Get Vocal! Minutes

24th October 2019

12pm – 1pm

JCR

Get Vocal! is an informal discussion space between the SU co-presidents and the student body. Discussion points are brought by the co-presidents for student feedback and input, and student-led questions and discussions are also welcomed.

Get Vocal! agenda:

1. New piano
2. EDI Strategy
3. Gender Neutral toilets
4. Questions?
5. BDS Referendum

1. New piano
The Jewish Institute recently donated a piano to the SOAS Music department but they have nowhere to put it! The SU has been offered the piano. Thoughts on where it should go:

- In the JCR (replacing the old one)
- In the SU Bar
- In the Russell Room

A discussion was had about keeping the old piano, clearing out the Russell Room, and looking into putting the new piano in Senate House.

2. EDI Strategy
The school is designing a new 5 year Equality and Diversity Strategy and we’re looking for student consultation. Questions raised by co-presidents:

- What should the school be thinking about?
- What are the shortcomings of the school currently in terms of EDI?

Focus groups and online consultation to be held to get answers, or students welcome to chat to co-presidents at any time.
3. **Gender Neutral toilets**

There is only 1 gender neutral toilet in the main building and the co-presidents are meeting with the school to try and increase the number available to students. Any student input into the issue is welcomed.

4. **Questions?**

Q: Microwaves?
A: They’ve been ordered!

Q: Issues with space in the library
A: Co-presidents speaking with estates

Q: Changing facilities for cyclists?
A: Not on co-presidents radar but will look into

Q: Timetabling issues
A: Co-presidents in talks with the school

5. **BDS**

The previous BDS UGM motion which passes is lapsing this year. Co-presidents flagged to students that this would be a discussion topic this coming year.