

FULL TIME OFFICER GROUP MINUTES

11:30 – 12:30
 Online Meeting (via Zoom)

Present

Rob Hegarty, Sports Officer **(SO) (Chair)**
 Jules Singh, Education Officer **(EO)**
 Wei-Lun Chen, International Officer **(IO)**
 Tobiloba Adeyemi, President **(President)**
 Amie Raphael, Activities and Employability Officer **(AEO)**
 Rebecca Cutler, Postgraduate Officer **(PGO)**
 Charlotte Minter, Welfare & Community Officer **(WCO)**

Also in Attendance

Jo Thomas, CEO **(JT)**
 Sam Jones, Executive Assistant **(SJ)** (notetaker)

The Chair opened the meeting at 11:30

No	ITEM FOR DISCUSSION	Notes	ACTION
1	Minutes from 26.10.20	The minutes from Monday 26 th October were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.	Approved
2	Lockdown 2.0	<p>JT updated the Officer team on preparations for the new UK 'lockdown'. JT noted that the sector was awaiting guidance from the department of education and the wider University sector on guidance.</p> <p>JT noted that Universities remained 'open' under the government's plans, however the specific arrangement for this remained unclear. JT noted that while teaching was still permitted in-person, extra-curricular events and social activity was likely not possible. JT noted ongoing discussions with the senior management team on arrangements for staff.</p> <p>The SO noted that UB Sport were expecting to have to close gym provisions and sports team activity. The President noted that the University had previously been planning for possible implementation of Tier three rules in Birmingham under the regional lockdown system, where face-to-face teaching would be reduced and University staff would transition to largely working from home. The President noted ongoing discussions with University senior staff on specific arrangements for students.</p> <p>The Officer team discussed students staying on campus/in Birmingham. The AEO noted that most students were expecting to stay in Birmingham, but a significant number were planning on returning home.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

		<p>The President note the impact on international students of the new lockdown. The IO noted that international students may now not be able to return home as travel was disrupted.</p> <p>The Officer team discussed student reactions to the news of a new lockdown. The PGO suggested specific communications to students on their rights and restrictions on campus.</p> <p>The Officer team discussed teaching arrangements during the lockdown. The AEO suggested that all teaching should look to be delivered online unless not feasible. The President noted the possibility of conducting a survey on current student opinion. JT noted the value of a 'pulse' survey to collect student sentiment. The PGO suggested utilising the student rep network.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
3	Freedom of Speech @WonkHE	The President updated the Officer team on national discussions with WonkHE on discussions of culture and freedom of speech at Student Unions. The President agreed to circulate further information.	President
4	Support for Students Leaving at Christmas	The SO noted University plans for additional support for students planning to return home for the Christmas break. The SO noted that the new lockdown may change the arrangements for students returning home.	Noted
5	IHRA Senate Paper	<p>The EO updated the officer team on a paper submitted to the University senate by the previous Education Officer, proposing that the University adopt the International Holocaust Memorial Alliance (IHRA) definition of anti-Semitism. The PGO noted that the University was broadly supportive.</p> <p>The President noted that the proposal was expected to pass at senate, followed by University Council. The PGO noted that around half of Russell Group Universities had now adopted the definition.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
6	Your Ideas	The President noted that the Guild's previous 'Your Ideas' system was now being refreshed as part of the democratic changes, however there were a number of outstanding actions from previous years which the Officer team were mandated to complete. The President suggested discussing the outstanding ideas list outside the meeting.	Noted
7	Diaries	<p>The Officer team discussed their key meetings for the week ahead:</p> <p>WCO – Team 10, Campaigns meeting, Support Month events, catch-up with RC, GEMT, Hall meeting, PAUSE evaluation meeting, Scrutiny Panel, GEMT, Guild/Student Services catch-up, College rep training, University Equality Executive group, Private sector roadshow.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

		<p>EO – Team 10, Senate briefing, Student Voice team meeting, 1:1 Kathy Armour, US election events, Senate, Scrutiny Panel, 1:1 Director of Student Engagement, NSS planning meeting, School rep training, Rep master class.</p> <p>AEO – Team 10, AGM, Guild T&F group, Scrutiny Panel, Support Month planning.</p> <p>IO – BIA planning meeting, CQUAC, Scrutiny Panel, College Board, College rep training, SAET meeting, 1:1 SVM.</p> <p>SO – UB Sport SMT, Club Dev, CQUAC, SMT meeting, Guild T&F Group, IT meeting, 1:1 CEO, Fairtrade meeting, College rep training, recruitment training.</p> <p>PGO – Social Work society meeting, 1:1 Director of Student Engagement, EPS CQUAQ, 1:1 CEO, Rep master class, Appointments Panel training, Scrutiny Panel.</p> <p>President – Council briefing, CEO 1:1, Blue Edge training, A/L, SPRC briefing, GEMT, SPRC, Good Governance catch-up, Your Ideas training, Elections working group, scrutiny panel, TOIL.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
8	Priority Campaigns/ Officer Wins	<p>The Officer's presented their 'Officer Wins' from the last week:</p> <p>WCO – n/a</p> <p>AEO – n/a</p> <p>President – Decolonisation Conference.</p> <p>PGO – n/a</p> <p>SO – n/a</p> <p>IO – Induction sessions for incoming international students.</p> <p>EO – Employability Week events and hub launch.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
9	University Relationships	No Items noted.	Noted
10	Guild Communications/ Social Media	<p>The Officer Team noted the following items for promotion via social media:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officer radio show. 	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>
11	Schools/Colleges/ Dubai Update	The Officer team discussed student mental health during the lockdown. The WCO updated the officer team on the University's plans for supporting student mental health. The AEO noted additional pressure on students with increasing workload. The Officer team discussed the possibility of holding specific meetings with students.	Noted

		The IO updated the Officer team on plans for the Dubai campus. The IO noted that the Dubai campus planned to increase student recruitment in the medium term.	Noted
12	Part Time Officers	No Items noted	Noted
13	Officer Training and Development	The Officer team discussed an upcoming away day session.	Noted
14	AOB	<p>The Officer team discussed the Officer radio show. The AEO suggested arranging a rota for officers producing and recording the show.</p> <p>The PGO noted issues with the organisations behind the national campaign for 'international men's day'. The PGO noted that the current rhetoric around holding the day was problematic and could be interpreted as a heteronormative message to students.</p>	<p>Noted</p> <p>Noted</p>

The meeting closed at 12:10.

Signed

Date