

Participatory Budgeting

Time:	17:00
Date:	12 th November 2015
Location:	JCR

Agenda

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Introduction to Participatory Budgeting – what, why, how & procedure
- 3) Proposal 1: £1000 towards securing a venue for an awareness evening 'Eik Raat Pakistan Ke Saath' (One Night with Pakistan)
- 4) Proposal 2: 'Tales of 1947'; A play.
- 5) Policy and Discord
- 6) Funding for Refugee Solidarity Convoy to Calais: Application for £500

Participatory Budgeting – 12th November 2015

Title:	Participatory Budgeting Procedure
<p>1. Bids:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Bids must be sent to the Co-President Democracy and Education or Union General Manager no later than 5 working days before a Participatory Budgeting meeting. The acceptance of late submissions is at the discretion of the chair. b) Bids should consist of the amount required, the justification and the payee's details c) The Union cannot be committed to ultra vires payment; this means that union cannot fund anything outside of its aims and objectivities, as stipulated with the constitution and regulated by the Charities Commission and 1994 Education Act. In particular, the union cannot make donation to external charities, either directly or in kind. d) A cap shall be placed on the total amount of resource available at each participatory budgeting session, bids cannot exceed this cap. The cap will be announced when the notice for the participatory budget session is announced. <p>e)</p> <p>2. Procedure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. 30 persons entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted, each being a Member, shall be a quorum. b) If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such other day, time and place as the Trustees may determine and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting the Members present shall be a quorum. c) The meeting shall begin with a review of the bids, where the chair shall rule out bids that do not fall within the remit of Participatory Budgeting, breach the constitution, or can be sourced through an alternative, more favourable, means. d) Proposers of bids will be asked to give a three minute presentation of their bids at the start of the meeting. e) The Chair will then invite the meeting to discuss each bid in turn in 	

- the order of the agenda. At any point a proposer can amend their own bid downwards or withdraw it. The order of discussion will be
- i) Questions to the proposer
 - ii) Amendments to the bid (Amendments can either be accepted by the proposer or will go to a vote)
 - iii) A speech against the bid
 - iv) A vote on the bid
- f) This is continued for each of the bids. If at the end of the meeting the cap for the meeting is reached, the Chair will suggest reducing each bid proportionally by ratio to reach the cap (each will be reduced by the same percentage). Each of the proposers will be given one last opportunity to reduce or withdraw their bids

Proposal One

Proposal:	£1000 towards securing a venue for an awareness evening 'Eik Raat Pakistan Ke Saath" (One Night with Pakistan)
Proposer:	Pakistan Society
Contacts:	Adil Shabbir (President): 610766@soas.ac.uk Sharmeen Ghani (Treasurer): 619088@soas.ac.uk

Idea:

ERPKS is named as such as the event will be 'with' Pakistan in 2 ways. We will be 'with' Pakistan:

1) First and foremost in the charitable sense – any money raised from ticket sales (and perhaps an auction held) will go towards the sponsorship of the Sindh Institute of Urology and Transplantation (SIUT). This is a completely free of charge, first come first serve hospital located in Karachi. It is a lifeline for the hundreds (if not, thousands) of poor people who require urological (kidney, liver etc.) treatments who would not be able to afford it otherwise.

They are a reputable hospital set up by a doctor who was inspired during his tenure here in the UK as a junior doctor and saw how our NHS functioned to serve all. It was actually featured on the BBC news website: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-29648454>

It keeps with the SOAS ethos of being 'different'! There are many charities/ NGO's in Pakistan but SIUT has a lower profile and we would like SOAS to be the institution that brings it into the limelight. Being less well known also means a smaller flow of funds and so this dinner can make a real difference.

2) In a cultural sense – SOAS Pakistan Society this year is aiming to showcase the 'Pakistani Identity'. How we are so similar to other countries in South Asia but also the specific things that make Pakistan, Pakistan! We will aim to do this through the formal dinner where people will dress in Pakistani clothes, listen to Pakistani music, eat tasty Pakistani food and drink amazing Pakistani tea! This way we aim to welcome ALL – we wouldn't be SOAS if we didn't focus on the specific differences of identity

and cultures within South Asia! We would love to see people come in and have a true taste of what it is like to be at a Pakistani function.

Costs:

We are looking to secure £1000 to go towards our funding for booking the venue, which is the Camden Centre just by Kings' Cross. This is close to Dinwiddy and SOAS so many people will be able to attend the event and hence the money won't be going towards a 'white elephant' project that creates hardly any return. (We have attached a budgeting form for more detail of the main expenses for the evening.) To minimise costs we are applying for sponsorships from a range of businesses (catering, décor, performances etc.) to allow the greatest returns to be made and hence donated to SIUT.

Publicity:

We will aim to raise the profile of SOAS through extensive media coverage and with our links to the Pakistani High Commission, which will then feedback to Pakistan. This ensures that the University we love retains its' status as a prestigious destination for study from students across the globe.

Proposal Two

Title:	'TALES OF 1947' A PLAY
Proposer:	SOUTH ASIAN DIASPORA SOC
Contacts:	Ayesha Abbasi < 604593@soas.ac.uk >
<h3>About the play:</h3> <p>'Tales of 1947' was created in 2013 by SOAS students, through the collaboration between SOAS South Asian Film Society and the then SOAS Pakistan Society. The actors came from a variety of London universities and the musicians were either students or professionals.</p> <p>The play aims to reach the average South Asian/Diaspora student as well as all others interested in the region in bringing in the necessary discussion of Partition of British India in 1947, regardless of the religious divisions, social divisions and politicisation of the event. The script is an adaptation of Saadat Hasan Manto's two famous short stories, 'Toba Tek Singh' and 'A Tale of 1947' as well as a variety of true happenings from the Partition era.</p> <p>The goal is to present a humanised history, one that makes people understand the commonality of suffering, and that both India and East and West Pakistan entered their Independence with a vast number of their people being severely traumatised and not able to openly recognise their wounds.</p>	
<h3>The Success and Comeback</h3> <p>The play was directed by Mara Schmidt who adapted the tale for stage. It took place at SOAS and was sold out for its two performances in March 2013 and the popular demand led to another two performances in June 2013 which were also sold out, reaching a diverse audience from around the UK. This generated a lot of interest from various organisations and communities, with positive feedback and encouragement to bring it to an even wider audience.</p>	



The SOAS South Asian Diaspora Society is now working on bringing the play back again with improvements and a new cast Directed by Marta Schimidt including the addition of Zain Awan as a Director and assistant script writer. The rehearsals also aim at further discussing the period of Partition and a variety of media which aim to portray it. In that respect it has a deeply academic benefit as well as a creative value for the participants.

Budget Proposal: £450

Costumes- £200 (18 actors)

Musicians- £150

Set design- £100

We would like to stage the play on the 5th December, we would run two shows on the day: matinee and evening. We would be grateful for consideration of our proposal for the costs which are disclosed.

Proposal Three

Title:	Policy & Discord
Proposer:	SOAS Policy Forum
Contact:	Alexander Lee (584665)
Proposal Outline:	
<p>Every academic year, we have set the goal of publishing a student-produced magazine on current affairs called Policy & Discord. Due to run over, the issue for 2014-2015 has become a Year 2015 issue that will be published over the next month. We have sought small amounts of funding from SOAS depts, but to date only the CISD has agreed for £200. We will be spending our entire society budget for this year on this project and would be glad to receive any amount to help us keep the project running for 2016.</p> <p>The magazine will be distributed online and printed, both for free. Content is provided by SOAS students with an occasional guest writer from another university. Our adverts tend to be for postgraduate taught programmes at SOAS.</p> <p>The magazine's mission to provide a platform for students to think and elaborate on their policy ideas for international affairs, and this may take the form of a variety of articles ranging from: position papers, commentary/opinion pieces, feature articles, review articles, risk analysis and competition papers.</p>	

Proposal Four

Title:	Funding for Refugee Solidarity Convoy to Calais: Application for £500
Proposer:	Monique Bell & Hannah Phillips
This Union Notes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The refugee camp in Calais named 'The Jungle' is currently home to 6000 displaced people • They are currently surviving on donations from various grassroots organisations • There is a convoy of people going to 'The Jungle' on 21st November 2015 • £5000 has already been budgeted for supplies to the camp • People from Britain are funding themselves to take aid over to Calais • There is a warehouse nearby to The Jungle with items that are needed on the camp • Currently, there is not enough manpower to distribute all items in the warehouse • £500 will allow students to have a proportion of a coach convoy to Calais for free; approx. 40% of the coach, to distribute the aid 	
This Union Believes:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of SOAS students should be able to go to Calais to give building supplies, food, clothing, hygiene products and other necessities • This should not only be exclusive to those who can afford to fund themselves • A more inclusive approach would enable those that do not have the financial resources to pay for a convoy to also help if they wish • This is a fantastic one-day volunteering opportunity • Students will help distribute items needed in the camp that will not make it to those that need it without this resource of people such as: clothing, sleeping bags, hygiene and sanitary products, children's books, cooking utensils, building equipment • This will give students a real insight into the crisis that is happening on our doorstep • Students will be able to witness the poor living conditions and lobby our government to do something on return • Students will be able to witness that it is not only Syrians that are experiencing a crisis • Students will be able to speak with refugees living on the camp 	

- Students will be able to engage with real issues that they may learn/discuss in their courses putting theory into action
- Making this more accessible will mean that there is more diversity in the population of students (language/race/religion/class) going to Calais which will have a positive impact on the refugees
- This trip will encourage SOAS students to get involved in the on-going crisis in the long-term

This Union Resolves:

- £500 will be spent towards a one day coach convoy to Calais on 21st November which will allow SOAS students to contribute towards the refugee crisis and in particular the humanitarian aid work happening in the Calais camp, 'The Jungle'.