

Participatory Budgeting

Time:	17:00
Date:	27 th April 2016
Location:	JCR
Agenda	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Welcome 2) Intro to Participatory Budgeting 3) Native Spirit Film Festival 4) SOAS Goes to Calais 5) Klezmer Society 	

Participatory Budgeting – 27th April 2016

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. e) <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:	<p>Proposal: Native Sprit Film Festival 12th-18th of October 2016 (10th anniversary)</p> <p>Proposer: SOAS Native Spirit Society</p> <p>Contacts: Marianne Coutin (610439), Clara Figueras, Louise Hantson</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The film festival will run from the 12th (Indigenous day) till the 18th of October 2016. It is organised and run by a team of volunteers who are SOAS students. Even though the festival takes place during the next academic year, the money is needed in the coming month because we are already taking in film submissions, contacting film directors, planning the printing, etc. • It is an independent and non-profit organisation, run by a team of volunteers primarily from SOAS • It will consist primarily of short and feature long films but also performances and discussions. • Directors and speakers will be invited to speak to give context to issues raised. • Aims to create a space for self-representation and decolonizing the film medium • Contribute to the preservation of First Nations cultural heritages • Make visible human rights and land issues faced by different indigenous communities • Awareness of inter-generational trauma from assimilation and displacement policies and their fatal consequences for many indigenous communities manifested in high suicide and alcoholism rates • The film festival is also a response to other film festivals in London which also claim to promote a platform for Indigenous voices but who receive funding from sponsors and organisations which have conflicted interests in indigenous land and human rights issues. Our festival has in previous years lacked funding which has been detrimental to its quality because we choose not to collaborate with certain sponsors to keep the integrity of our aims. • This festival has run in SOAS for the past 9 years through the support of the Native Spirit Foundation. Funding from the foundation will no longer be possible this year, although we will still be using the platform it provides for contacts and promotion.
	<p><u>Connection to SOAS & SU ethos:</u></p>

We believe this project is aligned with the goals of the SU and the values of SOAS because

- -decolonising the curriculum, education and raising awareness on post-colonial issues, the effects of neo-liberal policies and globalisation on indigenous cultures. Yet not exclusively in an academic framework, we are providing more space for creative thought, art, film, music, performances, etc
- -links for students, network building with directors and representatives for different human rights organizations, etc-
- -possible collaborations with other student societies, such as the LGBT society, Decolonising Our Minds, Film Society, Quechua Society etc.
- -more awareness about Latin America which is lacking in the university
- -support and promotion of the J4C campaign in the festival
- -establish a liaison with SOAS Film Studies, Linguistics Endangered Languages and International Development to introduce new material and speakers
- Facilitate Human Rights Advocates with whom we will be collaborating
 - **Peace Brigades International:** an organization that provides protection, support and recognition to local human rights defenders who work in areas of repression and conflict and that request their support
 - **Survival International:** a global movement for tribal people's rights. Provides a platform for their representation and support for diverse campaigns, investigate and collect evidence of human rights violation and presents them to the United Nations and other international forums, fund medical and self-help projects
 - **Free West Papua Campaign:** a peaceful, public campaign who aims to give the people of West Papua a fair and transparent referendum and make visible the ongoing and severe human rights violation by the occupying Indonesian military on the indigenous communities.
- Promote independent indigenous-run film Productions and collectives
 - **Isuma Tv:** a collaborative multimedia platform for indigenous filmmakers and media organizations. Each user can design their own space, or channel to reflect their own identity, mandate and audience
 - **Wapikoni Mobile:** mobile studio that travels to Aboriginal communities providing workshops for First Nations youth that allow them to master digital tools by directing short films and musical works
 - **Arnait Video Productions:** Women's Video Workshop Collective with the mission to value and make visible the voices of Inuit women in their cultural heritage and debates of national interest

Funding Break-Down (£500)

- Printing: flyers, programmes, posters (£100)
- Film hire/License/Streaming (£200)
- UK travel costs for key speakers (£200)

Basic refreshments for speakers, artists

Potential Speakers

- Barbara Dullknife, Oglala Lakota, Pine Ridge Campaign for Children's Crisis Centre (which prevent First Nation children from being adopted into non-native families and preventing further inter-generational trauma)
- Benny Wenda, Independence leader of West Papua who has asylum in the UK, an advocate of human rights abuses in Indonesia controlled West Papua

Proposal Two

Proposal:	Proposal for funds by SOAS Goes To Calais Society Project: Athens Activism Hub - July 2016
<p>We propose to create a space in Athens from which SOAS students and staff can carry out work in support of refugees and migrants. During the month of July SOAS Goes to Calais will have a constant presence in Greece, which has become one of the main hotspots of the current 'refugee crisis'. Working together with Greek student and activist groups we intend to move around the country to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gather information and carry out research - Volunteer in emergency aid situations with grassroots organizations - Forge links with international groups with a view to continuing to work with them next year - Represent SOAS values and the SOAS community in solidarity with refugees and displaced peoples <p>The space will be used for daily political meetings, cultural events, and as an office/central hub for our activities in Greece.</p>	
<p>Practicalities</p> <p>We are currently looking for a one-month rental in central Athens or in Piraeus with space for basic sleeping arrangements as well as a large meeting room. We estimate this will amount to £500-600. In our flat hunt we aim to give priority to spaces managed by Greek activist/migrant solidarity groups. Ideally the space will be open from the 1st to the 31st of July and will include a reception area open at specific times, a trained first aider, and a daily rota for a round-the-clock duty officer.</p> <p>All staff and students from SOAS will be invited to join and to stay for as long as they can/want. We propose that people take their own responsibilities for travel arrangements, however any extra budget would go towards travel costs for people in financial need.</p> <p>Before the trip we are preparing a training workshop incorporating health and safety; we are also preparing a set of materials, which explain volunteering opportunities and political connections in Athens and beyond. While the trip is open to everyone, we would expect participants to either contribute to the group activities or demonstrate that they have solidarity work planned in Greece. During the planning stages we will collect information and work towards helping people make connections with organizations operating in Greece.</p>	

Health and Safety

A safe spaces policy, based on SOAS Student Union guidelines, will apply at all times, and a full risk assessment will be carried out in advance. Everyone involved will be required to treat the space as a workspace and follow certain basic rules regarding issues such as drink, drugs and social behaviour. The duty officer(s) will always be contactable by phone and we will make the necessary arrangements in advance for emergencies that might involve going to hospitals, embassies, etc. All participants will be given a list of emergency numbers, including a responsible person in the UK.

On-going work

This trip is part of our ongoing work and the political connections we will make will be important for SOAS Goes to Calais' work next year. The momentum we hope to achieve will create a platform to engage the student body intimately with issues around migration and borders. We hope to host a conference next year, as well as showing a video that documents this experience. It is crucial that we build links not only with activists and volunteers, but with refugees, migrants, and their larger communities as well.

Contact links:

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Proposal Three

Proposal:	<p>Title: Klezmer Society</p> <p>Proposer: Henry Ashworth 612818</p> <p>Proposed funds: £200</p>
<p>-Funds will go towards paying professional Klezmer musicians to come to SOAS to give workshops teaching Klezmer music.</p> <p>- These workshops will be open to the public and any SOAS students interested.</p> <p>- The JMI (Jewish music institute) has already to help publicise the events.</p> <p>-Klezmer society in previous years has brought in amazing musicians for workshops and the proposed funding would go towards the society aims of spreading awareness of and giving people the chance to play, learn, and listen to Klezmer music at SOAS.</p> <p>- The klezmer band from previous years was a big part of events at SOAS performing at freshers and at the SOAS festival. We hope to create a new Klezmer band to fill the void.</p>	