



Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

31st October 2019

3pm – 5pm

Chair: Youssra Elmagboul (Co-president Equality and Liberation)

Agenda

1. Officer Check In
2. Happy Halloween
3. Mature Students Officer Election
4. Disability History Month
5. NUS Conferences
6. Working Groups
7. General Election
8. Refreshers
9. AOB

Apologies: Katie Saunders, Hisham Parchment, Charli Keely, Rachel Lindfield, Indigo Ayling, and Anirudh Srivathsan

In attendance: Maxine Thomas-Asante, Peadar Connolly-Davey, Youssra Elmagboul, Valeria Racu, Imogen Kropf, Inaki Arrizbalaga, Nidah Kaiser, Anabelle Jones, Paulien Broens, Sohane Yahya, Oscar Ward, Ciro Puig, Miriam Amrani, and Serena Coulson

Quora reached!



1. Officer Check In

No issues to raise

Action points: N/A

2. Happy Halloween

PC: SU is hosting a Halloween event November 1 in the JCR – please promote!

Action points: N/A

3. Mature Students Officer Election

YE: Mature Students Officer position wasn't filled in Autumn elections but there is student interest in the role. How should we fill this position?

Discussions were had about the easiest and most inclusive way to run an election for only 1 position.

Action points:

JDF to organise Mature Students Officer election for earliest convenient time

4. Disability History Month

YE: 22nd November – 22nd December. We will be hosting events – please help out if you can.

PC: Additionally, Women's History Month is in March and Queer History Month in February. Let us know if you have any ideas!

Action points:

MA to pass on info of student who may be able to help to YE

Working Groups for all liberation months to be created



Ideas for liberation months to be passed to PC

5. NUS Conferences

MT: NUS Sustainability Summit is on Monday 4th November, could anyone attend?

MA volunteered

MT: NUS Black Student Winter Conference is on 23-24th November in Goldsmiths. Let us know if you want to attend

YE: POI – NUS use “black” to mean “poc”

Action points:

Exec to let MT know if they want to attend Black Student Winter Conference

6. Working Groups

PC: Mice Are Nice working group to make posters for microwaves – how to use and how to keep clean to ensure we don't encourage mice!

Discussions had around why we have mice in the JCR – unavoidable given the space but we currently encourage them!

YE: SOAS SU held a BDS referendum 5 years ago which is now lapsing. Sabbs want to re-run this referendum. Are exec on board?

Discussions were had about what BDS is, and how the SU plans to approach the referendum

CP: Explained proposal around looking at how gender politics are structured at SOAS, especially in social sciences.

A wider discussion was had around gender dynamics in the classroom, academic staff knowledge on the issues, and the ability to edit your personal details in the school system.

MT: School is currently refiguring course teaching – this is something we need to better identify how we want to approach to incorporate as part of wider changes



VR: Proposal for Working Groups to be a standing order in these meetings.
Approved.

MT and SY: Discussion around successes of BHM, but also issues and poor attendance at certain events. Encourage allyship from exec when issues arise.

Action points:

PC to put up posters about microwaves use ASAP

JDF to send out working group info to exec following meeting for exec to join

YE/PC to order pronoun badges. AJ to help distribute

Working group around gender politics and allyship to be created

7. General Election

YE: As SU trustees Exec are not allowed to campaign for parties in their SU capacity. As personal citizens you can, but provided you are clear your views are not associated with the SU, who need to remain impartial. Speak to Anna if confused.

MT: Looking to create a buzz around elections to encourage student votes, however we don't want to be overwhelming and excluding to those not eligible to vote. Need to run an awareness campaign of key voting information.

Discussions were had about how to promote elections while remaining impartial and the conduct for exec. Idea raised to run a stall providing election info to students (IK, AJ, MA, SY, MT and PC expressed interest in helping run the stand).

Action points:

MT to collate info on registering and voting for students

JDF to ensure voting is included in the comms plan



8. Refreshers

PC: 2nd week of term 2 we'll have 1 week of events – would love exec to plan some events! Let me know any event ideas by the next exec meeting.

Action points: N/A

9. AOB

CP: When is trustee training?

YE: Currently planning it!

Discussions were had around the utility of exec meetings and the (over)reliance on certain exec members during Freshers and BHM.

Action points:

CP to make a doodle poll of available trustee training dates

JDF and sabbs to edit the candidate pack before next election to add clarity on social media