**MEETING OF SGSU EXECUTIVE**

**Tuesday 15th November 2016**

**5.30pm – H2.5**

**ATTENDEES**

|  |  |  |
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| **TA** | Tanisha Amin | VP Education and Welfare |
| **BO** | Bukola Ogunjinmi | International Officer |
| **CL** | Chantal Liu | International Officer |
| **KT** | Kat Telford | Chair |
| **BA** | Beth Agnew | Campaigns Officer |
| **KS** | Khadija Stone | Equality and Diversity Officer |
| **AP** | Avin Philips | Equality and Diversity Officer |
| **AB** | Anya Brown | Heritage Officer |
| **CBl** | Cerys Bladen | Heritage Officer |
| **RT** | Ruben Thumbadoo | Student Trustee |
| **SA** | Saeed Azizi | Student Trustee |
| **MD** | Mustafa Dashti | Community Projects Officer |
| **EO** | Ethan Osborn | Technical Officer |
| **AD** | Alex Denley | Technical Officer |
| **WM** | Will Morrell | Sports Officer |
| **OR** | Ollie Ryan | Sports Officer |
| **SS** | Sunil Singh | Representation Officer |
| **LoC** | Lorna Chapman | Societies Officer |
| **YK** | Yuna Kishimoto | Events Officer |
| **SJ** | Shalu James | Events Officer |
| **VP** | Vikram Patel | Charities Officer |
| **GB** | Gabriela Barzyk | Representation Officer |
| **ET** | Eesha Tripathi | Charities Officer |
| **AC** | Anshaal Chawdhery | Charities Officer |
| **SH** | Sarah Hill | Communications Officer |
| **RV** | Ruth Varney | Communications Officer |
| **JC** | Joe Clark | Communications Officer |
| **CBr** | Corey Briffa | President |
| **NMel** | Naomi Melamed | Societies Officer |
| **FH** | Francesca Harris | General Secretary |
| **AS** | Ash Sithirapathy | Societies Officer |
| **LuC** | Lucy Chapman | Campaigns Officer |
| **VS** | Vafie Sheriff | Community Projects Officer |
| **JM** | Jess McNaughton | Societies Officer |

**APOLOGIES**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **CBa** | Cameron Barclay | Environment and Ethics Officer |
| **JT** | Jeremy Teo | Events Officer |
| **IB** | Ishaan Bhide | VP Finance and Student Activities |
| **NMer** | Na’im Merchant | Student Trustee |
| **NA** | Naireen Asim | Charities Officer |
| **CA** | Chandru Amaranathan | Events Officer |

**ABSENT FROM MEETING**

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| **CA** | Chandru Amaranathan | Events Officer |
| **MG** | Michelle Ginsburg | Technical Officer |
| **LJ** | Lucy Jones | Sports Officer |

**MINUTES**

Minutes from the previous meeting were AGREED.

**ACTIONS FROM LAST MEETING**

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| Sports | See Ishaan | DONE |
| Charities | Talk to Beth about Jail Break | DONE |
| Socieites | Find app for handovers and publicise | DONE |
| Societies | File handover and constitution for AFP society | DONE |
| Ishaan | Make budget code for AFP society | ONGOING |
| Comms | Make webpage for AFP society | DONE |
| Fran | Make email account for AFP society | DONE |

**ACTIONS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

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| Tanisha | Meet with ISOC and ABSoc before next exec | DONE |
| Tanisha | Ask MBBS5 course committee about NHS smart cards | DONE |
| Comms | Make webpage for GinSoc | DONE |

**REPORTS\***

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| President | CBr gave a verbal summary of his written report. Addition of having met with Jane Saffell so that feedback can be given on individual lectures.  RV: Can you give a brief update on what’s happening with the COO?  CBr: Finance manager staying to cover the period to allow for an effective handover. Interviewing COO candidates tomorrow and will hopefully have more details for you then. | PASSED |
| VP F+SA | Ishaan was not present to give a verbal summary of the report.  *WM: When will the minibus be coming back?* | PASSED |
| VP E+W | TA gave a verbal summary of the written report. Additionally, Panopto trial is starting before Christmas to hopefully be released on 4th January.  RT: What were the Dance Soc promo video issues?  TA: Had a complaint that is was offensive to mental health issues, we have responded to the complaint apologising that this has happened and that is hadn’t been monitored, offered a joint meeting, and assured the person that as an SU we are very concerned about mental health, but haven’t heard anything back yet. | PASSED |
| General Secretary | FH gave a verbal summary of the report. | PASSED |
| Events Officers | YK gave a verbal summary of the report. | PASSED |
| Technical Officers | EO gave a verbal summary of the report. | PASSED |
| Sports Officers | OR gave a verbal summary of the report. | PASSED |
| Communications Officers | RV gave a verbal summary of the report. | PASSED |
| Heritage Officers | AB gave a verbal summary of the report.  **AP to update the Heritage board** | PASSED |
| Charities Officers | ET gave a verbal summary of the report. | PASSED |
| Societies Officers | NMel gave a verbal summary of the written report. | PASSED |
| CP Officers | MD gave a verbal summary of the written report. | PASSED |
| E+D Officers | AP gave a verbal summary of the written report. | PASSED |
| E+E Officer | CBa was not present to give a verbal summary of the written report.  CBr – When can we expect a report on your NUS summit visit?  BO – Do you have any plans for the E+E board?  MD – How’s the allotment going? | PASSED |
| International Officers | CL gave a verbal summary of the written report.  MD – What’s happening with international placements?  CL – there aren’t enough places in the US for the into course. The university have now decided to open up the UK for them to stay during P and F year. | PASSED |
| Representation Officers | GB gave a verbal summary of the report.  BO – Any plans on what to do for those courses who still don’t have reps?  GB – Currently recruiting interim reps, and then finding people who will be able to run.  RV - What happening with the year rep board?  GB – We are currently collecting pictures, the deadline for them to submit them is Wednesday and it will then be updated. | PASSED |
| Campaigns Officers | BA gave a verbal summary of the written report. | PASSED |

\*For full written reports, please see Executive Officer Reports document.

**STUDENT UNION ISSUES**

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| **ABSoc – continued discussion (TA)** | I have spoken to ISOC and ABSoc about misrepresentation etc. There are no issues between the two of them, they just want a platform to be able to express their own religious identity. ISOC’s qualms are that they want to keep ISOC asectarian, and maintain unity. ABSoc have argued it will bring more unity.  EO – are you confident you will be able to work harmoniously along side ISOC?  M – I am 100% certain this will not be a problem, and I have seen how it has worked in other societies. There is the demand and I think that this should be recognised rather than brushing it under the carpet, and this will help us move further towards unity.  MD – How do you see this working towards unity?  M – I have looked at other universities. ABSoc is there to represent the Shia sect. This isn’t represented in ISOC currently due to religious differences so we can’t hold our own events, so we want to move forward to be able to do this, however we would still want to work with ISOC.  KT – why do you want to become a society, is it because there is an aspect not covered by ISOC which triggered you wanting to become a society?  M – ABSoc is there to cover the Shia side of Islam, which ISOC is there to cover all sects and we wouldn’t expect them to do any different, and that is why we are coming up with a society. There is a great demand for this society now which there hasn’t been previously, and this is why we are proposing it now and not before.  SA – ISOC is asectarian, but you are mentioning that you are proposing this society as ISOC doesn’t cater to the Shia sect, but in fact it doesn’t cater to any specific sect, do you agree?  M – it just goes back to the fundamental difference in religious beliefs which means that we can’t hold our events. This is why we need our own society. We are pro unity and not sectarian at all.  KT – how do you see yourselves working along side other religious societies in terms of using the multi-faith room?  M – don’t see it being an issue. We can always look at how other universities manage this. This week is multi-faith week so we could all sit down together and discuss how to move forward.  *Discussion*  MD – we know that ISOC is there to represent all views of all Muslims. We understand this. The fact that there are 29 other ABSocs in the country should be irrelevant and we should make our own decision as SGSU. I still feel that this being proposed is highlighting a problem with ISOC.  EO – my initial problem was not with ABSoc, it was with ISOC not being inclusive. If they are bringing new events which ISOC can’t and don’t offer, and don’t carry out any sectarian events in their calendar, then I think that it is fair for them to have this new society.  CBr – ISOC are asectarian and don’t hold any events which cater to specific sects. I think we would be wrong to deny ABSoc their platform if they feel they need it. We have tried to consider the potential for problems between the two societies, but I don’t think we should predict this.  CL – What will be the impact on ISOC in terms of numbers of members?  CBr – We can’t really predict but I think that a lot of the time students will join both societies.  MD – In passing ISOC are we not forcing ISOCs hand in becoming somewhat sectarian?  CBr – It could be seen that way, but we aren’t asking ISOC to change their constitution in anyway and they can continue to do what they do best and represent all Muslims. I also agree with Saeed that ISOC shouldn’t have been brought into this as we have put the opinions of hundreds of students on two individuals.  TA – One of their main reasons for being a separate society is so that they can have awareness events and this is something we talked to ISOC about. There are many topics which are politically entwined and motivated, so if they were to have awareness events, in order to not breach our no platform policy would potentially be breached.  BA – I think that by ISOC catering for everyone they aren’t catering for everyone. They are trying to do their best but it means representation is spread thinly so some may not feel fully represented. The worst case scenario would be having opposing societies in the future of different sects, however I don’t feel we can’t give them a chance as we need to give them a platform.  EO – ABSoc students have come to us saying they don’t feel represented, and this isn’t something we can ignore.  SA – We need to make sure we ask ourselves if we are acting in the interests of the students. We also need to consider that there are tensions at the moment, and we need to ask ourselves if this is the right time to push forward a society. | VP: I propose that we pass ABSoc as a society of SGSU.  Seconded by LuC  Accept: 9  Reject: 7  Abstain: 8  PASSED  **AP**  **IB to make budget code**  **Socs to file handover and constitution**  **Comms to make webpage**  **FH to make email account** |
| **App Usage – Communications Officers** | App is being open approximately 15,000 times a month which has shown us that this is a really good channel of communication for us and is doing really well! |  |
| **Trustee Report – SA, RT** | 10th November 2016 trustee board meeting  After passing minutes from the previous board meeting, John kindly presented the SGSU financial statement. It was noted that the financial deficit has significantly reduced from the prior year, primarily due to reduced expenditure. Nonetheless, work still has to be done in order to achieve sustainability.    The May ball was discussed, it was stressed to ensure finances are well managed and documented. Potential options for the Rob Lowe space were considered, discussions are ongoing. Kingston students can now vote in SGSU elections via the SGSU website. The risk register and financial improvement plan has been updated. All reports from top 4 were passed.    Other goals:   * Change SU constitution to ensure manifesto promises are discussed in the AGM report * Change the SU constitution to ensure written handovers are provided by all exec officers (including trustees) * Look into appropriate time to hold student trustee week * Continue engaging with the student body and collating a list of issues student face on campus * Continue supporting where needed and appropriate * Continue looking for constitutional loop holes to correct   Encourage reflective practice among trustees and exec  **AP – Kat to send information on how to change the constitution to the whole of Exec.** |  |

The year plan was updated.

**SOCIETY PROPOSALS**

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| Persian/Afghan Society  (Haidar Stanikzai, Anahita Aria, Zainab Rafiei Zamani) | Aim to embrace the Persian culture, initiate discussion and unite Iranian and Afghan students/ break stereotypes about Persian culture and educate non-Persians. Open to everyone. Main plans: regular meetings, movie nights, Persian Christmas dinners, Sizdah Bedar picnics, Nowruz parties, Persian themed competitions. Discussed proposed budget, event costs and subscription fees.  The executive committee asked the society committee questions and discussed the proposal. | CBr: I propose we pass Persian/Afghan Society as a society of SGSU, with the caveat that they go over their constitution with us. (**AP to meet with Corey and Tanisha**)  Accept: 27  Reject: 0  Abstain: 0  PASSED  **AP**  **IB to make budget code**  **Socs to file handover and constitution**  **Comms to make webpage**  **FH to make email account** |
| Equalising Opportunities in Medicine (Sida Mao and Anya Polak) | Main aim to equalise the platform for underrepresented medical school applicants. Three pronged approach – med school partner scheme, monthly seminars and interview workshops.  The executive committee asked the society committee questions and discussed the proposal. | LoC: I propose we pass Equalising Opportunities in Medicine as a society of SGSU with the caveat that they change their name and speak to Corey and Tanisha.  Accept: 15  Reject: 8  Abstain: 4  PASSED  **AP**  **IB to make budget code**  **Socs to file handover and constitution**  **Comms to make webpage**  **FH to make email account** |

**AOB**

Steering Group – Representation Officers and E+D Officers

The event is on 24th November and please could everyone promote this as much as possible and please attend if you can. This is the first of its kind and it is important that it is attended.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 29th November