



# Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

20<sup>th</sup> November 2019

3pm – 5pm

**Chair:** Peadar Connolly-Davey (Co-president Activities & Events)

## Agenda

1. Officer Check In
2. Action Point Updates
3. Working Group Updates
4. SU Sustainability Group
5. Climate Strike: 29<sup>th</sup> November
6. UGM Statements
7. Get Vocal
8. Disability History Month
9. Exec WhatsApp
10. AOB

**Apologies:** Valeria Racu, Maxine Thomas-Asante, Nidah Kaiser, Serena Coulson, Hasan Zakria

**In attendance:** Peadar Connolly-Davey, Youssra Elmagboul, Sohane Yahya, Inaki Arrizabalaga, Oscar Ward, Ciro Puig, Nare Hakobyan, Anabelle Jones, Malena Bastida, Hisham Pryce-Parchment, Charli Keely, Katie Saunders

**Quora reached!**



### 1. Officer Check In

**YE:** Recruitment of SU Finance Manager / meeting about new director appointment / Kashmir film screening tomorrow night

**AJ & NH:** Helping with transgender day of remembrance vigil

**CP & MA:** Re-gendering curriculum project / student rep round table

**OW:** Meeting with estates about welfare at residences

**IA:** Organising climate strikes for 29<sup>th</sup> November

**SY & HPP:** Climate strike / white ally meet up / The Robeson / black student caucus

**CK:** Organising end of term late licence

**PCD:** Islamophobia awareness event / SOAS Radio late licence / Brunei gallery strategic review

**Action points:** N/A

### 2. Action Point Updates

Action points from previous meeting | Update

JDF to organise Mature Students Officer election for earliest convenient	Done
MA to pass on info of PhD student who may be able to help with Disability History Month to YE	Done
Working Groups for all liberation months to be created	Action point for YE!
Exec to let MT know if they want to attend Black Student Winter Conference	Exec to let MT know ASAP
PCD to put up posters about microwaves ASAP	Done
JDF to send out working group info to Exec following meeting	Done
YE/PC to order pronoun badges. AJ to help distribute	Ordered – waiting on arrival
Working group around gender politics and allyship to be created	Action point for JDF to add this working group to the working group spreadsheet and send out
MT to collate info on registering and voting for students	Done
JDF to ensure voting is included in the comms plan	Done
CP to make a doodle poll of available dates for trustee training	Action point for Anna Dodridge to coordinate



JDF and sabbs to edit the candidate pack before Spring elections

Next election not until Spring, however this is on people's radar

**Action points:**

YE to create working groups for all liberation month

JDF to create gender politics working group, and re-send working group spreadsheet to Exec

AD to coordinate date for trustee meeting

**3. Working Group Updates**

**Mice R Nice:** Posters are up on appropriate microwave use to ensure we aren't encouraging a breeding ground for mice

**SU Position on XR:** IA preparing to speak to SOAS XR group, and SY preparing a UGM motion

**Action points:** N/A

**4. SU Sustainability Group**

JDF introduced the idea of a new SOAS SU Sustainability group to focus on SU sustainability issues, in line with the NUS Green Impact scheme criteria

HPP, SY, CK, KS and YE interested in joining

**Action points:**

JDF to send Exec the Green Impact workbook

JDF to create sustainability group and involve students

IA to create comms summary for students to advertise joining the group

**5. Climate Strike: 29<sup>th</sup> November**

IA organising a meeting Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> in the JCR to form a plan for the 29<sup>th</sup> with students

**Action points:**



IA/MA to contact samba band about joining march  
OW to get protest materials (e.g. pollution masks)

## 6. UGM Statements

**PCD:** There is a UGM tomorrow – please submit your officer report statements to JDF!

Discussion was had about making these statements public for those who don't attend the UGM to see.

Questions also asked about democracy in the SU – UGMs not meeting quora etc. Are there any updates on improving this?

### **Action points:**

JDF to include officer reports in the UGM minutes

JDF to make a poster after UGMs with officer reports and post outside the SU

YE to ask MT for updates on democracy

## 7. Get Vocal!

**PCD:** Next Get Vocal event is next Thursday – please attend and promote!

**YE clarified what Get Vocal is:** An informal space for students to talk with the four co-presidents about anything. Co-presidents will also present conversation topics, and we've recently had good conversations around over-audited classes and issues with module choices. Get Vocal is a good place to bring UGM ideas!

**Action points:** N/A

## 8. Disability History Month

**PCD:** 22 November – 22 December. With Indigo's help we've organised 3 film screenings, 1 panel discussion and 1 life drawing session



**YE:** Only a small number of events as we've learned that it's better to have a few well-thought out events rather than multiple less well-thought out events

**Action points:** N/A

### 9. Exec WhatsApp

Imogen suggested to create a WhatsApp group for the Exec committee for easy and quick comms updates

Discussion had about co-president involvement with the group: Confusions around what counts as "work" as they are full-time positions / need for an exec only space / need for co-presidents to also be quickly contactable

Agreed for PCD to be the only co-president in the group, to mute group and only be involved if @ed

YE highlighted the need to ensure this space is kept respectful and professional

**Action points:**

OW to create WhatsApp group and send JDF the link  
JDF to send WhatsApp group link to Exec

### 10. AOB

**PCD:** Ideas for Re-Freshers?

**KS:** Planning a Northern Soul night in collab with anti-racism officers

**MA:** Want to run an event and film screening on the history of Justice 4 Workers

**CK:** Want to plan a drag show

**OW:** Want to plan an accommodation forum before looking into creating a student tenants union

Discussions were had around the use of an external venue for the Northern Soul event – issues of capacity, accessibility and venue location were discussed

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**CP:** Are we doing anything for the UCU strikes

**YE:** VR is in contact with the unions – they will be using our space so as not to cross their own picket lines and we're looking into teach-ins



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CK: Currently researching an ethical fashion week for term 2. Please speak to me if you'd like to be involved!

Discussions were had around the cost of the ethical fashion week event and how money would be raised

**Action points:**

PCD to make a spreadsheet of available dates and times for Exec-organised Re-Freshers events

MA to update PCD on plans for J4W event

PCD to organise meeting to discuss hosting Northern Soul night in an external venue