

SRC Equal Opportunities Committee

30 October 2013, 1.10pm, Main Bar

- § -

Present: Hibak Yusuf Muhamud (SRC Equal Opportunities Officer, Chair & Convenor); Ben Anderson (SRC Member for Widening Access); Fay Morrice (SRC Member for Disabled Students); David Norris (Association LGBT Officer); Mel Turner (SRC Member for Mature Students); Soraya Walli (SRC Member for Ethnic Minorities); and Teddy Woodhouse (Director of Representation).

Apologies: Avalon Borg (SRC Wellbeing Officer); Caroline Rhoads (SRC Member for International Students); and Ali West (SRC Member for Gender Equality).

- § -

Hibak welcomed the committee to the meeting.

LGBT Officer's Report.

David reported that his involvement in the Zero Tolerance campaign had dwindled since the design, but that it was continuing on under Ali and Chloe's guidance. He also mentioned that LGBT Subcommittee was running as usual with no major news to report to the committee. He noted that a room had been provisionally booked (Hall of Champions, Old Course Hotel) for the LGBT Glitter Ball on March 7, 2014. He also mentioned that he was working with Union Debating Society on a motion on boycotting the Sochi 2014 games.

Member for Widening Access' Report.

Ben reported that he had met with the Principal's Office to talk about Ambassadors and widening access. He noted that there was some confusion around the program, with further work to be decided. He also added that the Widening Access Working Group would be meeting soon, with Chloe and Teddy also attending.

Member for Ethnic Minorities' Report.

Soraya noted that she would be meeting with Music is Love this week on a tentative international music festival. She was also in talks with Josh on potential First Year-themed events.

Member for Mature Students' Report.

Mel responded that she was still getting acclimated into the role but had a number of ambitions for the year. She noted that she wanted to explore ways of supporting prospective students interested in coming into the University on a General Degree and also to work on getting more SA publicity in the commuting student rooms. She also added that she was going to meet with Teddy on supporting commuting students on attending evening-time student events, either through a CouchSurfing scheme or car sharing.

ACTION: **Mel/Teddy** to look into getting access to commuting student room for SA poster runner.

Equal Opportunities Officer's Report.

Hibak noted that a number of Raisin Weekend-related responsibilities were upcoming for the officers of the SRC, and she encouraged all members of the Equal Opportunities Committee to show up and participate. She noted that the Black History Month event had finished and was a success.

She also noted that she was continuing to work with Admissions on the diversity video. She added that she had reached out to LightBox for their participation without a response but had also been in discussion with BubbleTV.

Member of Disabled Students' Report.

Fay noted that she and Teddy were working on an Inclusive Learning Policy to mainstream the most common disability-related access requests across the University. She stated her ambition to draft the policy by the end of the semester. Teddy informed the committee that when he brought up the proposal with College Gate, the response was not particularly enthusiastic. David and the committee confirmed their support for the policy and for Fay's continued work on drafting it.

Fay added that the debates event was coming along nicely and that Dame Anne Begg MP had been confirmed as one of the event's participants.

Fay also mentioned her ambition to work with Admissions on creating a disabled student's prospectus. Teddy added that there was general enthusiasm in the University for such a project as well.

Director of Representation's Report.

Teddy added that he, in collaboration with LGBT Subcommittee and the Athletic Union, would be hosting Shona Robison, the Scottish Minister on Commonwealth Games & Sport, for a speech on tackling homophobia in sport with a specific focus on a higher education context. The event was to be confirmed but tentatively aimed for sometime during Sexy Health Week.