE AGENDA:**

Sabrina: reminders about Student Council and submitting a policy before the deadline

Ash: could I float an idea now

Sabrina: this wouldn’t be the best space but an unofficial space would work

Toby: storage issue in the Richmond building for sport societies and similar

Izzy:

Ruth: something we could add to the agenda in the future would be a section for discussing a specific topic, you can email me or Sabrina with ideas.