

Governance Zone
Monday, 14 November 2016, 12pm
Meeting Room 3

Position	Name	14.10.16	27.10.16	14.11.16	23.11.16		
Environment & Ethics Officer	Aona Stuart						
Campaigns & Democracy Officer	Edward Towers						
Chair Union Council	Joshua McMullan	N/A	N/A				
Chair Education Zone	Michael Fox	N/A	N/A				
Chair Welfare & Community Zone	Rayne Goddard	N/A	N/A				
Chair Activities Zone	Chris Knott						
Chair Sport Zone	Kimberley Houghton	N/A	N/A				
Councillor for Scrutiny	Oliver Taylor						
Councillor for Scrutiny	Christian Calgie	N/A					
President	Matt Evans						

Absent	
Apologies	
Present	

In attendance: Tania Struetzel, Democracy & Governance Co-ordinator (Minutes)

1. Apologies

Michael Fox, Chair Education Zone.

2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

Approved as a correct record.

3. Matters arising

President sent information regarding the University's Fair Trade policy to AS.

4. Report by President

Verbal update on matters arising since the last meeting:

- Handover to prepare for interim arrangements for next semester when there will be no Acting President.
- Preparing for referendum on governance changes in December.

5. Report by Campaigns & Democracy Officer

No updates to report.

Queried whether there was any update on the mitigating circumstances policy.

Action: President to check with VPE what the progress on the matter is.

6. Report by Environment & Ethics Officer

Not in attendance.

7. Report by Councillors for Scrutiny

CC nothing to report.

CC queried whether there would be a by-election for President next semester. President explained that this had been thoroughly discussed with the Officer Team and would also be brought to Union Council tonight. Given that the earliest date of the by-election would be in February 2017 and annual elections will take place in March 2017 this option was not seen as viable. The duties of the President would be redistributed amongst the Officer Team supported by relevant members of staff.

CC queried what would happen to the zone. President explained that VPSc would take over attending the meetings.

OT nothing to report.

DGC has scheduled training for all CfS for next Monday, 21 November.

8. Report by Chair Union Council

Asked zone members for feedback on chairing Union Council meetings.

9. Report by Chair Welfare & Community Zone

There has been no recent zone meeting, however, there was a specific meeting to discuss the governance changes proposed in the upcoming referendum.

LGBT+ is running a number of events. BME committee ran a successful Black History Month, no further plans for big events at the moment. LINKS have just completed their first training for members. Disabled Students Committee is bringing a motion to Union Council to change their committee positions. Women's Officer is currently taking a break from her position.

10. Report by Chair Education Zone

Not in attendance.

11. Report by Chair Sport Zone

Not in attendance.

12. Report by Chair Activities Zone

Next SEC meeting this Friday, 18 November, 4pm.

It was noted that there were some miscommunications within the SEC with regard to which constitutions should be going to Union Council.

Action: Chair SEC to email DGC accurate list of society constitutions before Union Council meeting.

Media doing well and getting on with business as usual.

RAG raised over 5k during RAG Week.

13. Motions

None reported.

14. AOB

Chair Activities Zone raised concerns about the proposed new governance structure and a feared lack of support for liberation groups. It was queried whether Liberation committees would be selected by interview in the proposed new structure. DGC clarified that it would be up to the respective group to decide how they are run and (s)elected. Chair Activities Zone noted that he thought part-time Student Officers are currently highly accountable and that there has been no issue with Union Council abusing their power. President replied that the proposal is about empowering students to get involved much easier and make change, and that it is also about ensuring the Students' Union remains relevant to its members in the long-term.

Chair W&C Zone commented that they had feedback from other Students' Unions, e.g. Liverpool Guild that societies and sports clubs encountered problems in the new structure.

Action: Chair WCZ to send details to DGC.

Chair Union Council commented that he appreciates concerns raised by Liberation groups but noted that they will still be represented and supported in the new system and that it is about cutting red tape for these groups as well. He asked if everyone agreed that change was needed. As this was agreed, Chair UC pointed out that a focus on solutions is required now.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday, 23 November 2016, 3pm, Venue TBC