

Participatory Budgeting

Time:	17:00
Date:	1 st March 2016
Location:	JCR
Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Welcome 2) Intro to Participatory Budgeting 3) Sylheti Project 4) History Society 5) 130 Degrees Consulting 6) Native Spirit Film Festival 7) Everyday Democracy 8) Khlezmer Society 9) SOAS Community Free Film Festival 10) Imp!act 11) Afghan and Vostok Society 12) Translation Society 	

Participatory Budgeting – 18th February 2016

Title:	Participatory Budgeting Procedure
<p>1. Bids:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bids must be sent to the Co-President Democracy and Education or Union General Manager no later than 5 working days before a Participatory Budgeting meeting. The acceptance of late submissions is at the discretion of the chair. b) Bids should consist of the amount required, the justification and the payee's details c) The Union cannot be committed to ultra vires payment; this means that union cannot fund anything outside of its aims and objectivities, as stipulated with the constitution and regulated by the Charities Commission and 1994 Education Act. In particular, the union cannot make donation to external charities, either directly or in kind. d) A cap shall be placed on the total amount of resource available at each participatory budgeting session, bids cannot exceed this cap. The cap will be announced when the notice for the participatory budget session is announced. e) <p>2. Procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. 30 persons entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted, each being a Member, shall be a quorum. b) If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such other day, time and place as the Trustees may determine and if at the adjourned meeting a 	

quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting the Members present shall be a quorum.

- c) The meeting shall begin with a review of the bids, where the chair shall rule out bids that do not fall within the remit of Participatory Budgeting, breach the constitution, or can be sourced through an alternative, more favourable, means.
- d) Proposers of bids will be asked to give a three minute presentation of their bids at the start of the meeting.
- e) The Chair will then invite the meeting to discuss each bid in turn in the order of the agenda. At any point a proposer can amend their own bid downwards or withdraw it. The order of discussion will be
 - i) Questions to the proposer
 - ii) Amendments to the bid (Amendments can either be accepted by the proposer or will go to a vote)
 - iii) A speech against the bid
 - iv) A vote on the bid
- f) This is continued for each of the bids. If at the end of the meeting the cap for the meeting is reached, the Chair will suggest reducing each bid proportionally by ratio to reach the cap (each will be reduced by the same percentage). Each of the proposers will be given one last opportunity to reduce or withdraw their bids

Proposal One

Proposal:	Sylheti Project
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1. Bid: £150

Sylheti is one of the most widely-spoken languages in London and SOAS has many Sylheti students. Yet the language has no official status and it is largely invisible to outsiders.

The SOAS Sylheti Project is a student organization interested in the Sylheti language and culture. We make and maintain links to the community, connecting SOAS to the life of the neighbourhood. Our project reflects the spirit of diversity here at SOAS and our commitment to purposefully contributing to that spirit.

The SOAS Sylheti Language Society, together with the SOAS Sylheti Project, has put together a children's storybook based on our collaboration with Sylheti speakers. The storybook will consist of three stories shared by our Sylheti consultants: 'The Boy Who Cried Tiger', 'The Wind and Sun', and 'A Bundle of Sticks'. We will have all three stories illustrated professionally and bound in a single, high-quality book which will be shared with the London Sylheti community. In so doing, we hope to raise awareness about the Sylheti language and its speakers.

We believe that this project will contribute to the spirit of diversity here at SOAS as well as encourage exchange among its students.

At the previous budgetary meeting we gratefully received a total of 200£ from the Yemen Society and the South Asian Society. We are so thankful that our project is of interest to students with a South Asian background and would like to thank the societies for their generous help! Their contributions enabled us to withdraw our bid (originally for 350£). We now have only to apply for the remainder of the needed sum.

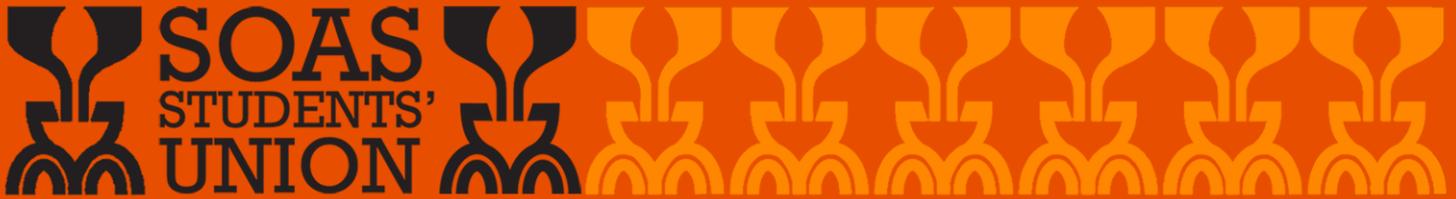
We are, therefore, requesting **150£** to go towards paying illustrators and covering the printing costs so that our community project may come to fruition.

Proposal Two

Proposal:	History Society
Bid: £752	
<p><i>If Only I Were That Warrior</i> is an award winning documentary. The winner of the 2015 Festival Dei Popoli, it is a film about the Italian conquest and occupation of Ethiopia in 1935 prior to the second world war. The principal objective of the documentary is to expose the use of chemical weapons by Italian forces at the direction of General Rodolfo Grazianin and question the reasoning behind the awarding of a national monument to the General in his hometown in Italy.</p> <p>This documentary is needed because this episode of Ethiopian history has been Largely overlooked in the West. What transpired in Ethiopia was a war crime. Chemical weapons were used on a civilian population, and now the architect of this strategy has been honored with a monument.</p> <p>Through the journey of discovery of three individuals connected to the war, the filmmakers link the past to the present, recreating the horror of the occupation. This endeavor compliments the mission of the SOAS Student Union because it advances the discourse associated with the colonial legacy of SOAS' founding. As we move forward in this great university that has nurtured and mentored many of the Human Rights champions of our decade, it is imperative to keep our discourse civil and educated.</p> <p><i>If Only I Were That Warrior</i> and this forum will continue in this SOAS tradition as we mark the centennial of our university. The Society has been in contact with the filmmakers and they have expressed their commitment to showcase their documentary at SOAS in May, during their movie promotion tour.</p> <p>Viewing Date: May 13th, 2016 at the SOAS at Vernon Square</p>	

Proposal Three

Proposal:	130 Degrees Consulting SOAS
Bid:	£400
<p>About 180 Degrees Consulting SOAS 180 Degrees Consulting is the world's largest student consultancy for non- profits and social enterprises. Our aim is to bridge a gap by providing consulting services to organisations that may otherwise not be able to afford them and empower students- by giving them the opportunity to take ownership of a consulting project, whilst making a positive social impact. We have established the SOAS branch as part of a network of over 70 universities worldwide and hope to provide innovative, practical and sustainable solutions to challenges faced by non-profits in our community and beyond.</p>	
<p>What is the funding for?</p> <p>Our ambition is to establish the 180 Degrees branch as a hub for social impact at SOAS, and hope to do this by holding events, inviting guest speakers and increasing awareness of the work that we do. Increasing awareness would involve a combination of marketing material, events and funding. We are trying to build a professional brand and require funds for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Marketing material (£225) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Banner (£80) e.g. http://bannerprintingandroid.co.uk/roller-banners/ o Flyers (£30 for 1000) e.g. http://tinyurl.com/nmzcb78 o Printed t- shirts (£100 for 25) - Website (£50) - Resources for project work (£30) - Events and Activities (£95) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Students volunteer their time to work on projects- however, as the work we do is free, we require funding for general resources to enable us to complete work for clients o We would like to host an interactive recruiting event that will also increase awareness of 180SOAS on campus and our ambitions to create a platform for social 	



impact

o We have organised an internationally acclaimed and careers speaker- Jaymin Patel. This offers SOAS students a unique opportunity as Jaymin is an affiliate with 180 Degrees Consulting, as a social impact organisations

How does this align with the goals of SOAS and the Student Union?

We believe 180 Degrees' values align very much with SOAS. A significant number of our alumni go on to work with social enterprises, indicating the extent to which the values of the two accord. We want to build a platform at SOAS where students can learn more about the operations of social enterprises, gain valuable skills by working on project which will be beneficial for their careers, also making positive social impact. This funding will be the start of making the 180 Degrees branch at SOAS a sustainable and successful student-led consultancy. In addition, we are contacting SOAS alumni that work in the third sector, forging lasting relationships that will enhance community, as we plan to invite alumni and everyone involved in projects to an end of term event to discuss our work.

Proposal Four

Proposal:	Native Spirit Film Festival 12th-18th of October 2016 (10th anniversary)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The film festival will run from the 12th (Indigenous day) till the 18th of October 2016. It is organised and run by a team of volunteers who are SOAS students. Even though the festival takes place during the next academic year, the money is needed in the coming month because we are already taking in film submissions, contacting film directors, planning the printing, etc. It is an independent and non-profit organisation, run by a team of volunteers primarily from SOAS • It will consist primarily of short and feature long films but also performances and discussions. • Directors and speakers will be invited to speak to give context to issues raised. • Aims to create a space for self-representation and decolonizing the film medium • Contribute to the preservation of First Nations cultural heritages • Make visible human rights and land issues faced by different indigenous communities • Awareness of inter-generational trauma from assimilation and displacement policies and their fatal consequences for many indigenous communities manifested in high suicide and alcoholism rates • The film festival is also a response to other film festivals in London which also claim to promote a platform for Indigenous voices but who receive funding from sponsors and organisations which have conflicted interests in indigenous land and human rights issues. Our festival has in previous years lacked funding which has been detrimental to its quality because we choose not to collaborate with certain sponsors to keep the integrity of our aims. <p>This festival has run in SOAS for the past 9 years through the support of the Native Spirit Foundation. Funding from the foundation will no longer be possible this year, although we will still be using the platform it provides for contacts and promotion.</p>	
<p>Connection to SOAS & SU ethos: We believe this project is aligned with the goals of the SU and the values of SOAS because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - decolonising the curriculum, education and raising awareness on post-colonial issues, the effects of neo-liberal policies and globalisation on indigenous cultures. Yet not exclusively in an academic framework, we are providing more space for creative thought, art, film, music, performances, etc 	

- links for students, network building with directors and representatives for different human rights organizations, etc-
- possible collaborations with other student societies, such as the LGBT society, Decolonising Our Minds, Film Society, Quechua Society etc.
- more awareness about Latin America which is lacking in the university
- support and promotion of the J4C campaign in the festival
- establish a liaison with SOAS Film Studies, Linguistics Endangered Languages and International Development to introduce new material and speakers
- Facilitate Human Rights Advocates with whom we will be collaborating
 - Promote independent indigenous-run film Productions and collectives
 - **Peace Brigades International:** an organization that provides protection, support and recognition to local human rights defenders who work in areas of repression and conflict and that request their support
 - **Survival International:** a global movement for tribal people's rights. Provides a platform for their representation and support for diverse campaigns, investigate and collect evidence of human rights violation and presents them to the United Nations and other international forums, fund medical and self-help projects
 - **Free West Papua Campaign:** a peaceful, public campaign who aims to give the people of West Papua a fair and transparent referendum and make visible the ongoing and severe human rights violation by the occupying Indonesian military on the indigenous communities.
 - **Isuma Tv:** a collaborative multimedia platform for indigenous filmmakers and media organizations. Each user can design their own space, or channel to reflect their own identity, mandate and audience
 - **Wapikoni Mobile:** mobile studio that travels to Aboriginal communities providing workshops for First Nations youth that allow them to master digital tools by directing short films and musical works
 - **Arnait Video Productions:** Women's Video Workshop Collective with the mission to value and make visible the voices of Inuit women in their cultural heritage and debates of national interest

Funding Break-Down (£500)

- Printing: flyers, programmes, posters (£100)
- Film hire/License/Streaming (£200)
- UK travel costs for key speakers (£200)
- Basic refreshments for speakers, artists

Potential Speakers

- Barbara Dullknife, Oglala Lakota, Pine Ridge Campaign for Children's Crisis



Centre (which prevent

- First Nation children from being adopted into non-native families and preventing further inter-generational trauma)
- Benny Wenda, Independence leader of West Papua who has asylum in the UK, an advocate of human rights abuses in Indonesia controlled West Papua

Proposal Five

	<u>Everyday Democracy</u>
£500	<p>What: Organisation of a three-day Betzavta Training</p> <p>“Everyone talks about changing the world, but nobody talks about changing themselves”</p> <p>Betzavta is a non-formal learning method, which creates an experienced based learning opportunity through a set of different simulation exercises, that will enhance your ability to interact in and build effective, inclusive and democratic groups and communities.</p> <p>Trainer: We were able to win Tali Padanas a trainer, a specialist in group dynamics and democracy. She is internationally well known and her activities are regularly funded by the European Commission.</p> <p><u>Our key objectives are:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -to contribute to building a more democratic and inclusive environment at SOAS. -to improve awareness, and empathy, and sensitise for ones behaviour and impact in group interactions and decision-making -to provide an experience from which the learning and activities are replicable in other settings -to encourage people to take active part in change making through changing themselves. <p>Even at lower levels of responsibility, such as student societies or within small groups-taking decisions and implementing projects can trigger hostilities and undermine everyone’s well-being. Grassroots initiatives as well as high-level governance are threatened at all times by people’s unawareness of contradictory opinions, views and claims. We intend to commit to addressing such issues and give students the opportunity to build their capacities to interact with groups and teams in a democratic and inclusive manner. In particular, the training aims at sensitizing participants to how their own behavior has an impact on each other.</p> <p>The participation will be open to all SOAS students but will be limited to 24 participants. We will be offering places on a first-come-first-serve basis.</p>



Where: SOAS

When: Term 3

Amount we are asking for: 500 pounds

Actual costs: Trainer costs 800 pounds

Travel cost trainer 100 pounds

Total: 900 pounds

Proposal Six

Proposal:	Khlezmer Society
Bid: £200	
<p>-Funds will go towards paying professional Klezmer musicians to come to SOAS to give workshops teaching Klezmer music.</p> <p>- These workshops will be open to the public and any SOAS students interested.</p> <p>- The JMI (Jewish music institute) has already to help publicise the events.</p> <p>-Klezmer society in previous years has brought in amazing musicians for workshops and the proposed funding would go towards the society aims of spreading awareness of and giving people the chance to play, learn, and listen to Klezmer music at SOAS.</p> <p>- The klezmer band from previous years was a big part of events at SOAS performing at freshers and at the SOAS festival. We hope to create a new Klezmer band to fill the void.</p>	

Proposal Seven

Proposal:	<u>SOAS community Free film Festival</u>
Bid: £200	<p>Free Films Festivals is a community group formed in 2010 to promote free film screenings in neighbourhood venues. It is entirely not-for-profit and run by volunteers. There are currently eight Free Film Festivals in Peckham & Nunhead, New Cross & Deptford, Herne Hill, Camberwell, South Norwood & Thornton Heath, London Fields, Streatham and Weston-super-Mare.</p> <p>Free Film Festivals appeal to people of all ages and all backgrounds. The aims of Free Film Festivals are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To create community-run film festivals in specific postcodes, small geographical areas or neighbourhoods. • To promote community cohesion and social inclusion by bringing people together from across the community to enjoy a great movie and celebrate their local area too. Film is an ideal medium for this because it appeals to such a wide cross section of people. • To promote skills development by supporting the running of workshops and filmmaking events and offering volunteering opportunities which give people the chance to gain new skills and interests. • To support local filmmaking talent by creating opportunities for local filmmakers to bring their films to a wider audience by, for example, running short film events and competitions. <p>Free Film Festivals is about showing films in interesting local venues. It's about increasing the 'feel good' factor of people in the community by providing free and enjoyable events in popular public spaces, including outdoor screenings.</p> <p>The SOAS Community Free Film Festival will be unique in that it is the first festival which is not based in a specific neighbourhood. Nonetheless, we hope that our festival will help to promote community cohesion in SOAS and around the immediate area in a similar way to other festivals. Therefore, as well as individual societies organising events as part of the festival, including panel discussions, live performance etc., the festival will also provide an opportunity to branch out and establish links with organisations outside SOAS, such as local venues, independent businesses, residents associations and schools.</p> <p>We hope that by promoting relationships between SOAS and the wider area we can help contribute towards a sense of community between two areas which, although not separated by much geographically, rarely engage in collaboration. This nurturing of relationships will hopefully lead to increased collaboration and openness between both parties in the future, with further positive outcomes.</p> <p>In addition, as part of the festival we will provide an opportunity for film makers in</p>

SOAS and those in the SOAS network to submit their own films to a film making competition. This competition is open to experienced film makers as well as amateurs. These films will then be screened as part of the festival, with all applicants getting an opportunity to see their film being watched by an audience. We will collaborate with the SOAS Film Makers society on this project, and will hopefully also access the resources SOAS already has for film makers, such as the film making laboratory in the library.

Budget application

The festival is already underway, and we have also paid for multiple public screening licenses for the different films. For this round of participatory budgeting, we are applying for £200. Here's a break of what this money will go towards:

The public screening license for a copy of 'Girlhood' from Filmbank media. Total: **£100**

The design and printing of programmes. Total: **£70**

Buying copies of DVDs and getting them delivered (Belleville Rendezvous, Girlhood). Total: **£30**

Proposal Eight

Proposal:	Imp!act
Bid: £470	
<p>imp!act is a 4 day event that empowers students to reach positive social change. Young people have an immense potential but are often limited by cynicism or not knowing how to take action. At our event, we take the participants through a process <i>from inspiration to impact</i>, in which they will turn their passions into viable project ideas, build project teams, test their project, receive expert feedback, and present in front of a jury.</p>	
<p>Budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stationery for the event: £80 • Printing of workbook (35): £75 • Gifts for speakers (7): £70 • Snacks and refreshments for breaks (4 days): £200 • Lunch for facilitators (5): £45 <p>TOTAL: £470</p>	

Proposal Nine

Proposal:	Afghan and Vostok Society
Bid: £200	<p>'Navroz in the Silk Road - From Herat to Kashgar via Bukhara' looks to celebrate the cultural diversity of Central Asia and the Caucasus. The event will be an evening of music, poetry and dance from Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan and Xinjiang. Although SOAS has a long tradition of celebrating navroz on campus, the dominance of Persian navroz events has meant that events bringing together the peoples and cultures of former Soviet states is rare. Our navroz event celebrates an underrepresented region at SOAS and will be a great opportunity for students to immerse themselves in a culture and region which is under the radar but has a rich history and traditions.</p> <p>We would like to request £200 for the event. It will take place in June. The costs will go towards paying performers, providing food and hiring items for display on the evening. Performers include two solo musicians, two bands, four poets and two dancers, whose sets will be between 15 – 30 minutes. We are also looking to hire rugs and carpets that will be used as seating for guests. In addition to this will be contacting local shops that sell cultural items from the region asking them to have stalls at the event with items which won't be for sale, but in return for them lending items we will negotiate a fee. Snacks and hot food will also be provided at the event and we are looking to cover these costs through the SOAS funds. We are also looking to have A3 images on display in an exhibit format of people in tradition dress from the countries the event will celebrate. Thus, the funds will also cover printing costs. Lastly, transportation costs, namely petrol costs will also be a factor, as heavier items will require to be brought to campus by car. We are also currently looking to contact the Uzbek and Afghan embassies to assist in promoting the event, so that attendance at the event can justify the expenditure.</p>

Proposal Ten

Proposal:	SOAS Translation Society
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The TS is making an anthology of underrepresented literature in English translation, to be published summer 2016. It contains works from languages both taught and not taught at SOAS.

We want to print 100 copies under the Translation Society imprint. The company Matador can help us with all aspects of publishing. They charge £1,080 for 100 copies, so we are requesting the maximum £1,000.

This anthology could raise SOAS's profile, with a book which not only represents 'quieter' voices but also creatively showcases the linguistic skills of SOAS students. Sales proceeds will be donated to communities represented in the anthology.