

Governance Zone

Wednesday, 23 November 2016, 3pm
The Cave, Membership Services Area

Position	Name	14.10.16	27.10.16	14.11.16	23.11.16	12.12.16
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.

Rayne Goddard, Chair Welfare & Community Zone.

2. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

Approved as a correct record.

3. Matters arising

- Clarify progress on mitigating circumstances policy: President noted that this policy was still under review by the University with input from President and VPE.
- Send society constitutions to be approved to DGC: Completed.
- Send feedback from other Students' Unions to DGC: Outstanding, waiting on responses from other SUs.

4. Report by President

Verbal update on matters arising since the last meeting:

- NUS National Ballot: Motion will be brought to Union Council to vote on equality impact assessment before NSS boycott in the spring.
- Governance Review progressing, two campaign teams formed.

- HUU building: Ongoing conversations with the University to understand what space is needed.
- HUU strategy: Currently working on KPI and measures. Will be going to December Board of Trustee and to Union Council in the next semester.

5. Report by Campaigns & Democracy Officer

CDO noted that many students still do not realise what has changed this year with regard to the mitigating circumstances policy and may be submitting requests on the basis of the old procedure. It was further noted that some academic support tutors are also not aware of the change in policy thus not being able to advise students correctly.

Students have to apply for an extension on their assignment before the submission deadline.

CDO criticised lack of transparency with regard to the University's communication on this matter as well as the lack of student involvement throughout the process to provide feedback on changes. CDO stressed the importance of this policy and the effect it has on students' wellbeing.

President responded that he takes these concerns on board and will raise them at the appropriate level. He also noted that there is a difference in process between mitigating circumstances and extensions.

CDO replied that the changes made over the summer are already harmful and had not been consulted on.

Chair Activities Zone noted that many students may have overlooked the communication from the University over the summer and suggested it should be built into other communications, e.g. during inductions.

CDO suggested that there should be broader student consultation on major policy changes and that he is planning to run a campaign.

Action: Arrange meetings with Research & Campaigns Co-ordinator (RCC) and VPE.

6. Report by Environment & Ethics Officer

Has arranged meeting with RCC.

Requires clarification on Fair Trade Policy and Green Impact Initiative.

Action: DGC to email relevant links and contact details.

7. Report by Councillors for Scrutiny

Attended training for Councillors for Scrutiny with DGC. CfS now have access to PTO and FTO Officers manifestos and budgets.

OT met with DGC to discuss Governance Review and student consultation.

8. Report by Chair Union Council

Asked zone members for feedback on chairing Union Council meetings. Noted that he was content with how the most recent meeting went but raised concerns about turnout.

9. Report by Chair Welfare & Community Zone

Not in attendance.

10. Report by Chair Education Zone

Not in attendance.

11. Report by Chair Sport Zone

There have been issues with the Sports Passes: Club members are required to purchase a sports pass for £25 to use facilities, however the pass is not being checked when using outdoor facilities. When students forget card for indoor use, they are being charged extra money despite their names being registered on the system. A meeting has been arranged between the Sports Centre and Club Presidents to discuss this issue.

The astro turf is open again, however there are issues with the football pitches.

The AU Exec is also working on disciplinary procedures for the AU following recent incidents during initiations.

AU Ball sold out and was a great success.

AU Exec is doing Give-it-a-Go events and attending matchday fixtures.

Welfare training for AU Committees will take place on Tuesday, 29 November with presentations by the University and HUU groups such as LGBT+, LINKS etc.

BUCS regional conference took place in York last week.

12. Report by Chair Activities Zone

Societies: Room bookings are an ongoing issue, constitutions have been submitted for the next Union Council.

Media: No update. Chair Media is taking a leave from his position for personal reasons.

RAG: Raised £200 at their most recent event for Canine partners, Kili sign-ups on a record high in the UK. RAG Week raised a total of 5k.

Councillors for Scrutiny: In the process of arranging meetings with subcommittees.

13. Motions

None reported.

14. AOB

None reported.

Date of next meeting: Monday, 12 December 2016, 3pm, Sanc.