**SGSU SGM – MINUTES**

**Tuesday 7th February 2017**

**5.30pm – MHLT**

**Please note**: We are unable to start the meeting unless we meet quorum of 60 students.

1. **Business**
	1. Present

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Zainab Rafiel Zamani | ZRZ | Persian/Afghan Society |
| Ethan Osborn | EO | Technical Officer |
| Nikita Punjabi | NP | Teddy Bear Hospital |
| Kamkan Basharat | KB | Amnesty |
| Rozina Choudhary | RC | Amnesty |
| Karan Punjabi | KP | Hindu Soc |
| Ayesha Sithirapathy | AS | Revue |
| Jessica McNaughton | JM | Netball |
| Lorna Chapman | LoC | Tooting Show |
| Shalu James | SJ | Events Officer  |
| Jeremy Teo | JT | Events Officer |
| Gabriela Barzyk | GB | Representation Officer |
| Jonathan Khadine | JK | Music Soc |
| Craig Brooks | CrBr | Boat Club |
| Hugh Furness | HF | Rugby |
| Jack Vaughn Jones | JVJ | Rugby |
| Tom Shaw | TS | Rugby |
| Bethany Anew | BA | Campaigns Officer |
| Alia Nasir-Gonzalez | ANG | Marrow |
| Anya Brown | AB | Heritage Officer |
| Cameron Barclay | CBa | E+E Officer |
| Yuna Kishimoto | YK | Events Officer |
| Chandru Amaranathan | CA | Events Officer |
| Azeem Hussain | AH | AppSoft Soc |
| Livyar Mustafa | LM | ABSoc |
| Shubhechha Chattopadhyay | SC | Red Cross |
| Verity Hunt | VH | Comedy Society |
| Ruth Varney | RV | Communications Officer |
| Sarah Hill | SH | Communications Officer |
| Joe Clark | JC | Communications Officer |
| Cerys Bladen | CBl | Heritage Officer |
| Daniel LaReaux | DL | Rugby |
| Anthony El Khoury | AEK | MBBS Y1 |
| Philip Longhurst | PL | Musical |
| Elodia Dalmonte | ED | Athena Swan |
| Sam Guymer | SG | Cardiology |
| Eyal Ben-David | EBD | Karate |
| Na’im Merchant | NM | Wu Shu Kwan |
| Chantal Liu | CL | International Officer |
| Bukola Ogunjinmi | BO | International Officer |
| Asra Alwandi | AsA | Henry Gray Society |
| Lucy Chapman | LuC | Campaigns Officer |
| Alex Lisseter | AL | Mixed Hockey |
| Kajal Aubeeluck | KA | Ladies Rugby |
| Gurleen Singh | GS | Aids Orphan |
| Eesha Tripathi | ET | Charities Officer |
| Naireen Asim | NA | Charities Officer |
| Albert Mensah | AM | Fatsoc |
| Anshaal Chawdhery | AC | Paksoc |
| Nisani Gnanasoorian | NG | Tamil Soc |
| Brad Ross | BR | LINKS |
| Vafie Sheriff | VS | SKIP |
| Sunil Singh | SS | Representation Officer |
| Seher Bashir | SB | P Year rep |
| Aimen Gmati | AG | P Year rep |
| Amelia Paveley | AP | Ladies Hockey |
| Christopher Black | ChBl | - |
| Imogen Horn | IH | Netball |
| Hannah Gyekye-Mensah | HGM | Cheerleading |
| Mary Adesina | MA | Christian Union |
| Sa’ud Jiwani | SJ | Mens Cricket |
| Kalvind Vadi | KV | Marrwo |
| Jigisha Gaglani | JG | - |
| William Morrell | WM | Sports Officer |
| Oliver Ryan | OR | Sports Officer  |
| Ram Patel | RP | T Year Rep |
| Neesha Soni | NS | T Year Rep |
| Ali Borthwick | AB | Mens Football |
| Harry Atkins | HA | Mens Football |
| Sam Khavandi | SKav | Mens Football |
| Mark Forde | MF | Snow Club |
| Jonathan Ngomuo | JN | Snow Club |
| Tola Taye-Olagbegi | TTO | ACS |
| Nora Offei | NO | ACS |
| Hayden Frarer | HF | Rugby |
| Inayat Khan | IK | Book Club |
| Alan Hasanic | AH | Language Society |
| Mona Jaffar | MJ | Childreach |
| Anass Ali | AnA | ISoc |
| Hussein Al Rubaye | HAR | Arab Soceity |
| Andrew Wormersley | AW | Rugby |
| Mark Howe | MH | Music Society  |
| Ruben Thumbadoo | RT | Student Trustee |
| Sarah Lasoye | SL | iFemSoc |
| Jean Claude Doukrou | JCD | Dance Society |
| Stephanie Austin | SA | SGEMS |
| Salih Kadri | SKad | Debating Society |
| Francesca Harris | FH | General Secretary |
| Kat Telford | KT | Chair |
| Tanisha Amin | TA | VP Education + Welfare |
| Corey Briffa | CBr | President |
| Ishaan Bhide | IB | VP Finance + Student Activities |

* 1. Apologies

Paediatrics Society

Bake Society

Game Society

Photography Society

TAD Society

Punjabi Society

Sikh Society

SLL

Sexpression

Men’s Hockey

Ladies’ Hockey

STAR

Hiking

DAPS vision

Radiology Society

* 1. AOB

SGUL Change

Rob Lowe Sports Centre

1. **Executive Officer Six Month Reports** – please see the six month written reports document for full reports. Only questions have been recorded here.

President:

NMer: Congratulations on your work so far this year. How do you think you are perceived by the students following your first 6 months in office?

CBr: I would like to think I am perceived well as I am always around and busy. I allocate quite a bit of time to students and my door is always open, however recently I may have been seen as a bit more ‘back office’ as that is what the current situation within the SU demands which is a shame, but hopefully that can change soon.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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VP (Finance & Student Activities)

BO: Is there any way that the minibus test can be earlier in the year in future?

IB: We only have one supplier and they are always fully booked so it is very hard for us to get the tests booked in. We are also only currently budgeted for 2 tests per year, but next year there will be 3. The problem with holding it earlier in the year is that if people then change their mind there isn’t another test in that year which they can take.

NMer: In your report you mention the option of restructuring your role, what are key details of this?

IB: My role has historically been done by a student with no financial background, and this poses a huge danger for the SU is someone non-committed comes into the role. This is why it needs restructuring, as I currently spend all my time working on spreadsheets, but this is not what I was elected in to do. I was elected in to represent the student body, so if an additional staff member was able to do what I currently do, then I could be doing the work I pledged in my manifesto.

PL: Is there any budget for repairing or replacing the minibuses?

IB: Yes, we are in a contract with university who take the cost of all repairs but the society or individual in question has to pay an excess of £300 per incident.

MD: Where do you see financial state of the SU in 5 years from now?

IB: This is a difficult question as there is a lot in the air at the moment. I will have a better answer for you by AGM as we are currently working to make the SU a lot more sustainable, as if we continue down the current path then the SU may not survive over the next 6 or 7 years.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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VP (Education & Welfare)

RV: How do you think advertising went for Consent Week and how would you change this for future campaigns?

TA: It wasn’t as strong as it should have been. We have Mental Health Week coming up in March and we will have stricter deadlines for my zone so they have to be met much earlier on.

BA: What do you feel has been the biggest challenge you’ve faced so far?

TA: Managing the expectations of students and myself. It can be difficult when a lot of what you are doing is behind the scenes so people don’t realize you are doing it. I have also felt a responsibility to do to all meetings this year as a good relationship has only recently been established.

SB: Do you think more should be done on campaigns during Freshers?

TA: I have been working with the Dean to create something to do with consent etc for all Freshers to have. We are thinking of an e-learning module which has to be completed in order to enroll, or a taught session which is registered.

BO: Do you think there’s any possibility getting base rooms open longer?

TA: One of the first successes in the year was getting J1 rooms open 24 hours and increasing SDL access times. Unfortunately, we fight hard to get more access and opportunities for students but there is then damage caused by students which makes the university reluctant.

NMer: How successful do you think you’ve been at representing students at meetings and how can you improve?

TA: I can never represent everyone, and as best as I can I say which meetings I am attending in my reports. I think we can make better use of Senate.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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General Secretary

RV: How do you find being a non-sabbatical officer whilst having a zone and being a member of Top 4?

FH: It is really hard to balance work and studies, but is great being part of top 4 as you get more back. Having a zone hasn’t been the challenging part of the role for me, it is one of the most rewarding.

NM: You’ve done a lot of work this year to do with May Ball which is not your constitutional duty, how do you feel you’re managing with this alongside other work?

FH: So far I haven’t found it a problem. I enjoy this kind of task but also know that if it got too much I would be able to delegate and tell Top 3.

MD: How would you improve your role in future?

FH: I think giving a number of the university rooms back to their booking system would make a huge difference.

PL: Where have the problems arisen with room booking?

FH: The system has changed this year and there was initially some confusion between the University and the SU over how the bookings were going to be managed, which is what caused the issues.

**PASSED by simple majority.**

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Chair

AB: How have you found merging into the exec team after joining late?

KT: I have found it ok, the first exec meeting was difficult but from then it has been a lot easier. I kept up to date with the constitution so I haven’t struggled too much with the process of meetings.

NMer: What advice would you give to someone planning to run net year?

KT: Mae sure you have gone through the constitution a number of times, which is a huge task. I think it is also important to have experience of the Union so get involved with other roles first. It is a very active job so make sure to hit it head on.

MD: How would you improve the effectiveness of Senate?

KT: I always ask Top 4 to bring agenda points. There is a lot of important issues to talk about at senate, so I think the more interesting the agenda, the more people will get involved. We have been discussing inviting staff members which should hopefully life the meetings and bring people in as we can then communicate directly with staff about any issues.

BO: How would you feel about the Chair not having a zone leader?

KT: I feel they need a zone leader not a zone. They don’t fit into a zone but I feel that although if you had a very experienced chair who didn’t need a leader that would be fine but that’s not to say a chair one year may not be experienced and would need a zone leader. The General Secretary is a good leader as they share meetings so I can see why Chair was put there.

NMer: It is important to be aware of the agenda before meetings, how well briefed for the meetings have you felt by Top 4?

KT: I wasn’t happy at the beginning but have raised this with Fran at my appraisal and now we have meetings before the meeting every week at 5pm. I feel we are now getting the balance of communication right.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Events Officers

CL: How well do you think your events have engaged students this year and do you have any advice for those who might take the role next year?

SJ: I think most have gone really well especially Christmas and Halloween. We spend a lot of time on decorations and lots of people have said that they liked the decorations.

JT: For the people next year will tell people to make sure to decorate early. This is a key point we will push forward.

RV: How do you feel your new events went this year, such as Gatsby?

JT: A lot of them went much better than we expected. We didn’t expect a huge turn out at Gatsby, but we were pleasantly surprised.

MD: What do you feel was your biggest success this year?

SJ: We felt the most proud of Christmas Disco.

VS: Do you feel you have had enough support in terms of set up form Exec, especially during Freshers?

YK: So far exec have been really helpful with setting up and helping make decorations.

SJ: It is a lot more stressful during Freshers as there is an event every day, but so we far haven’t had to ask for help people have just offered which is really nice. There is a natural element to people just helping each other. I don’t think its necessary to get people to help if they don’t want to.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Sports Officers

NMer: How have you dealt with the increased work load following losing a member of your team?

WM: We have gone from 3 to 2 which has made it a lot more difficult but feel we have handled it quite well. At the start we were a bit unsure of how things worked such as BUCS, but as we’ve got more confident with everything we have got more used to splitting the work load evenly and we are more on top of it than we were at the start.

NMer: How well do you feel you’ve engaged the captains, and do you think this has been an improvement from last year?

WM: We managed to get all constitutions from teams and have had communication with captains early on. At the start of the year all fixtures and dates went out to all captains, whereas last year they were still gathering contacts for a while so that is better than last year.

TA: What has been the hardest part of your role?

WM: The sheer workload. We get 30-40 emails a day and finding the time to deal with everything can be hard. Sometimes we get something less urgent than others so we leave it for a couple of days and then get chased by people.

VP: Is there anyting that can alleviate the pressure on you right now?

WM: If there were 3 of us would be a lot easier, but next year we would suggest that they are less lenient on some captains. Some require a lot doing for them whilst others are very independent and deal with their own fixtures whereas others get us to deal with everything. Next year would be good for us to be the go to point for all clubs as the final point of call, but if they were dealing with their own fixtures this would be better.

EO: Will the team be staying as the 2 of you?

WM: Currently it is just us but we are going to have a meeting with Top 4 soon to decide the next steps.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Communications Officers

AB: How do you feel the newsletter is received by students?

RV: I think it varies. Some people read it every week and comment on liking it. We know that some people read it from the views on the videos we send but these have decreased throughout the year. We also get emails back from people asking to be taken off the mailing list. Everyone has their own preference - some people love email communication while others hate it.

CBl: What do you think could be improved about the newsletter to make it more accessible to students?

JC: We are in the development stages at the moment but are thinking of getting a new app where the different sections are integrated into app and so are more likely to be read.

SB: How are you finding the changed layout which links to the website and have you had any feedback on it?

RV: There have been mixed responses. Some people don’t like clicking on links but some people like to be able to scroll so it is difficult to compare. It is slightly more time consuming for us but we like that now all newsletters are stored on the website. It is nice for staff who want to know what students are up to as they can now view it online.

SH: I think it is potentially worth continuing but having sections on website with different information on would be better than all being in email form.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Heritage Officers

RV: What are your plans for St George’s Day?

AB: We want to make it bigger than it has previously been, as we said in our manifesto. The plans have developed, with the current idea as a comedy evening for which we will invite back an ex-student who is now a comedian.

CBl: We are currently working with staff to try and get alumni involved as that’s a great way to celebrate St George’s. We will have stalls and will try to get all students and societies involved, We will maybe use it as a charity event as well. There are lots of ideas, we just need to finalise everything.

MH: Do you have plans to revive any of the old traditional events?

AB: We have looked into reviving George’s to George’s but it is a really hard event to put on. Only certain groups like to attend, it is very expensive for the students and takes the whole day.

CBl: We asked a lot of people and many said that they probably wouldn’t do it so we ruled it out.

AB: Anything we do this year is spit balling, and anything bad this year can be revisited.

RT: What issues do you foresee for WW8 in future years?

CBl: We had issues getting a few pubs involved this year and it was hard to get the full 8. The next officers may have issues as some pubs love the idea and work really well with us, but others don’t like it at all

AB: We really struggled with the last pub this year. We had some contingency plans so there’s an option to utilize the SU as the last event for example, and make it more of an event night.

CBl: We will pass on everything we’ve learnt this year to future officers.

NMer: What do you think is the most significant thing Heritage Officers can do for students?

AB: We are trying our best to maintain events like WW8, spiders etc. We have also met with the archivist as we are trying to help maintain our history. We are looking at moving a lot of our heritage items from the Rag Room into the archives. Although you may not see that every day it’s still really important to maintain our history.

CBl: Also for St George’s we day wanted to bring forward that we’ve been involved in a lot of the history things which is really interesting and we really want to get people involved and interested in this too.

BO: Do you think there is still a place for the role within Exec?

AB: We have spoken about it a lot. It’s a very niche role. A lot of the role is to do with the archives, not just events like WW8, and this couldn’t really be spread into a different role. Events also have a lot to do as it is so it wouldn’t be fair to put more work on them. I thought was very important to keep last year and I still do. There is more that can be done with the role. We have struggled with putting in as much time as we wanted to begin with due to final year but this side of the year going to try and push a bit more.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Charities Officers

CBl: Do you know the total money raised so far?

VP: The majority of our money is raised during Rag Week which is coming up. So far we have done Rag Quiz and Rag Shots. This year we have also been trying to get the charities to come into university and give out information. The total we have raised at the moment is a few hundred, but lots more will be raised next week.

AC: Nikhil has already raised around £400 for shaving his head alone. Selling shots at discos makes around £150-200 each event, so it is a nice easy way to bring the total up a bit.

NMer: Your attendance to meeting has been a bit shaky – how will you ensure this improves in the coming 6 months?

VP: My attendance is the one letting the team down. I will ensure I remember to send in apologies on times and make sure that I prioritise meetings over other commitments.

ET: We try to ensure that at least one us us is present at each meeting to give our report and take questions.

TA: What do you think has been the biggest hurdle you have encountered?

AC: Trying to target the most amount of people. We are really trying to get the word out and get people involved and it is something that comes with persistence. When people get involved we can achieve big things.

CL: How was the jailbreak briefing?

NA: It was good, we had 4-5 teams who want to take part. We are still trying to target Freshers as well. We are now just waiting for deposits. The teams we have are very committed so we are excited.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Societies Officers

MH: Could you expand on what you’ve done with the music room?

JM: We have tuned the pianos.

AS: One of our manifesto points was to look into sound proofing for music room. You will find out later that there’s going to be changes that mean this might no longer be applicable and it was also very expensive. We could have fundraised, but when you consider that the SU might change we have put the plans on hold.

LoC: We work closely with tech also with drum silencing etc. The music room hasn’t gone as forward as we had hoped due to future plans but we will continue to work on it.

CBl: How are the online constitutions and handover forms going?

AS: We are in the middle period. Hopefully what we’ve put in place will now not have to next socs officers to do filing. Should have made their job a lot easier but we are working through it.

LoC: It is already working well. People have done it for next year but we are still updating the mailing list so that hasn’t changed, but it means we don’t have to go anywhere physically to use papers, and it is the same for societies.

JMI It is much more efficient to have it in front of you on the computer.

AB: Your report records is about 50%, why is this and how can you improve?

LoC: We always forget about exec meetings. We remember on the day that they’re due. We always have done them but not in on time.

JM: We need to be more organized.

RV: How do you think societies are at responding to you and how could the societies officers or society heads improve this?

JM: Trying to get them online was a nightmare. As people know our threats are empty so we need something to get people moving.

LoC: Generally, societies run themselves and I haven’t had anyone come to me needing help with running their society. Lots of them didn’t know they had constitutions but they all should know now.

AS: We’ve split the societies up so now its easier to get in contact with people. Facebook is sometimes easier but otherwise its good that we take a section of societies each.

VP: The 2 big events of the year are Freshers Fair and Awards Night which this year will be at may ball. How do you feel about this?

LoC: 100% we wanted it at May Ball. We think having people there already and having them celebrate their peers successes will be good.

AS: Last year only people receiving awards attended but that’s a shame as no one was there to celebrate the achievement. All of people’s friends will be there at may ball.

JM: It will be more prestigious.

LoC: Awards is just a part of May Ball, not the whole point.

NMer: A recent email threatens societies with dissolution, is this happening?

AS: It is part of their constitutional role. There are 5 things and any society can get 2 points of those things before the society is deemed inactive. We spoke to Kat about no online constitution means no valid constitution and this is why we need an online typed version to be valid.

LoC: It is not an empty threat. We don’t want to dissolve anyone but it’s a warning. Also no response to emails. Most people responding just didn’t know where their constitutions were so we’ve worked through it now.

AS: Some of the performance ones can be an issue if their shows were a few months ago.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Community Project Officers

AB: Your role was considered to be dissolved, how do you feel about this?

MD: It’s great that is wasn’t dissolved. We have done lots that officers didn’t do previously. We have molded it this year and we think its become much more useful.

VP: Would you now make the things you’re doing constitutional to make it more worthwhile this year?

VS: Yes some of the things we’ve introduced were already in the constitution but they just weren’t done, but things like the volunteer of the month will be a good thing to add.

SN: There is a policy on grants which you mentioned when I came to your meeting at the start of year and you said you were working on it?

MD: Grant funding wasn’t sent to charity week as you are not an official CP of SGSU but have a massive list that we can send you.

NMer: Are the CP meetings still happening?

VS: Yes they will be happening again there are just certain things we wanted to do before it so we had things to talk about.

MD: Not much happened in the last few months with the holidays etc

AC: All CPs share the CP cupboard, how successfully has this worked?

MD: In previously years the store room hasn’t been maintained very effectively but during clean out the space is now used more effectively and we have space for extra CPs and societies.

VS: It wad also due to making CPs aware of the room during clean up - now we have people using it who hadn’t previously.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Technical Officers

KV: How has it been having to manage without your original team?

EO: The current team is me and two other officers. Since Christmas things have picked up as I have had more time to train them. Anyone who wants to help out can always feel free to email us.

VP: Will we ever see the third tech officer and how were they trained?

EO: Michelle wasn’t fully aware of the requirements of the role at the point they came in. They will be coming to meetings from now on. As for training, we ran an open mic night which the other 2 were present at and saw the set up and helped run. They were in charge of it for portions of the evening, and it will be the same for battle of the bands.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Equality & Diversity Officers

RV: You have done a good job with LGBT advertising. How do you feel going forward you can make BHM as good as LGBT month this year?

AP: As it’s right at the beginning of the year there is not much time to prepare. We would tell people to prepare as far ahead as possible and who to liaise with. Get in touch with ACS and communicating with people who are passionate is a good start.

KS: Communication with the uni is great getting them on board. Make relationships earlier instead of waiting for September then things will kick off earlier.

TA: How easy is it to engage with the student body regarding your issues?

AP: We have found it hard to engage. Everyone has an opinion but getting them there is hard – it is something we are looking to improve.

VP: What would you say has been most successful event/campaign so far?

KS: I really enjoyed food and faith and also LGBT month will be very successful and will be nice to look back on.

NMer: How successful has your refugee work been?

KS: Star have had talks and we have been in touch with these helping however we can with advertisement, attending etc. This is something we are looking forward to achieving in the future.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Environment & Ethics Officer

AB: How do you find being a lone officer?

CBa: It has been alright. Looking back I wish I’d run with someone else but it’s a strange role which feels like it’s made for 1 and a half people – too little for 2 people, a bit much for 1, maybe would be good to have 2 to boost the role a bit and bring more in.

RV: How do you feel you’ve bene supported by your zone leader this year?

CBa: It’s been alright, had a talk during my appraisal on how we can move forward with it. Its been fine. I know what I want to do a lot of the time so I don’t go to Tanisha for help very often I go ahead with things myself.

TA: If you had a second person what initiatives would you like to take place?

CBa: Some of the smaller NUS campaigns that go on that I struggle to keep on top of. I focus on big things but smaller campaigns the NUS put on every year sometimes slip through the gaps for me which I would like to not be the case. If had two people this could be picked up on.

NMer: If you had more time and resources what single ethical thing do you think you could do for the students?

CBa: My ting is mainly awareness but that’s of every ethical issue. I’d like to talk more to Matt in the shop and see how we can make the shop more ethical which he has already worked on but there’s a lot more that could go with that as an SU with a small shop there’s limits to what we can do.

MD: How is the Green Impact Award coming along?

CBa: Slow at the moment because of dissertation deadline, but I will be getting onto it very soon!

**PASSED by simple majority**

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International Officers

CBr: What has been biggest success so far?

CL: Multicultural dinner where we had free food for over 200 people from local restaurants was a highlight as never been done on that scale before. Secondly boat party last Friday which was sold out and we think would be a good event for the SU to have in the coming years. Mainly events. On the into front representing students but it’s a complicated thing.

CBr: How will you make sure the next officers are as successful as you?

BO: A good handover is the first step and meeting with them when they’ve been elected. Best possible advice, good pack of info, being there for them after they’ve been elected too if they need help. Also during elections giving people a realistic view of what it involved.

TA: There have been ongoing issues with into and you have been invaluable to those students – what has been the hardest part of this?

CL: Communication with the uni is difficult, for the into side there are lots of different groups and meetings. Getting information back to students quickly and accurately can be hard as we not in the same year as the people with these issues sometimes. Year reps have been invaluable.

VP: As this is your second term in the role, would you say you’ve achieved something you didn’t manage last year?

BO: We finally achieved communication with students on elective in the US which took time. Also might hopefully be able to elect reps for those students as they are still a part of this university.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Representation Officers

VS: Have you managed to keep a perfect report submission record for all SU meetings?

GB: Yes, we manage to keep a balance between us.

KS: Well done for everything you have done so far. What is the hardest part of your role?

SS: Just having to attend so many meetings.

GB: The number of meetings has been difficult, and also working on the breast feeding facilities has been a big task which we are still working on.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Campaigns Officers

AB: As a new role this year how do you feel its going and how you’re working within exec?

BA: At the start was really hard as we didn’t realize how big the role is and it covers so much. It took us a while to find our feet and to make sure we are doing what the students want us to be doing. Feel like were getting there now and learning as we go. The role is definitely going to develop and grow - this was never going to be the biggest year for us.

LuC: We had no groundwork so we are trying to develop it.

KS: Will you be making any constitutional changed for next year?

BA: We definitely need to have a look over it. There’s so much you can do and its hard as a two, we have a big vision of how great it could be. At other universities they have a whole range of officers who do individual parts of what we do.

LuC: Without personal bias we’ve chosen two issues which are important to us and hopefully also to other people, but it’s really hard to get feedback.

VP: Would it be wise to split the role into different roles, eg women’s officer?

BA: I think for now no but possibly the addition of another person in the team but this is something we need to go away and think about and make the constitution more clearly defined.

MD: In future years would you advise a 3 member team or younger years with more time?

BA: I think add more people to the role

LuC: Our previous roles of charities and events were arguably more work but it was just more obvious in the role that people see but we knew what we were doing, we had handovers etc but not with campaigns.

BA: A lot of what we do is also behind the scenes that students don’t see.

RT: What do you think impacted consent week advertising, how will you move forward with this?

BA: It impacted some events more than others, eg outside lib not much of an impact, drawing in people who walk past and those events haven’t pushed so much on social media but speaking about them to people and have also had societies spreading the word for us through their mailing lists. Have had changes to events eg with issues with speakers which has hindered advertising somewhat but we know its been an issue and a lot more organized for mental health week done posters and also not same time as a big deadline.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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Student Trustees

CBr: Saeed’s manifesto point was to improve communication with the SU and students how do you feel as a group you’ve achieved that?

RT: don’t think we’ve achieved it to the level we wanted to, individually a lot of people have approached us with issues and concerns which is a big part of the role and think this is the first step of the communication and what we wanted to bring to the role.

NMer: Saeed has been the spearhead on this and he has had a trustee facebook page and trying to get all out messages out through social media and this may have been one of our biggest failures. It can be difficult managing our role knowing what we can and cant say with what we can give out to the students.

RT: It can be really hard to tell students what we’ve done when it’s confidential

RV: In hustings you talked about holding ‘talk to the trustees’ sessions which hasn’t happened – are you just too busy or don’t think is useful?

RT: We are 2 F years and a P year so things are getting very busy and things have been put on the back burner. Still plans to have this and run a trustee week we’d like to organize getting people to know what we do but also having a younger person with more time might not be good as won’t have bene here that long with the view and experience of how things have and haven’t worked.

NMer: We have had people approach us individually and have found that a formal session may not be the best way to engage with students as people have been coming informally. Have just modified how we did it.

TA: What’s the best part about being a trustee?

RT: Knowing a lot about how things can change and shape things, but the drawback is you can’t tell everyone how things are changing and improving.

**PASSED by simple majority**

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1. **Agenda Points**

May Ball

CBr: May Ball is on 17th May. Similar to sports ball - can buy groups tickets to sit as sports/socs/etc at a discounted price (10+ people) from the office. There is the option to purchase an open bar ticket. Lots of effort has gone into make it more inclusive and celebratory. Will be a really good event please encourage teams and societies to come.

AB: How do you think logistically awards is going to work and could it stunt the flow of the evening?

CBr: logistically we need to iron out details but from what we have planned throughout the night it wont impact significantly and will be a nice addition

RV: How many early bird tickets sold?

CBr: There are 150 earl bird tickets in total.

RV: Are tickets reserved for awards winners and how will that work?

CBr: Tickets reserved for those who win awards which will be available

TA: We also have to consider how many tickets we sell at what rate which may have to reconsider the action

JM: What’s the discount for group tickets?

CBr: 12%

TA: £42 for group ticket

RT: How do you think moving awards will affect F years who might not be able to get it when they are on elective

CBr: We discussed with socs and said last year a lot of F years couldn’t attend either

CBl: It’s really hard to pick a time to suit everyone, we didn’t have everyone back either.

CBr: The event is focused to make it more inclusive and make the awards more prestigious and can’t just solely focus one event over one cohort. We’ve had to make the decision if people want to come they still can

TA: We can look at what the nominees look like and could think about a separate event if it was lots of f years.

AB: What will happen for awards winners if you sell out of tickets?

CBr: We have already kept some back for them.

PL: Last year awards ceremony was a really nice thing got the ceremony and free food etc now feels like asking people to pay for their award even though I know you’re trying to make it more prestigious

CBr: 100% take your point, for any normal awards I’ve been to I’ve had to pay to go to the event as well. Not just an awards ceremony there’s going to be other things incorporated into the event so not just going for the award still getting the rest of the event with it also. Sustainability as awards takes a lot of money for a small group of people so good to put it into the ball in that respect

CBl: causes complications doing it this way is it up for discussion at all or going ahead anyway

CBr: already been discussed at exec where these points could have been brought up but if there’s lots of people who say now they hate it then will listen but has already been discussed

IB: also may ball is to try and save money by joining lots of events so that there’s money for other societies – it is better than having no ball so trying to combine it as well to increase student engagement as we know sports ball works etc

TA: this is the first time were doing may ball it’s a learning curve if doesn’t go well then something for the handover both ways, if it goes well then give it momentum for successful event next year/future

MH: summer ball stopped as it made a huge loss but sports ball has been doing well, feels like maybe stepping back. how do we justify this?

TA: The difference is that we have based this lower end we are not aiming for anything like Syon Park etc know that sports ball does well and sold out, that was our minimum, already had buy ins as well through wristband sales, got 3 tiers of spending will not be going anywhere near as ambitious as previous balls.

CBr: the £30,000 loss was from a ball where the venue was damaged and we have insurance in place for things like this now there has bene a lot of planning early on late advertising.

Second Floor Refurbishment

CBr: There are many things to be considered in the refurbishment. We are trying to make a more adaptable space which can be better utilized. We know demands are also high for storage. We need to consider that the SU is growing both in staff and students and this needs to be accommodated for. I will show you the plans however they are in the early stages at the moments and things could change. The plan is for this to take place voer the summer period.

The music room has been moved, no longer sound issue over the library to the current eddies space which will get smaller. Music room getting slightly bigger and may be able to increase the things it can be used for.

HGR is getting larger and gaining 2 extra sets of toilets. Male toilet on side of HGR and male and female on the other side. There are also 2 gender neutral toilets which is something we can discuss if we think its something we want to move forward with.

We have aained a store cupboard in what was the games room which is become the office and store cupboard now. Might be a store for a future stage depending on budget in the future. Common room in area of current office, will be a kitchen space with sofas etc.

The bar looks slightly different. There are 2 partition walls in the bar which will be similar to in the boardrooms so it can be used during the day for dance etc and if it’s not booked can be opened out as a space for people to sit and work and opened up in the evenings. The bar will get a general refurb with new furniture and new lighting - a bit nicer!

Cobbs Bar will have a partition wall which can be opened and closed when required. It still can be used as it is currently but will be established as a games room but on a movable basis.

The only other change is the bar will be moved slightly out to get those working behind the bar more space to make it better for them and make service a bit quicker.

MD: What do you think about productivity of SU sabs when its now between AHR and common room?

CBr: currently already by common room but think it might be better as will be around students who we are here for. One suggestion was to move it forward and will ae a glass front so nicer more welcoming area curved all in lift section will also be flattened and 2 options, either a reception desk there for someone form the SU on a rotational basis as a point of call and friendly face or put trophy cabinets there to showcase them better.

MH: what is the music room now above?

CBr: above a stair case and over the SLs space

MH: will cobbs bar still be open on Wednesday for circles?

CBr: YES if there’s extra space if its free and open then no one will stop it being open. Things like booking we haven’t yet considered but we understand concerns and respect you for bringing them to us.

EO: You are creating 2 new offices in the SU do they have planned use?

CBr: yes, getting new COO, she will be going into one of them and there’s also an office in the office at the moment which you may know about which is the shop office and HR says you shouldn’t have offices with no windows which currently the shop office has.

MD: can we know costs?

CBr – if I knew yes but I don’t, costing starting now waiting for architect to come back don’t know if its appropriate to say now as there’s no point in guessing

PL: Who’s job will it be to change the partition walls?

CBr: have estate and facilities team who will mange that and also down to the SU and us if were free as it’s a collaborative job with estates

TS: aren’t you changing the issue from music room nose over lib to dance to being over lib

CBr: majority of problem with sound is drums and there are things we can do with speakers which is better than drum kits and as were changing it be can account for sound proofing

CBa: please can you explain the phasing system?

CBr: there are three phases. With every project there is a budget where we have to choose priorities. 3 phases. 1st set is toilets and moving HGR and is a smaller task relatively. And also moving the eddies and music room space. Second is bar and third is office

EO: with bar being expanded to make it deeper for servers there are issues with crowding at the bar on disco nights will this not make it worse?

CBr: we are talking a very small amount, as in a couple of inches and queues have been decreased this year

PL: do you think its fair that the societies should move the partitions?

CBr: don’t think its fair that officers also should do it but we would help you if we can but we all just need to pull together and help and want to make it a better space for you

TS: think it’ll be good when discussing furniture that we maintain things like booths etc

CBr: agree has been considered, the furniture will be more movable and joinable so can get bigger circles etc booths aren’t necessarily going to be the most efficient way of doing it

JP: furniture, haven’t fully decided on what you’ve got but consider that the circular tables currently there are useless when comes to a circle because of their shape square tables much better for getting people around without destroying things and glasses etc more practical furniture for bigger events makes better sense than accounting for when there’s hardly anyone in the SU during the day – we need to consider all use

CBr: whatever furniture is put in people will adapt and make it their own, can’t foresee everything that people will use things for, need to put things in and try it. Really don’t know what will be going in at the moment still waiting on plans. Also need to ensure aren’t planning the whole thing around one aspect, have multiple things to consider. Sending out survey in the coming days regarding this so that we can get a feel for what everyone wants rather than just the few people here.

KT: POI this was brought to this meeting to tell you all about this possibility if wanted to could vote to say absolutely not don’t want anything this is just preemptive info and will be more info going out surveys etc not agreeing to everything it says here this is a dynamic process

PL: think really good idea SU does need to be refurbished as ben a long time and has been a lot of Chinese whispers for what is changing in the SU which has maybe been detrimental to what you wanted to bring to this meeting today but my problems would be is the new common room aspect needed when there is the whole rest of the SU which I would hope wouldn’t get wasted

CBr: very valid point, do some of the spaces need to be there. As an SU we look at the space you have and study space etc and were trying to tick so many boxes would be great if we could just focus on one thing but as a uni we don’t have lots of space so want to utilize it as best as possible so hardest part is ticking all those boxes. Wouldn’t want to just pull away one things that we offer.

EO: points this year where every room the SU has has been booked out and then there’s been societies who couldn’t get any space on the second floor but would it be better to have that as a bookable room?

CBr: we need to offer that space where people can go and cook their food etc which will be in there as don’t want to detriment some students by taking away that service so I think it has to stay as an open room for students to use when they need

TA: will be adaptable to be used for rehearsals as and when needed, final details not don’t yet but will think about bookings

EO – also from my perspective as tech the dance floor space I sometimes am seen as interfering with it programming lights - some consideration should be put into this as it is essentially an extension of the tech booth

CBr: if there was a big event coming up that society probably would be in there anyway to be on board with what you were doing

NMer motion proposed to reduce quorum to 55 – MD seconded

NMer: think some people will leave soon and wouldn’t be good to adjourn the meeting to the next week

RV: would be better to postpone the points for AGM not next week and quorum is important

*Accept: 34*

*Reject: 24*

*Abstain: 1*

**Passed**

MD: while its going on what will happen wit the sabs and remain transparency?

CBr: we are moved to an alternative room, probably the AHR over the summer period when it will affect the least people possible all controlled by project manager who is not me.

AB: time plan done before frehsers?

CBr: yes

AB: as don’t have budget yet how feasible is it get it all done?

CBr: turn around can be quite quick once get builders in. when we say we don’t have a budget we are waiting for architects to tell us how much it will be and then we apply for that money an see what will be feasible.

TS: buidlers take longer and over budget, is there a contingency plan?

CBr: we need to work on a guaranteed one, need to know from our contractor who we are subletting out to and managing what might go on. We foresee that it’ll happen late June, early July, August and that gives leeway in September but very little but these people are very used to doing work for us on a regular basis. The actual heavy lifting work there isn’t much to it, there’s not much building walls etc. the bulk of it is furniture which will be ordered weeks in advance which will then arrive and just has to be put into place. Don’t see a big issue with getting things done but don’t foresee it going too wrong. there will be contingencies for Freshers that I put into place

TS: With work starting July will this impact on p years?

CBr: We will be working around exams. Will be taking into account people studying but its either then or never but will but precautions in place so people know etc

SK: this year opened up the rooms to allow more people in with licensing will that still happen?

CBr: yes, a licensing officer will come to reassess the space but don’t foresee anything has changed to reduce capacity if anything it could increase as HGR has got bigger

CBro: new space but doesn’t change the fact that some of it could be being used superfluously eg extra seating area, extra toilets?

CBr: political reason for toilets, staff mainly use one and foresee that events night will mainly be the other side and also one of the male toilets is getting significantly smaller and the female toilets are the ones really gaining space as that’s where the queues are. Could think about if the gender neutral space could be better used. Will be sending out poll soon please fill in and get back to us

SU Awards Committee

IB: We are changing awards committee this year and we wanted to clear up a couple of things. Seen by student body that awards is a way of exec awarding themselves awards for whatever reasons so this year want to increase transparency of how this works. Last council meeting we proposed a few changes and got a quick opinion poll was to ask if sabs should not be allowed to receive awards in their year in post and it was almost unanimous that they should. We could hold another poll if you want.

Also will now not only have exec at awards meetings but open up 10 new positions for any member of the student body to apply for and be randomly selected to sit on the panel.

Will also blind the nominations by making all nominations anonymous by societies and president which stops them being identified so that when people vote they don’t know who they’re voting for but done purely on merit which is how it should be.

We also want to introduce that when we do this process will also be taking into account associations of people that are on the committee, flatmates, relationships, close friends etc they have to leave the room. Has always happened before but will continue this.

AP: how successful do you think getting 10 students in considering its super long, do you think its realistic?

IB: I think so there’s 5500 in student body can find 10

RT: To what level will you be anonymizing the nominations, can still be easy to work out who it is from what club and societies they’ve been a part of?

IB: going to redact obvious things like names and year they’re in, things that don’t matter. What matters is what you did for what society.

SK: can anyone nominate anyone?

IB: yes and will stay the case - any member of the union

EO: I think its obviously going to be impossible to remove all identifying information as if you do that you have nothing to go on what someone’s award is but in a group of 42 plus 10 extra students if everyone of that panel knew that person with the name removed etc they’ve probably done something worthwhile that makes them so well known. While removal of info may not make totally unknown to everyone should to the majority of those people.

NMer: You say up to 10 students, and should there be a minimum?

CBr: don’t think needs to be minimum as could cause issues. Having anyone is a bonus and improves transparency.

NMer proposed that point 5.2.4 of the constitution should say: should be made up to up to 10 non-executive ordinary members of SGSU

Seconded by FH

Accept: 52

Reject: 0

Abstain: 0

**PASSED**

EO proposed we reduce quorum to 50 - IB seconded

*EO: important we try and continue the meeting as best we can.*

*MD: the members we brought in will leave and we will be below quorum.*

Accept: 5

Reject: 40

Abstain: 2

**Rejected**

Rv propose we adjourn the meeting for points to go to agm next year

RT seconded

RV need more people doesn’t make sense other wise just a exec meeting

CBr – think weshould do this point first then do that as this wont take long and 54 is quorum for 1%

Accept: 9

Reject: 37

Abstain: 8

**Rejected**

**THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED BY KT. ALL REMAINING AGENDA POINTS WILL BE POSTPONED UNTIL AGM, OR AN APPROPRIATE SU MEETING IN THE COMING MONTHS.**

1. **Agenda Points**

Base Room use regulation

Treatment of Executive Officers

1. **Constitutional Changes**

Ratification of changes to Communications Officer role

Dissolution of Communications Zone

Changes to the Technical Officer role

Changes to Community Projects

1. **AOB**

SGUL Change

Rob Lowe Sports Centre

1. **Date of AGM**

Tuesday 23rd May 2017