The Students' Union at UWE
Executive Committee
Tuesday 20th October 16:30 MR2 and Online
Chair: Mo Ebengho

1) **Welcome, Apologies & Housekeeping – 5 minutes**

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.

In attendance:

Mo – they/them. SU President
Umma – She/her. VP Community and Welfare
Dylan – He/him. VP Societies and Communications
Bonnie – she/her. LGBT+ Officer
Anya - She/her. VP Sports
Helena – she/her. VP Education
Snow – she/her. Postgraduate Officer
Eden – she/her. City Campus Officer
Goodnews – he/him. Men's Welfare Officer

Apologies from:

Ben Churton. Trans Welfare Officer
Amelia Amos. Glenside Campus Officer

Not expecting a fire alarm, secretary sharing evacuation route if needed.

2) Staff updates – 10 minutes

The Secretary or Minute Secretary will pass any updates needed to the Executive Committee. Flagging key dates/events for officers to support.

- **Standing action for Minute/Secretary: Add dates to Officers' calendars**
- **AGM to pass byelaws, just before rep conference**
- **New Part Time Officers**

3) Updates – 15 minutes

Confirming officer update "mini reports" received in advance.
Opportunity for questions

Helena Kelynack – VP Education

- Feedback group with Cathy Minett-Smith (Dean of Learning and Teaching) with focus shifting to quality this year.
- Working with Rachel Cowie (Deputy Registrar) around consolidation weeks and the plan for block teaching.
- Meetings with UWE staff, so not doing as much targeted objective work right now, but still moving things forwards.
- Introducing Rep of the month next week at Student Rep Conference to acknowledge and reward throughout the whole year to incentivise momentum.

Students can nominate themselves or someone else, VP ed and Reps team will sift and select.

Anya Brentnall – VP Sports and Health

ACTION: Han tweak form to give space to talk about objectives.

- Responding to sport clubs' feedback on siloed working, needing more collaborative opportunities.
- Sports conference, gave space to collaborative working, mixing between committees to share ideas and best practice. Good feedback, initial awkwardness working with strangers but good exercise.
- Sports strategy, is outdated and ineffective. Going through student consultation, gathered feedback in conference. Now developing rounds of more consultation, including different campuses.
- *Question from Men's Welfare Officer: What's meant by sport?*
- In this case, sports clubs registered with the Students' Union.
- *Men's Welfare Officer: Fees associated with sports, interested students can't join in.*
- Anya encouraging clubs to seek sponsorships to reduce membership fees. Now working with SU staff to create standardized sponsorship package.

ACTION: Goodnews to follow up with Anya and Dylan to discuss the barriers to sports and societies.

Dylan Jones – VP Societies and Communications

- Bower and Glenside underrepresented. Spending 1 day a week at other campus, over lunch is hosting societies hour(s) encouraging starting their own societies rather than asking Frenchay to expand.
- Bower societies already got a lot of interest.
- Work around the SU website: checking it's right for everyone who needs to use it. Using Student Consultation Panel to boost survey engagement, moving to next stage in a few weeks.
- Looking to do "second push week" in November. Asking societies to be more inclusive, taster and open sessions/events. Promoting all of these and talking about them, for those who missed out during Freshers.
- *Comment from City Campus Officer: encouragement of Bower-founded societies. Needs to be matched by facilities to support out-of-hours activity.*

ACTION: Eden and Dylan to have a discussion about facilities on Bower

- *Comment from SU President: would encourage looking at the bureaucracy around paperwork involved with starting societies. Paperwork should be minimised to the essential documents, and students need support in accessing it.*
- Work already in progress for society governance: rewriting the policies.
- *Postgraduate Officer: students wish societies were more inclusive, don't want to be discouraged or not included, even taster sessions can be daunting.*
- Dylan has been empowering committees to embody inclusivity and accessibility. He will take this feedback on board.
- *VP Sports: Gloucestershire- new things November, As a group going out and trying new things, socials showcase to break down the barrier for students.*

- *Men's Welfare Officer: finds the website difficult to use and it doesn't look good, user interface, pleased to hear it's being worked on.*

Umma Umara – VP Community and Welfare

- Gathered feedback through welcome fairs. Students looking to manage cost of living, access support from UWE and part time jobs.W orking with job shop to gain more employers, deliver more job opportunities for students, increase accessible and diverse employers.
- Bring your own container, up and running downstairs in Union 1.
- Working with first bus and stagecoach. Bower students and public transport. Affordable travel options.
- Organizing events and making content about support services available at uwe.
- Drug and alcohol, anti-sexual violence. Enhanced opportunities for guarantors.
- *Postgraduate Officer expressing thanks for the jobshop work being done.*

Mo - SU President.

- Black History Month, activities on Frenchay as well as Bower and Glenside
- Working with UWE for Advance HE listening exercise on the trans and non-binary policy. Invites others to offer their perspectives.
- Working on Mayoral devolution. Connecting with UOB Bath spa and Bath to lobby WECA. Employability and transport.

- Antiracism steering group, Mo inviting Part Time Officers to be members as they represent a diverse group of people, shouldn't just be racialised people involved. Group will look through antiracism policy and strategy, advising and making recommendations. Role will be renumerated, group capacity for all PTOs plus 25/30 Lead School Reps. Working out payments through vouchers, looking at £25/30, and approx 3 sessions in the year. Looking for a co-chair, inviting Exec members to this role.

Comment from VP Sports- BUCS (British Universities and Collgeges Sport) are working in antiracism space too, will receive a link through to charter and share with Executive Committee when this arrives.

4) Student Voice – 20 minutes

Officers raise student feedback from their respective student constituencies or community groups. Can bring issues from your mini report to elaborate on or discuss. Includes Student Council.

Nothing to add that wasn't raised in updates. Reminder from Chair that since mini-reports are taken as read, when presenting please only reiterate the highest level headlines, leaving meeting time for questions and group planning.

Introduction from Secretary on new system of positions and priorities, this will be expanded on through the year.

Position – a stance on how UWE students feel, can be on almost any issue.

Priority – A position that we can campaign on, aligned with our charitable purpose "further the educational advancements of UWE Bristol students"

5) Action space – 35 minutes

Group planning- responding to issues/feedback outlined in item 4.

Facilitated idea-generation exercise around an initial group of positions.
Categories were:
University Policy
Sustainability
Student Living
Student Money
Welfare
Equality, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging
Education

6) AOB - 5 minutes

If no AOB raised, Chair to confirm date of the next meeting and end meeting.

No AOB raised