

Societies, Sports & Opportunities Executive Minutes

Date & time	11 th March 2021 – 18:00
Location	MS Teams
Attendance	<p>Lucy Brown (VP Societies & Sport) – Chair Kate Roberts (President) James Shannon Kayleigh Fryer Olivia Stocks Josh Miskin Charlotte L. Wassell Evie Skyrme Chloe Williams</p> <p>Phill Dowler (Democracy Coordinator) – Secretary Dan Curran (Deputy Head of Membership Support & Engagement)</p>
Apologies	

Item	Action	Responsible	Due
7.	LB secure more information from Climate Action	LB	ASAP

Item	Notes	Action
1. Welcome	LB welcomes members and notes apologies.	
2. Minutes of the last meeting	LB takes paper as read and minutes are agreed.	
3. Officer Update	<p>LB takes paper as read and focuses on questions built into the paper.</p> <p>When discussing extra support for fractured groups, members suggest clearer role descriptions for committee members, boundaries of roles and clear expectations. Some friction is also coming from different understanding of what is and isn't allowed under COVID-19 restrictions.</p> <p>Communications telling people about BRIT 2021 were on the most part clear, but most groups struggled to get enough members to take part putting them off. Not needing to achieve the goal in the timeframe if you are a smaller group, wasn't communicated.</p> <p>The Moves+ app's usability needs significant improvement and there should be more relevant rewards.</p>	
4. Awards	LB updates members on the progress of awards noting that training has moved to the coming Monday due to a clash with elections.	

	<p>When discussing what sort of stats members would like to see the following was identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amount of funds raised for charities. • Number of charities. • Retention of members across terms. • Number of new unique members • Total members. Socs, Sports and joint. • Total Instagram followers. <p>LB invites members to fill in a form to be part of the evaluation panel.</p>	
<p>5. Student Group Elections</p>	<p>LB updates the progress of Student Group Elections and notes specific points for discussion.</p> <p>When discussing incentives, there is a general consensus in favour of incentives. Members suggest personal incentives although DC clarifies that any incentives would be community based.</p> <p>Members suggest making Instagram templates which are included as part of an elections pack.</p> <p>On the 'Continue Our Story' campaign, members agree that only engaged students will be interested in taking part, and won't add much to those who aren't. Suggestion to share existing posts that Student Groups already create.</p> <p>On handover, more guidance should be available for setting up meetings, progressing actions and initial goals to work towards.</p>	
<p>6. Term 3 Activities</p>	<p>LB notes that restrictions are planned to lift somewhat for term three and plans are being formed as to what activity should be delivered.</p> <p>It is agreed that most members and members of student groups will be returning to campus or the local area, if they hadn't already done so.</p> <p>Reasons for coming back to campus include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is a requirement due to the course. • Lack of appropriate workspace, especially for exams and assessments. • Improved life balance. • Access to a social life. <p>It is noted however that some final year students do not intend on returning for just one term if it is not a requirement to do so by their course.</p> <p>While outdoor sport activity will be allowed to take place, guidance is still required from the relevant</p>	

	<p>governing bodies of sports before activity can be planned.</p> <p>On whether to plan activity at all, some members feel that trying to organise events within ever changing restrictions, while keeping the environment safe is too great a challenge. It is also noted that some groups currently have hesitation as to whether students will attend any group activities.</p> <p>Others feel that student groups are too important to some student's university experiences that events will go ahead as a priority. LB notes that members of both Education and Wellbeing, Community and Diversity executives all noted student groups as a reason to return.</p> <p>On risk assessments, LB notes that those that were previously submitted will not be able to be used as they would be relevant only to the restrictions at the time, and not the restrictions that were set to come into place.</p> <p>Members raise concern with the length of time event proposals and risk assessments take to be signed off. DC agrees to streamline and refine the process</p>	
<p>7. AOB</p>	<p>LB reminds members that awards training will take place on the coming Monday.</p> <p>LB notes that Climate Action would like to change their name to XR. There are some areas where it will also change core aims, but not completely. The proposal has been brought to SSO due to the impact that it has.</p> <p>Members discuss the power of SSO and why their input is needed and it is clarified that as the decision is inherently a political decision due to the nature of XR and the reputation that XR holds, the decision is appropriate to be made by the governing body of students that oversees student groups.</p> <p>It is noted that there are currently three members of Climate Action, of which two support the change. Although the voting template and relevant processes were not used to agree the change.</p> <p>An ongoing discussion over whether to agree the changes took place with mixed views over the process taken, the number of students involved, the reputation and the role of SSO.</p>	<p>LB secure more information from Climate Action</p>

	<p>A vote was held to determine next steps.</p> <p><u>Does SSO accept the changes to Climate Action?</u></p> <p>66.7 - More info needed 22.2 - yes 11.1 – No 0 - abstain</p> <p>LB will go back to Climate Action for more information before SSO make further decisions.</p> <p>KR updated members on the progress of RHSU's academic societies review. There was some confusion as some members hadn't received any invite to a focus group whereas others had, but were unable to attend. The group are very keen to be involved in this work however.</p> <p>KR updates members on sustainability work and identifies that a task and finish group is going to be set up which includes students. KR invited interested members to reach out to be involved.</p> <p>PD provides an update on elections, inviting members to attend Candidate Question Time and keep any eye out for communications regarding voting.</p>	
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