Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

20th 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: 29th 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 29th 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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action points from previous meeting</th>
<th>Update</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JDF to organise Mature Students Officer election for earliest convenient</td>
<td>Done</td>
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<tr>
<td>MA to pass on info of PhD student who may be able to help with Disability History Month to YE</td>
<td>Done</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working Groups for all liberation months to be created</td>
<td>Action point for YE!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exec to let MT know if they want to attend Black Student Winter Conference</td>
<td>Exec to let MT know ASAP</td>
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<tr>
<td>PCD to put up posters about microwaves ASAP</td>
<td>Done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JDF to send out working group info to Exec following meeting</td>
<td>Done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>YE/PC to order pronoun badges. AJ to help distribute</td>
<td>Ordered – waiting on arrival</td>
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<tr>
<td>Working group around gender politics and allyship to be created</td>
<td>Action point for JDF to add this working group to the working group spreadsheet and send out</td>
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<tr>
<td>MT to collate info on registering and voting for students</td>
<td>Done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JDF to ensure voting is included in the comms plan</td>
<td>Done</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CP to make a doodle poll of available dates for trustee training</td>
<td>Action point for Anna Dodridge to coordinate</td>
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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: 29th November

IA organising a meeting Friday 22nd in the JCR to form a plan for the 29th 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

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
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