



SU Executive Minutes

Time:	18:00
Date:	13/10/2014
Location:	G51
Trustees Present:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • David Suber – CP Democracy & Education [DS] – Chair • Georgie Robertson – CP Campaigns & Welfare [GR] • Kabir Joshi – CP Activities & Events [KJ] • Simon Campbell – Academic Affairs Officer [SC] • Max Lohnert – Academic Affairs Officer [ML] • Manuella Schwarz – Black Officer [MS] • Karmel Carey – Disabilities Officer [KC] • Roisin Crowley – Disabilities Officer [RC] • Tom King – LGBTQ Officer [TK] • Nate Reidy – LGBTQ Officer [NR] • Phoebe Fisher – Environment Officer [PF] • Mollie Hanley – Womens Officer [MH] • Hannah Slydel – Womens Officer [HS]
Others Present:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vic Casambros – Governance & Communications Coordinator [VC]
Apologies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grace Wilcocks – Campaigns Officer [GW] • Ana-Luiza Olanescu – International Officer [AO]
Absent:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harriet White – Environment Officer [HW] • Ruman Hasan – Anti Racist Officer [RH] • Mohamed Taha – Post Graduate Research [MT] • Luna Cottis – Entertainments Officer [LC]

Action/Discussion	Who	When
1) Update on ground rules from last week GR went over the ground rules that were set at last week's meeting to help out those who missed the last meeting.		
2) Free Ghoncheh Ghavami GR updated exec on the motion about Ghoncheh Ghavami		

<p>that passed at the UGM on Friday. Also asked if exec wanted to amend the statement previously released by the three sabbatical officers.</p> <p>HS warned the any messages from the school need to be about expressions of solidary rather than condemnation as this could be used against her.</p> <p>Run anything about this topic through the Iranian Society</p> <p>DS asks exec if the statement will be sent to the school to ask them to back it back.</p> <p>KJ says we need to be wary.</p> <p>GR suggests running it by the Iranian society, and getting the school to share it internally only.</p>	<p>All Exec</p>	
<p>3) Exec email / account security</p> <p>GR informed exec that there have been anonymous reports of hacking into exec members email accounts. The only account hacked seems to georgies.</p> <p>GR recommended that every changes there password if it is still their birthday.</p> <p>MS asks if the servers have been hacked as she received spam about Stonehenge.</p> <p>MS asks if there is an option to have accounts that are not related to student accounts as handovers mean all emails are lost.</p> <p>HS says that people should check their account history to see if people’s accounts have been accessed without authorisation.</p> <p>NR Maybe we can get the ICT department to send out a message to get students to change their password. Maybe look at creating pamphlets and sending a fresher’s email next year telling students to change their password.</p> <p>TK Many of the sabbs and exec have confidential information on their accounts and it makes me sick that people may have gone through that.</p>		

<p>KJ we should not be afraid of causing a scare.</p> <p>VC Informed Exec about Two Step Verification that can be enabled to protect people's accounts.</p> <p>HS proposed having a digital security training session for exec.</p> <p>DS This will be half an hour before the next exec after trustees.</p>		
<p>4) No TTIP</p> <p>GR explained what TTIP is.</p> <p>GR Asks if exec wanted to take a stance on this.</p> <p>HS points out that similar legislation has been resisted twice in the past.</p> <p>DS asks what are the next steps</p> <p>GR says to promote online petition and get involved in future protests and organise more events</p> <p>DS proposes more events that are run at SOAS get recorded, especially now that the school has got a site wise panopto licence.</p>		
<p>5) Stop MIPIM (the world's largest property fair)</p> <p>GR explained what and when MIPIM is.</p> <p>GR proposes making a SOAS Block for the protest in Kennington, possibly on the Friday.</p> <p>Exec agreed to this.</p>		
<p>6) UGM debrief</p> <p>DS gave a quick debrief of what he thought about the UGM</p> <p>DS asked exec for feedback about the UGM</p> <p>HS reported that she heard students questioning why it is in the JCR. It's a controversial idea but maybe moving it would be a good idea.</p> <p>KC When this was looked at before, LLT was the identified as</p>		



the best possible room, but then there are issues about the lift in the room working plus weather seats are retracted or not.

KJ This comes up each year. It's a public space. Having it in a room like G2 may make it harder to leave half way through which may prevent people coming.

KC Can we try just having one in the LLT? And see if it works. If not we can learn from that.

HS agrees as there are some students who may not come as the room is not accessible to them.

KJ There was an amopshere where people are afraid to speak, due to heckling etc, the JCR environment may encourage this.

TK it would be good if the chair can remind people at the start of the meeting about access needs. e.g. access breaks, no whoopings, no clapping during speeches, extra time during speeches.

DS Thank you for all this feedback, it would be a huge change. We would need the help form **all exec** to make this happen.

HS Please can we make the JCR are a dry space. I know lots of muslim students who don't come to the space because of the alcohol.

SC Just the UGMs? Or permanently

HS Just the UGMs would be a start.

NR disagrees with moving as the attending a JCR is what sold SOAS to make them come. Moving would lose what makes us different to Kings, UCL etc who hold democratic meetings in classrooms. UGMs should be kept in the JCR but made more accessible to all.

HS Our UGMS are different from elsewhere due to the content not the room it is in.

MH making the UGMs dry would go hand in hand with moving the venue.

KJ making the UGMS dry is just one of many issues about

making them more accessible. Making motions more relevant to more students would also help make people come.

DS so what are we deciding?

GR proposes looking at UGM dates set, and seeing when big rooms match up and are available.

KJ points out the LLT is booked out every Friday for this semester

TK Can we find out who comes to the UGMS, maybe make some diversity monitoring forms for the UGM.

DS two people managed to sort out the UGM in one hour. If more people from exec help we can do a much better job of organising the space. We need to restore the space afterwards as we can't expect the cleaners to do this.

PF my observations what that lots of people seemed to just come for certain motions and leave after those.

DS There was lots of reports of externals coming to the UGMS

DS At next UGM we will have to ask all students to bring their student cards.

KC Holding the meeting in LLT lets people in without needing a student card.

VC Suggested using bright coloured voting cards you can only get by showing a staff member/sabb a student card.

TK giving out a voting card would also be a good time to give out a diversity monitoring form.

DS There was lots of feedback about confusion when people were submitting amendments. Especially asking people to vote on things not seen in advanced.

DS I will be more specific over making sure people write motions in a clearer more structured way and they consider school procedures. I look at putting a video online about creating motions.

TK will amendments have to be submitted before the

<p>meeting?</p> <p>DS Yes</p> <p>DS wants greater clarity over how certain things works and wants to work with exec to talk motions that have huge changes in structures. Can we as an exec look at motions that change schedules before hand?</p> <p>TK the exec shouldn't be afraid to show they don't agree with the sabbatical officers.</p> <p>GR As an exec perhaps we could just touch base over all motions not just the ones submitted by exec members over emails.</p> <p>DS Once me and VC sort the motions out I will send them out over email to exec.</p> <p>DS asks exec about their opinion on length of UGM / Number of motions.</p> <p>TK suggests having a timelimit of three hours?</p> <p>HS proposes having a priority ballot of motions in advanced of the meeting.</p> <p>KJ it may be hard to get people to vote. We should make the decision to decide on the order.</p> <p>TK If motions are being ranked there is the chance people would complain there motion is last for political reasons.</p> <p>DS Currently its up to the CPDE to decide upon the order.</p> <p>DS proposed setting a limit of the 15 guaranteed motions per UGM then anything submitted after those will depend on time.</p>		
<p>7) Update on 'insufficient evidence' article</p> <p>MS asks if there are any updates to this?</p> <p>GR had a meeting with Nirmla and Nadjje. The school thinks they have identified the student and they are looking at the MC documents that were submitted to the faculty to look at what went wrong. The school wanted to contact the student they think it is but GR and Nadjje objected. The school</p>		

<p>agreed to contact the spirit once the investigation is complete to pass on a message.</p> <p>TK is the review to look at went wrong? Or is there also a possibility of having the mitigating circumstances decision overturned.</p> <p>GR initially its to look at what went wrong, but we will push to have the result changed if possible.</p> <p>TK is a comprehensive review of mitigating circumstances as a whole? Or just this case.</p> <p>GR it's a review as a whole.</p> <p>DS It could be quite hard to get a huge change in MC as a review was conducted last year.</p> <p>NR if the school is changed policy to accept sexual abuse claims for Mitigating circumstances without the need for evidence, how does that get policed and prevent abuse from students who are desperate.</p> <p>HS Obviously that is a risk. I don't believe students would do that. The risk of victim blaming is greater than the risk of the system being abused.</p> <p>GR I don't believe a review is effective. As a Union we need to submit a document outlining what needs to be changed.</p> <p>HS can we organise an event where students can come and talk about Mitigating Circumstances.</p> <p>GR suggests DS informs exec when relevant meetings are taking places as we organise around this.</p>		
<p>8) Britain Needs a Pay Rise demonstration this Saturday</p> <p>GR let exec know about the TUC Demo on Saturday.</p> <p>GR asks exec if its OK to promote this demo.</p> <p>Exec agreed</p>		

8) Dinwiddy Update

GR has spoken to school management about the issues and they are concerned about what they want to start an investigation once more evidence has been given to them by the students Union.

Any other Business

GR Announced that the school are in support of giving security staff Good Night Out Training.