



## SU Executive Minutes

<b>Time:</b>	18:00
<b>Date:</b>	13 <sup>th</sup> January 2016
<b>Location:</b>	G50
<b>Exec Present:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tom King – Co-President Welfare &amp; Campaigns <b>[TK]</b></li> <li>• Zain Dada – Co-President Activities &amp; Events <b>[ZD]</b></li> <li>• Jovian Salak – Campaigns Officer <b>[JS]</b></li> <li>• Nate Reidy – Trans* and Gender Identity Officer <b>[NR]</b></li> <li>• Caitlin Comins – Accommodation Officer <b>[CC]</b></li> <li>• Aida Balafkan – Womens' Officer <b>[AB]</b></li> <li>• Laila Ahmed – Disabled Students and Carers' Officer <b>[LA]</b></li> <li>• Alaa Ahmed – Black Officer <b>[AA]</b></li> <li>• Adwoa Darko – Entertainments Officer <b>[AD]</b></li> <li>• Jonelle Twum – Women's Officer <b>[JT]</b></li> <li>• Monna Matharu – Working Class Students' Officer <b>[MM]</b></li> <li>• Hannah Short – Environment Officer <b>[HS]</b></li> <li>• Monique Bell – Mature Students' Officer <b>[MB]</b></li> <li>• Osamah Aiar – Anti-Racism Officer <b>[OA]</b></li> </ul>
<b>Others Present:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Amy Dawson – Governance and Communications Coordinator</li> </ul>

<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Discussion/Action</b>
<b>Case of Complaint</b>	<b>ZD</b>	<b>ZD</b> explained that a complaint sent to Trustees was now being dealt with by an external Sabbatical Officer from a different University.
<b>Green Week</b>	<b>HS &amp; IA</b>	<b>HS</b> informed the group of the proposed date for Green Week, with People and Planet hosting an event the weekend before. She welcomed any event ideas for the week & told members to get in touch with the environment officers with their proposals.
<b>SU Space and Property</b>	<b>MB</b>	<p><b>MB</b> queried a number of sofas and items based at Vernon Square that belonged to the Union and asked what would be done with them when Vernon Square is vacated.</p> <p><b>ZD</b> offered to enquire about these items &amp; informed</p>



		<p>the group of the plans regarding student space.</p> <p><b>MB</b> proposed that any increase in space the Union receives would become a chill out space. She suggested there is currently nothing in between the quiet of the library and the busy atmosphere of the JCR. This was widely agreed.</p> <p><b>ZD</b> informed exec that the VG10 gym will be lost, as well as well as a multi faith prayer room. He welcomed any further suggestions to be sent to him in order to feed into the planning group.</p>
<b>#standbyme</b>	<b>AB &amp; JT</b>	<p><b>AB &amp; JT</b> gave the context of the #standbyme campaign, expressing the importance of holding the Union to account as well as the School.</p> <p><b>AB</b> explained that an independent working group would be set up and welcomed members of exec to join.</p> <p><b>JT</b> highlighted the need to focus on how to prevent gender based violence as well as working with survivors.</p> <p><b>AB</b> explained the need for a campaign colour that didn't overlap with J4C's purple.</p>
<b>Caravan Theatre</b>	<b>JT</b>	<p><b>JT</b> showed the group a video of a theatre company offering to come onto campus to show a play about gender based violence.</p> <p><b>CC</b> highlighted the importance of a trigger warning.</p> <p>The group agreed that the Women's Officers should meet with the company to discuss plans.</p>
<b>Union Day</b>	<b>AB</b>	<p><b>AB</b> reminded the group of their plans to host a Union day where exec members reach out to students.</p> <p><b>MM</b> suggested the event hosted by the</p>



		<p>Working Class Officers could be incorporated into this day.</p> <p><b>AA</b> also suggested a privilege workshop to be organised.</p> <p><b>JS</b> suggested using the beginning of a UGM to explain who they are and what they do.</p> <p><b>MB</b> highlighted the importance of accessibility in UGMs and suggested the UGM format already meant it was too long.</p> <p><b>JT</b> suggested a day of going around casually/informally in different spaces.</p> <p><b>AD</b> highlighted the importance of Social Media – she suggested that if all exec members flooded social media over 1 day it could be extremely effective</p> <p><b>MM</b> suggested a day in the JCR with stalls and music.</p> <p><b>CC</b> suggested the use of fliers.</p> <p><b>HS</b> suggested everyone wear SU tshirts.</p> <p><b>ACTION: TK</b> agreed to set up a Doodle Poll.</p>
<p><b>Confronting the White Institution</b></p>	<p><b>ZD</b></p>	<p><b>ZD</b> updated the group on the progress of the campaign. He encouraged exec involvement. He summarised the campaign, explaining that research was being collated, a survey would be set up, workshops would be held and eventually they would present their findings to management as a piece of research.</p> <p>Secondly, he informed the group that a short film was being created using some funding. He sought ideas on what should be in the film.</p> <p>He encouraged exec members to engage the</p>



		<p>entire SOAS community in this campaign.</p> <p><b>AA</b> encouraged heavy postering around the building to let people know it's happening. She also suggested discussion groups focusing on certain BME groups.</p>
<b>Research Students' Association</b>	<b>TK</b>	<p><b>TK</b> raised a concern about the low turnout of research reps. He welcomed ideas on how to engage research students further, and agreed to discuss this with the PGR rep.</p>
<b>International Issues</b>	<b>JV</b>	<p><b>MB</b> enquired about whether there was an International email list. She also said she'd be happy to host a mature international students social collaboration.</p> <p><b>TK</b> explained that a large number of international students have been dropping into the office to find out about the Union.</p>
<b>Valerie Amos Pay Day Protest</b>	<b>TK</b>	<p><b>TK</b> explained that by the end of January, the School's Director will have earned more than the lowest paid worker will earn for the whole year. He explained that he wanted to run a campaign surrounding this, but sought advice about avoiding personalised attacks.</p> <p>A discussion followed regarding avoiding personal attacks.</p> <p><b>AD</b> suggested incorporating race and gender wage gap issues.</p> <p><b>AA</b> suggested highlighting the fact that many women of colour working in SOAS have not been given promotions.</p> <p><b>TK</b> agreed he would run the materials by the group before they went public.</p>
<b>Hip Hop Karaoke</b>	<b>AD</b>	<p><b>AD</b> asked the group to volunteer as accessibility contacts for Friday's event. She gave the context of the previous Hip-Hop</p>

		Karaoke.
<b>AOB</b>	<b>All</b>	<p><b>MB</b> informed the group about an emergency protest in St Pancras regarding the eviction of the refugee camps in Calais.</p> <p><b>TK</b> explained that J4C was reaching a key point of the campaign. He asked for help building awareness as the decision was to be taken soon.</p> <p><b>NR</b> raised an issue with the quality of Union coffee. <b>TK</b> suggested this be raised with <b>KZ</b>.</p>