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. Refresheres
9. AOB

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


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:** 22\(^{\text{nd}}\) November – 22\(^{\text{nd}}\) 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 4\textsuperscript{th} November, could anyone attend?

 **MA** volunteered

**MT:** NUS Black Student Winter Conference is on 23-24\textsuperscript{th} 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!

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**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

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**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

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

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

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**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

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### 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).

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**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!

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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