

The Students' Union Executive Committee

Minutes Wednesday 4 March 2026

Chair: Asad Zarif Awan (SU President)

Secretary: Em Harvey (Representation Manager)

Minute Secretary: Han Morgan (Representation Coordinator)

Location: Meeting Room 2

Date: Wednesday 4 March

Time: 17:30



<p>1) Welcome, Apologies & Housekeeping</p> <p>The Chair will welcome members to the meeting, make apologies from any members who are not present, and go through any necessary housekeeping for the meeting.</p> <p><u>Present</u></p> <p>Asad Zarif Awan- Students' Union President Anya Brentnall- Vice President Sports and Health Khadiza Hossain- Vice President Education Logan Smith- International Students' Officer Mo Ebengho- BME Officer Saliha Sadaf- Postgraduate Officer Zarabel Turgut-Cox- Women's Welfare Officer Celina Tomas- Disabled Students' Officer (from 18:10)</p> <p><u>Apologies Received</u></p> <p>Umar Abbasi- Vice President Societies and Communications Swizel Afonso- Glenside Campus Officer</p> <p><u>Absent</u></p> <p>Jack Priestley- Sustainability Officer Harper Leigh- Trans Welfare Officer Bonnie Evergreen- LGBT+ Officer</p> <p>Thanks expressed from Asad for attending. Apologies noted, those absent will receive minutes.</p>	Chair
<p>2) Elections final reminder, Student Consultation Panel</p> <p>Nominations closing on 11 March Resources unavailable as Presidents and PTOs when campaigning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Anything you have or have access to due to your position on Executive• Anything another candidate would be unable to access<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Students' Union branded clothing○ Email lists or contacts○ Generic email inboxes <p>Giving endorsements/being endorsed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• As a current Officer you can't endorse others• If you're a candidate and want to suggest a student votes for another candidate, you can do that during campaigning, but you can't use your title or position for endorsing others.• You can be endorsed by UWE groups/clubs/societies but you can't get a head start on establishing those, there's a process to follow and it's on the website.	Han

<p>As we're approach end of year, invited to use the Student Consultation Panel and new Student Advisory Group. Could inform priorities going into an Officer term, or help you to reflect on your impact/projects.</p>	
<p>3) Actions from Previous Meeting</p> <p><u>Ongoing Actions</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anya and Zarabel talk about table tennis competition- completed • Zarabel and Umar talk about Women's History Month and Diversity Week regarding Glenside- closed <p><u>Actions arising at February meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zarabel send list of potential Women's History students to Representation Team to avoid elections clash- completed • Han put a hold for Diversity Week event in Executive calendars- completed • Khadiza make a UNESCO language campaign video with Logan- completed • Saliha contact Zarabel and Mo about Women's History Month- closed • Swizel email Umar about the social event on Glenside, cc staff buddy Rosa Mumford-Turner (Community Manager)- completed • Zarabel reach out to Holly Windows (Community People Leader) for help selecting Women's History Month women.- completed • All Executive members invited to suggest students for Zarabel to highlight- completed 	<p>All</p>
<p>4) Student Idea</p> <p><u>"Urge the Student Union to take a stand against the broken student finance system and support interest-free loans"</u></p> <p>The Student Idea won't be voted on, it is 5 stars and will be going straight to Trustees. Still invited to give feedback on it, additional context that the Trustee meeting can benefit from.</p> <p>Idea read aloud to Executive members.</p> <p><i>Thoughts on the idea</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Good to give input from Exec, so trustees know what students think of this. Can alert this student to what the course of action is.</i> - <i>There's a National Union of Students campaign already occurring regarding loans, "Don't Freeze our Futures", UWE is part of this through our affiliation with NUS</i> <p><u>15 minute break at 17:55 for prayer. Returned at 18:10. Disabled Students' Officer joined meeting.</u></p>	<p>All</p>
<p>5) Presidents Updates</p> <p><u>Khadiza Hossain, Vice President Education</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careers fair and Diversity week taste of culture event both successful, thank you all, thanks to SU staff for their support. 	<p>Full Time Officers</p>

- Busy with events, including with the Bangladesh High Commission in the House of Lords.
- UNESCO mother language video with International Students' Officer, very positive experience, thank you to Logan.
- Queries from disabled students coming through School Board of Studies meetings recently. Addressing this by contacting stakeholders, can give more updates next meeting.

Anya Brentnall, Vice President Sports and Health

- Attended "Next Up" American Football fixture, joint effort with Centre For Sport staff, functioned as a showcase event, 500 tickets sold, UWE won.
- Student Council, positive experience.
- Prepping for Sports Awards, £5000 sponsorship secured, will use this towards enhancing student experience.
- Planning "Girls Night In" for Women's History Month, 31 March, hosted by Mo Ebengho with 3 panelists. Performances and quiz planned.
- Reinstating sports board, important for VP Sports and Health to report into, working to shape the wider sports strategy which is out of date. Hoping for initial meeting to be booked by the next Executive meeting.

Asad Zarif Awan, Student's Union President

- Supporting students facing withdrawal due to non-payment, worked successfully with credit control to reinstate some students.
- AI training module now live on Library resources page of UWE website. Feedback welcomed for improvement.
- WONKHE briefing very interesting, will continue to consider what he learnt.
- Enquiring with UWE for updates about visa issues, 1 in 5 January visa applications nationally are pending, but application window closed. Very few UWE students affected; these students receiving support to join in September cohorts.
- Compassionate communication: Glasgow student died by suicide following clerical error on their dissertation. Raised with UWE in the interest of student wellbeing, need to communicate bad news with care. Preferably face to face, if not possible, phone calls and emails should be accompanied with wellbeing resources. Assurance by UWE that they will commit to this.
- Postgraduate research students are struggling with supervisors: unresponsive staff, inappropriate matching of staff to students, inconsistent interviews. Raised with Vice Chancellor, working together to identify and remove disparities.

Umar Abassi- Vice President Societies and Communications

Apologies given, thanks to Saliha Sadaf, Mo Ebengho and Logan Smith for their contributions to a successful Diversity Week.

6) PTO Updates

PTOs

Saliha Sadaf, Postgraduate Officer

- Met with Khadiza and Pujan, discuss PhD students' experience. Not as much representation across schools, new role.
- Masters students experiencing lab access delays. Mixed messages: unclear whether students or supervisors are responsible for Risk Assessments. Delay on this led to late lab access, now facing time crunch where results and presentations are expected but students haven't yet had adequate lab time. Lab access extended till July to compensate, unclear if this will mitigate impact on studies.

Khadiza- ethics and risk assessment expectations can vary over modules and programmes. Need to understand from UWE what the expectation is for supervisors and students.

Anya- sorry that students are dealing with this and that expectations have not been communicated effectively enough.

Zarabel Turgut-Cox, Women's Welfare Officer

- Women's History Month, table tennis event planned. Encouraging self-care for women through exercise. Competition and prizes confirmed.
- Celebrating exceptional UWE women through the month, waiting to confirm.
 - 1) Georgina Donovan
 - 2) Nora Ellis Morgan
 - 3) Megan Fry
 - 4) Clara Choi
 - 5) *Potentially Harper Leigh*
- Joining Anya for Girls' Night In

Mo Ebengho, BME Officer

- Professional Suitability meeting with nursing student, escalated to a level 3, student facing removal on fitness to study. Nursing and Midwifery Conduct Council required for level 3 meetings, Advice Centre are involved and supporting, preparing and writing statements. Waiting for meeting date, Emily Willumson (SU Student Advisor) , Mo, and Alisha Airey (Senior race consultant) will support on the day.
- 3rd year nursing student, going through similar challenges, Mo's contact details shared with affected student.
- Involved with EDI team's student consultation on new race strategy.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trying to plan Eid event, waiting to hear back from Mosques in Bristol to sponsor or host. Given go ahead to plan a multicultural festival, EP1, May. Students sending videos of talent to share. External food approved, different cultural food suppliers. Contact with Antony Hill, waiting for EDI team to confirm financial contribution. <p>Exec communication well done to Mo.</p> <p><u>Logan Smith, International Students' Officer</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting tomorrow with the international Student support group. • Plan to reestablish contact with International college, quiet since Lunar New Year. • Global cafe events still happening. • Has capacity to support other officers. <p><u>Celina Tomas, Disabled Students' Officer</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • About to begin meeting regularly with Katie Carson (Student Advisory Group and Disabled Students' Commitment) • Student Consultation Panel live event 05/03 with Finlay Stevenson, will promote the disabled students survey here. • Movie night scheduled Friday 06/03 • 17th March I have a meeting with Nicola Bolt • Jane Garrihy reached out to film some content for move accessibility. <p>Mo requests feedback to Nicola Bolt: changes to reasonable adjustments make students confused over reapplying, regularly updated criteria makes it unclear whether previous agreements stand.</p>	
<p>7) Any Other Business</p> <p>Request to reschedule next meeting outside of Easter break- Suggested 22/23/24 April, 4pm</p> <p>ACTION: Han reschedule meeting and update calendar.</p>	All
<p>8) Date of the next meeting</p> <p>The Chairs will confirm to members the dates of the next meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Executive Committee – TBC pending reschedule. 	Chair