

Full-Time Officer Group (FTOG)

Online Meeting (Zoom)

Present

Acacia Matthews, Guild President (**President**) (**Chair**)
 Tinajie (Alice) Liu, International Officer (**IO**)
 Benjamin Lockley, Postgraduate Officer (**PGO**)
 Florence Craddock, Sports Officer (**SO**)
 Vanessa Chigariro, Education Officer (**EO**)

Also in Attendance

Jo Thomas, Chief Executive (**JT**)
 James Lindsay, Director of Community & Representation (**JL**)
 Sam Jones, Executive Assistant (**SJ**) (note taker)

Apologies

Isobel Lawson, Activities & Employability Officer (**AEO**)
 Reeve Isaacs-Smith, Welfare & Community Officer (**WCO**)

No	Item for Discussion	Notes	Action
1	Minutes from 06.02.23	The Chair presented the minutes of the previous meeting, dated 6th February 2023. The Officer Team approved the minutes as accurate record of the meeting.	Noted Approved
2	Strike Reimbursement	The EO updated the Officer Team on discussions on lobbying the University on reimbursement payments to students affected by 18 days of planned UCU strike action on campus. The Officer team discussed next steps to lobby the University to progress compensation for students. JT noted that during previous strike action in past years, the University had not shared information on what savings had been made from unpaid staff wages. The PGO noted that the University had already committed to reinvest any saved wages into services for students, however the Guild had not seen concrete details of where this funding would be spent. JT noted cases of other University's directing wage savings from industrial action into additional resources for their SU's. The EO noted several specific complaints from students regarding significant lost teaching time from strike action, which they had been included in. JT noted the value of the Guild helping students navigate the University's complaints process to seek a reimbursement. The President agreed to discuss with the Student Voice team.	Noted Noted President

		The PGO noted their view that wage savings should be split between reimbursements for affected students and additional resources to the Guild's hardship fund. The Officer Team discussed their position on strike reimbursement and upcoming opportunities to raise with the University. The EO agreed to circulate further information by email. The IO noted concerns from International Students in terms of missed teaching hours in relation to their visa conditions.	Noted EO Noted
3	NSS	The Officer Team discussed their approach to sharing information about the National Student Survey (NSS). The EO noted their view of the value of achieving a high turnout for the NSS. The President noted that significant resource, both locally and nationally, behind promotion of the NSS, and the role of the NSS in facilitating marketisation of education via University league tables and the Teaching Excellence Framework. JT noted that most previous Officer Teams had not publicly engaged with the NSS survey. The Officer Team discussed their position on promoting the NSS Survey. The President noted their view of the Guild Elections as the priority. The PGO and EO suggested sharing via their own social media channels.	Noted Noted
4	Officer Diaries	The Officer Team discussed their diaries for the week ahead and possible clashes. President – VC 1:1, Compact meeting and Presentation, Honorary Degrees Committee. IO – 1:1 DPVC Education, Study Abroad Team Meeting, UniWell Team Meeting. PGO – Graduate Taught Board, UQAC meeting, 1:1 DPVC Education. WCO – A/L, 1:2 Campus Services, Cost of Living Group meeting. EO – National Student Strategic Advisory Board meeting, UQAC, Black Voices Hairdressers event. SO – UBSport Membership Video, Sports Awards planning meeting, Sports Ball planning, Go Green Week planning. AEO – Health & Safety Committee, Go Green Week Planning, Guild Awards performance auditions.	Noted Noted Noted Noted Noted Noted Noted
5	Remits/ Projects	The Officer Team discussed their project list for Semester Two. The IO asked the Officer Team to promote their Language Café event in March, and the Student Community Safety Hub event, hosted by Safety Services.	Noted Noted

6	Schools/Colleges/ Dubai Update	The IO updated the Officer Team on developments with changes to the College of Social Sciences, noting a student rep petition on plans to remove a check-in point on weekly timetables, which was required for International Student Visa requirements. The IO noted 46 signatures to date. The IO noted that they were meeting with the student's affected to support them and would be feeding back to the Student Services team. The Officer Team discussed the inconsistent implementation of University policies on check-in points. The Officer Team discussed a lack of communication from the Dubai Student's Association. JT and JL noted plans to reach out.	Noted JL/JT
7	Part Time Officers	The EO noted work with the EMO on Black History events for Semester two, including new Guild videos and a research project on the Black attainment gap at the University, which would be fed into Student Rep System Advisory Board (SRSAB). The EO noted plans to seek new Black hairdressing services on campus following feedback from black students that they currently had to travel across the west midlands to access culturally appropriate hairdressers. The President noted work with the EEO on plans expand prayer room options on campus. The EO noted previous discussions with the University on plans to include prayer spaces in new buildings, but not in older buildings. JT noted that there was no joined-up plan for prayer spaces on campus. JT suggested raising at EDI Committee. JT to discuss with University Estates. EO to discuss with EEO.	Noted EO JT
8	AOB	The EO noted plans for the Officer Team to meet with the Graduate Attributes team, particularly the AEO and SO. AS and JT to be included. The Officer Team discussed and noted the planned move of UoBE Festival to later in the Spring/Summer period for 2024. JT noted possible clashes with large Guild events. The President noted an upcoming 1:1 meeting with the Vice-Chancellor, asking for any additional items to discuss. The Officer Team suggested focusing on Cost of Living issues, ahead of their meeting with the Campus Services team. The IO noted queries from students on fundraising opportunities for the earthquake disaster and humanitarian crisis in Turkey and Syria. The IO noted that the Turkish Society had recently been approved, but was not yet operational but another Turkish group was active on social media. The President noted that the Guild was not able to directly fundraise for the appeal as a charity, but would direct students to other fundraising bodies. JT suggested that the Guild facilitate collections in the building in support of the society. The IO noted that the ISA were not planning to lead on fundraising efforts as they did not have a full committee. IO to share further information by email.	Noted Noted Noted

		The SO updated the Officer Team on a charity Sports Night take-over planned for the coming Wednesday by Blood Marrow society. The SO asked Officers to promote the event.	Noted
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The Chair closed the meeting at 13:15.