

Wellbeing & Community Executive

Tuesday 14th October 18:00-20:00

Student Engagement Office

Minutes

Apologies: Jay Martin (Disability Officer)

Present: Alex Chun (AC, President of Wellbeing & Community, Chair), Holly McDonald (HMc, Campaigns & Impact Co-ordinator, Secretary), Lucy Reynolds (LR, EaCES), Omar Raza (OR, Widening Access & Participation Officer), Joanna Barrow (JB, Student Health Officer), Jack McNealy (JM, Accommodation Officer), Celina Chen (CC, BAME Officer), Caeleigh Alexander (CA, Environment Officer), Veronica Chiavaralli (VC, International Students' Officer), Innes MacPhee (IP, Gender Equality Officer), Rachael Gemmell (RG, CCMFL), Eden Hodgkins (EH, LGBT+ Officer), Zoe Bremner (ZB, Community Relations Officer)

Meeting begins: 18:07

1. Minutes from the last meeting

Apologies were noted.

No dissent raised as to the minutes from the last meeting.

2. Election of Chair for W&C Forum

JN gave a short speech. AC moved to a vote by raising of hands. Unanimous vote in favour. HMc clarified the Chair responsibilities with respect to the Wellbeing & Community Forum.

3. CCMFL Officer co-option

AC asked RG to present on their readiness for and interest the role.

RG gave an introduction to their background and their identification within the CCMFL community. They noted they feel they understand the community, believe they will be able to advocate for them, and celebrate what's going well for CCMFL. RG explained their past leadership roles such as teaching children to sail, and that they have been acting CCMFL Officer over the past month. In that time, they've welcomed new students including PGs, and they are planning family-inclusive events during Reading Week. Their goals are; increasing visibility of CCMFL; hosting

accessible and inclusive events for people with children; engaging with PGs; providing welcome and support for CCMFL students; involvement with sports clubs.

AC moved to a vote by the raising of hands. There was a unanimous vote in favour. This was met with applause. AC was pleased this was official, and will take necessary steps to support (including room booking and access to the group chat).

4. Network budgets

AC announced that the budget has not yet been approved at Board level, with another Board meeting to follow soon. Numbers may be subject to change, but this would be an increase.

EH asked if steps are being taken to ensure this doesn't happen next year. AC noted yes, and said that this was made more difficult this year due to the issues with staffing in the finance team. There was also a short reference to the block grant.

EH asked if negotiations of the block grant occurred annually or less frequently. AC explained there is some miscommunication between parties on this issue. JN asked if this block grant is the same as last year, AC confirmed yes.

AC noted the CEO is working with the University on transparency around finances.

EH questioned if the lack of financial manager the reason this is happening, and expressed that budget issues make planning events problematic. AC expressed apologies and reiterated that they should reach out to them to work things out on events, and that the Exec Team as a whole send apologies and they're working hard to increase the funding available to student groups. AC expressed students should be put first in terms of finances given charity status.

AC pushing to have a Semester 1 budget confirmed, then a Semester 2 budget to be confirmed later. AC noted their own frustrations at this situation

5. AOB

AC requested any AOB.

CA noted that their piazza event has been confirmed for Saturday, 3-5pm. There will be a foraging walk in the morning along Lade Braes. Members expressed excitement.

AC mentioned the giveaway of wellbeing packs for Raisin (handwarmers, snacks, drinks) on Friday and Saturday. Sunday will have respite centre in Sandy's with First Aid, potentially PeerSupport. Bread and water stall will be available 8am-6pm. There will be a beach clean with £5 Rector's vouchers for volunteers, and the same for bread and water stall volunteers.

AC noted that we will be in a different room for the next meeting, and it will be in Small Rehearsal Room Wednesday Oct 29th, 5:30-7pm. No dissent raised to the new time.

No further AOB.

Meeting adjourned 18:27