

The Students' Union Executive Committee

Chair: Asad Zarif Awan

Secretary: Em Harvey (Representation Manager)

Minute Secretary: Han Morgan (Representation Coordinator)

Location: 3X105

Date: 29 September 2025

Time: 17:30-19:00

<p>1) Welcome, Apologies & Housekeeping</p> <p><u>Present</u></p> <p>Asad Zarif Awan (SU President) - AA Em Harvey (Representation Manager & Secretary) - EH Han Morgan (Representation Coordinator & Minute Secretary) - HM Jason Budd (City Campus Officer) - JB Khadiza Hossain (VP Education) - KH Logan Smith (International Students' Officer) - LS Mo Ebengho (BME Officer) - ME Jack Priestley (Sustainability Officer) - JP Umar Abbasi (VP Socs and Comms) - UA</p> <p><u>Apologies received:</u></p> <p>Zarabel Turgot-Cox (Women's Welfare Officer) Anya Brentnall (VP Sports and Health) Celina Tomas (Disabled Students' Officer)</p> <p><u>Absent:</u></p> <p>Harper Leigh (Trans Students' Officer)</p>	Chair
<p>2) Introductions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Exec present introduced their name, pronouns and for the Part Time Officers what course they are studying 	All
<p>3) Actions from previous meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JB can consider all of his agenda points closed right now, might come back to some things in AOB. 	All
<p>4) Confirming minutes from previous meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Previous minutes were from previous PTOs, minutes are going to change as of this meeting. Minutes will be sent after the meeting, you'll have 1 week to confirm, so as not to bring them to the next meeting. If you don't respond within that 1 week, minutes will be considered confirmed 	Chair
<p>5) Presidents' Objectives and Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SU President – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Student discounts from local businesses. 10 businesses have been spoken to and agreed to participate; they're offering from 15% to 30% discount for UWE students. This is not an online discount. o More AI and IT training for students- hoping to have more library workshops and courses in coming weeks o Employability - working with VP Education to do an employability event in Jan or Feb in the Student's Union. o Question from ME on which shops are included in the discounts: mostly food shops, fast food, details are going to be available on the SU website. Asad is working on the mechanism. o Question from JB on provision for students relevant to Bower Ashton and Arncliffe students if these shops and restaurants are located around Fishponds: Student population in Fishponds covers both Glenside and Frenchay. Next phase of the plan will be looking at city students. Asad has an aim to partner with 50 restaurants by the end of the academic year, including restaurants closer to Bower Ashton students. - VP Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Working with Representation team on the post-graduate research fair, especially targeted to PhD students and happening on 7th Oct. National Student Survey (NSS) and Postgraduate Research Experience Survey (PRES) results indicating that students feel a lack of community on campus, what 	Chair and VPs

can we do? Hosting a fair but also working with DocSoc and PGR reps to structure PGR feedback. Mature students are different than those at undergraduate level, they might be already employed, might be a part time student, etc. Working on a paper for this. Draft going to DASC- Doctoral Academy Sub Committee. If it gets approval and endorsement then it'll go to Learning, Teaching and Student Experience Committee (LTSEC), then after that it'll be finalised.

- Delayed feedback: timetabling, working on NSS data collecting student feedback for themes. Went to LTSEC and asked the board, where was the student voice? They said there's a steering group, Khadiza asked to participate and is now involved. No response yet because it was recent, can come back in future to update. Using working group with school Directors of Learning and Teaching (DLTs) with Em (Reps Manager), going well so far. Supporting proposal for sub-group to create standardised university-wide feedback template. Each school has their own style and methods, but it means feedback is inconsistent across the university. The subgroup would focus on creating a universal template.
- Is doing another survey to learn students' expectations around feedback, don't want to make something students don't want. Bringing to Student Consultation Panel.
- Question from JB about the Postgraduate Part time officer position. Feel like the reason the role is vacant is because postgraduate students' turnover so often, and their timings for the year can be different: KH confirmed that the DASC paper proposes 11 PGR reps, sitting in School Boards of Study (SBOS)s, making progress in this area. EH confirmed that current Democracy and Governance review will look at whether current elected leader roles are fit for purpose, highlighted that currently postgraduate students are well represented due to all Presidents being postgraduate students. The cycle of elections means some PGs can't fulfill a full run. Postgraduate Research Students are often here for more than one year. Suggestion of a mature student role instead
- Working in collaboration with UA across academic society committees and student reps. Aiming for more engagement, events and feedback through the feedback chain.

ACTION: everyone contact KHADIZA HOSSEIN for more information on feedback.

- **VP Societies and Communication**

- Strengthening societies and improve communication: last year there was a communications gap between societies. Students aren't aware of events and aren't attending events. Working with Kelly (Opportunities Manager) to centralise a society event platform. Going to manage calendar in societies webpage- monthly system. Societies events all on the same calendar. Opportunity for collaboration between societies. Confirmed with Tim Benford (Students' Union CEO) creation of student staff role to support this, application for student staff position is online.
- Celebrating societies' activities: Top of the Socs for societies who are doing great activities or events. Validation on the SU instagram page.
- Skills workshop for society committee members- they are leaders of our community, so we should upskill them in societies conferences. External speakers on leadership and conflict resolution. Working with city campus to expand society activity. Looking at February, but final dates are currently unconfirmed.
- Working with Representation: collaborating with academic societies and student reps, more academic societies emerging and better feedback from more people.
- Welfare and wellbeing- non-alcoholic social activities, suggesting and incentivising to organise these. Harm reduction workshops for committee members, sober socials.
- Question from ME as had a student reporting that they're from East African society, and the society was told (might not be true) that they'll be unable to affiliate because there's already Afro Caribbean Society: UA explains how to set up a society and that can't have the same activity or if another society is already doing it. Other than that anyone can open a new society. Nations in East Africa have different cultures or practices than the wider Afro Caribbean Society/culture, and they're welcome to be present. AA encouraged ME to follow up with UA so they can set the record straight with the student or just more generally support BME students in societies.

ACTION: ME follow up with UA on how to support societies with high number of BME students

- Question from ME where has the student staff role been advertised? Have students seen it: UA confirmed role was live on JobShop and currently open as well as posted on SU and Team UWE socials. Suggestion for jobs to be posted on Blackboard, EH confirmed the SU don't have access to Blackboard, hence why JobShop advertises these roles to keep separate.
- Question from JB as City Campus officer, can we be included in society comms without being members or on the committee: UA to discuss at societies conference. Societies have members from different campuses- eg rock and metal have a lot of members from Bower Ashton, some societies are working on it. UA suggesting to new societies then you need a Glenside and Bower student on the committee - communicating the message across societies. Hoping to get committee members in this way. Don't want to restrict societies though.

<p>ACTION: UA share calendar with JB, ME and LS and look at how he can introduce relevant societies to the PTOs</p> <p>ACTION: UA to have a slide with PTOs at Socs conf, share emails of PTOs so onus is not on PTOs to contact societies with no reply.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clarification from KH on whether suggesting that each committee needs a specific Glenside/Bower Ashton officer?: EH confirms that more that instead of PTOs reaching out via emails, it's societies being introduced to PTOs in development meetings etc, contact details being shared. Shouldn't be up to the PTOs who are voluntary to chase those connections. <p>- VP Community and Welfare</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working with community team, increased awareness of Mental Health support for UWE students. Social Media posts and also celebrating success. ○ Student Experience Awards. Shining light on Mental Health support for students. ○ Accommodation support: working with Uni of Bristol and accommodation providers on Break the Mould, addressing housing quality and encouraging students to raise issues- especially with the SU advice centre. Ensuring students live safely. ○ Sustainability. New film competition, Collab with Sustainability Officer "<i>Lights camera climate action</i>". Facilitated through Climate education module. ○ Celebrate diversity. Celebrate success with stalls and games, International and home students together. President, VPs and SU staff are working hard in Lubyna's absence. <p>- VP Sports and Health</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The Sports Executive: A new Student leadership team for sport at UWE. Offer sports members a structured input into decision making, with a direct channel between 40+ clubs and SU/UWE governance. Develop future leaders, by building employability skills in governance, communication and collaboration. Represent student interests of performance, participation, events, inclusion, wellbeing, and sustainability. Applications have closed and interviews scheduled for next week. ○ Sports Media: A Student-led media initiative to showcase TeamUWE sport. Create a paid opportunity for a student staff member to lead media activity. Portfolio building roles for students to support employability. Skills can include videography, commentating, journalism and photography. Celebrate success through weekly coverage, building pride, visibility and belonging. Student staff positions have closed for applications, shortlisting this week ○ Shift the culture of student sport. Support student athletes as they balance study, training, and personal wellbeing through wellbeing and sport psychology workshops. Challenge stigma and promote mental wellbeing through Movember, raising awareness of men's mental health. Celebrate women in sport during Women's History Month, challenging stereotypes and highlighting experiences of balance, recovery, and inclusion. ○ Collaborate with the SU Community Team and national partners to empower clubs and Students as agents of change. ○ Inclusive sporting events to widen participation. Broaden the reach of student sport through Intramural Rounders, bringing together UWE's academic colleges and removing barriers to focus on fun and engagement. Increase opportunities for competitive play, allowing students who don't normally play BUCS sport to enjoy a Varsity 'warm up' series with friendly fixtures for 2nd and 3rd teams. ○ Practical, low-cost food initiatives for student athletes. Introduce grab-and-go breakfasts and pre-match snacks with clear nutrition messaging, to support athletes through cost-of-living pressures. Create shared routines through Matchday meals while working to close the equity gap. 	
<p>6) PTO Updates</p> <p>- BME Officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Working with Jane (Community Coordinator) on Black History Month, got some good food organised this year. Potentially having ME's choir perform. ○ Race equity team going to join forces to promote, getting nominations for Black Hall of Fame, speakers are prepared for the panel now with photographer coming. ○ February job fair ME going to be involved, teaming up with Presidents. Also working with student ventures, offering support to clubs and societies in the way of entrepreneurial skills, club and society feedback is helping to make Student Ventures better in future. AfroDance are already involved in this, they're active off campus and getting paid which is good and showing UWE in a positive light, showcasing student experience. ○ Working with equity team for events, being able to signpost students of colour so they know what's actually happening and they don't miss out. Posting everything so student know what's on. End of October ME hoping to deliver further update. ○ Question from ME on whether societies planning something for Diwali?: AA said President of Psychology society suggested they might do something, KH confirmed that Indian Soc is not currently 	

<p>running this year, but they might reaffiliate and run again. UA suggested that Tamil Soc may be doing something.</p>	
<p>ACTION: UA put ME in contact with International Office and Tamil Society</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Question from AA are there nominations for Black History Hall of Fame?: ME will need to check with Jane, can others support with another push on social media? <p>ACTION: All Officers to push Black History Hall of Fame nominations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - City Campus Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Creative network used to exist, tried to work it out last year but I wanted it to be wider than it was, arts and engagement too. Looking at making a creative collective wider than creative courses and smaller societies and create a wider sense of community with courses who aren't crossing over much, echoing the collaborative ethos of the creative courses. Setting it out to people and getting positive responses. ○ Looked last year at student experience budget: galleries, sites of interest. Worked well in similar project before, looking to compliment student life and SU. Running some films in the theatre and in the Arnolfini, as part of creative collab not a standalone. Stay tuned! ○ Question from KH on why Creative Networks didn't work before: JB reflected that it was ran like a business, needs to be structured social and soft skills as a part of it but needs to be student led. Academics can still be involved but in a different way, maybe get academics involved talking to recent grads, find ways where student do Peer Assisted Learning. With creative courses, some briefs are about social policy, keen on doing a seminar peer to peer introducing some of what they're learning in social policy to inform creative briefs. ○ Question from JP on which societies are collaborating? There was a collaboration project similar in School of Education and Childhood (SEAC), but together Education, Primary Education and childhood studies were quite different. Needs to encourage collaborating in the right way: JB confirmed not looking to merge students society groups, more finding ways to be successful across courses and societies, photography students didn't feel it was progressing- film club. ○ Shared space at Bower bar. Bar running events with SU and Student life, not progressed because the rhythm not worked out yet. Use bar with creative collaboration as regular social, work with Centre for Music. ME suggested better off speaking to Society for Musicians, this is where Centre for Music will likely signpost. <p>ACTION: JB to contact Society of Musicians once ready to progress the idea</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - International Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ At the start of academic year, the International Office is busy dealing with queries from students. That's a good thing but it means as a PTO I'm not a priority for them. KH suggested that LS be part of International Student Support meeting? <p>ACTION: KH put LS and ME in contact with ISSS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Shifted focus to societies, not always easy as wasn't aware of which societies have lapsed. Talked about a Malaysian student who's Muslim, trying to join a society and wanted to find a sober social. It's a cultural thing, overlapping with international students experience as well, could chat about non-alcoholic socials with UA as part of his manifesto. UA gave some great examples from our Bower societies: Rock and metal, engaged at freshers fair, drama Society, extra funding from Student Experience Fund (SEF). New society applications are coming in. Meeting with LOGAN SMITH. How can we work together on sober socials to include International Students. <p>ACTION: UA and LS to meet to discuss how to ensure sober socials are embedded into societies to make international students feel more welcome.</p> <p>Question from KH on whether International Student's Forum continuing?: EH confirmed that in activation event last academic year international students said they want socials, advice on jobs and advice on accommodation, not formal committees or structures. LS to work with societies to continue to get feedback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sustainability Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Previous SU Student Sustainability Engagement Coordinator has left with Toby taking over the role. Met with him, went through Sustainability Committee applications, could do with more. ○ Manifesto was about food waste, particularly Too Good to Go: Reduce food waste. Also addresses Cost of Living (COL). 	<p>PTOs</p>

<p>ACTION: JP arrange meeting with Toby Blewett and Paul Dingley (Commercial Director)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Green Week: host sustainability stalls, local Bristol businesses selling clothing, offer a counter to fast fashion. Come onto campus, explain sustainable ways of producing clothes and products. Shops around Bristol with sustainable food options, local sourcing rather than airmiles. ○ KH mentioned that one of her manifesto objectives is ethical careers and UWE's careers service being more ethical, working with people and planet and Toby. Could bring JP knowledge and expertise into this. JP did Students Organising for Sustainability (SOS) survey, used as a benchmark of how important sustainability is for students. How can we get students to care about ethical careers? ○ Sustainability is such a broad spectrum, food fast fashion we can't look at everything. JACK PRIESTLEY needs to decide what he's able to commit to, with support from Toby at SU. ○ Suggestion from ME: Team up with Student mentors, could talk about how do you give back, businesses need a sustainable angle. These students might be happy to collaborate on campus. JP likes idea and could be free marketing for those students and businesses too. ○ Suggestion from LS: Could also chat with the repair team- once a month in X block building, called the repair cafe. Members can be anyone but mostly students, sometimes faculty. Bring in broken electronics or fabrics. Passing on of knowledge. <p>ACTION: JP to explore Repair Shop</p>	
<p>7) Part Time Officer Generic Inbox</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback from previous Exec that having a PTOs generic inboxes helps with handing over to the next PTOs rather than working everything out from scratch once annually. - Will be given access in next couple of weeks and suggest always using that email when you're acting within your role. - Will create a process document, which will support if you struggle using multiple inboxes. Generic inboxes will be on the SU website as contact email for students looking to get in touch. - Process document will include ground rules for the account - Em will have access so that if a position becomes vacant or you're on holiday etc, the messages received in the inbox will still be passed on for information. 	Em Harvey
<p>8) AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JB suggestion of promoting Sabbatical and PTO roles in the new year, do an exhibition where officers can speak to creative courses and encourage them to interpret that however they want. Discuss again next executive. City Campus students should be involved. Might take a while for students to develop work. - AA: Spoke to about 40 students about vacant Glenside position for By Election, encouraged the Exec to get involved in promoting the Elections. 	All
<p>9) Date of the next meeting</p> <p>The Chair will confirm to members the dates of the next meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 29 October – Executive Committee 	Chair

Update received from Women's Welfare Officer, Zarabel Turgut-Cox. This update was not shared in the meeting.

- **Women's Chats & Cake**
In October I'll be running the first *Women's Chats and Cake* session. Imogen from *Sister Courage* will be coming along to show us some self-defence moves, which should be really fun and useful.
- **White Ribbon Campaign**
I'm planning to get involved in the *White Ribbon Campaign*, which raises awareness about violence against women and girls and encourages men to take responsibility for their actions. I'll be putting together some "Check Yourself" cards and posters with prompts like "*Do I speak up when my friends make sexist jokes?*". These will also have a QR code linking to the White Ribbon free online training.
- **16 Days of Activism**
We'll also be joining in with the *16 Days of Activism* starting on White Ribbon Day. The plan is to do something each day, like:
 - Stalls on different campuses
 - Workshops with Imogen, MJ, and other charities
 - Social media posts and reels with societies and clubs showing support by wearing White Ribbon armbands at competitions.