

Governance Zone Meeting – 15/12/15

President	CO	Present
Chair Campaigns and Democracy	N/A	N/A
Chair Activities	EP	Apologies
Chair Sport	GL	Apologies
Chair Environment and Ethics	PB	Present
Chair Union Council	MT	Present
Chair Education	CC	Present
Chair Welfare and Community	DJ	Apologies

President Report

- The position of Campaigns and Democracy Officer has opened up. Position will be reviewed and it is not yet decided whether it will be filled or left till the elections next semester

Action: President to review standing orders

- Action for Access Campaign: Posters have been designed and will be given out by the President next semester. The campaign will focus on accessibility with regards to the campus.

Action: Comprises of 4 parts; 1) Research, 2) Student Feedback, 3) Compiling Information, 4) Lobbying the University by presenting findings.

- President has completed the leaflets detailing what the Union does and how to go about creating a motion etc.

Action: President will be handing out leaflets at events.

- Sabb Sofa focused on Feedback.

- A number of complaints have arisen regarding the University Parking, from Academic Council, Educational Zone meeting, Union Council and from student feedback to the President.

Action: President to send emails to enquire as to how to resolve issue.

Chair of Union Council Report

- Union Council took place 14/12/15 and the Chair is pleased to be a part of the Sabb Sofa vlogs to update students about what Union Council is and what was decided at each meeting.

Action: to create two videos, one separate video outlining what Union Council is, its structure and how to submit a motion. Following that, Chair of Union Council will have own segment in Sabb Sofa.

- Chair and President felt that Union Council may be an intimidating for many Councillors and feel that the break-away discussion groups that was implemented at Union Council was a successful in allowing conversation and increased involvement from many Councillors.

Action: to trial a restructure of how a motion is discussed at Union Council

- 1) Introduction of Motion and summary of key facts
 - 2) Councillors to be divided into break-away groups to discuss motion
 - 3) Each group to provide a summary of what was discussed in each group
 - 4) Arguments for and against
 - 5) Vote
- Chair identified an issue with councillors and those bringing a motion not disclosing and circulating papers to councillors before Union Council. Many Councillors felt that if the case study regarding Gender Neutral Toilets was disclosed before Union Council it would have been beneficial for each Councillor when consulting to students.

Action: Chair to look at standing orders

- Chair believed that Union Councillors may have been targeted at Union Council when raising differing opinions, and felt that this goes against union values.

Action: Chair to look into the powers of the Chair regarding cautioning Councillors at Union Council.

Chair of Education Zone Report

VPE Education

VPE received Judgements and Key Findings letter from the UK Quality Assurance Agency Higher Education Review. It suggests that there are two main areas of improvement; firstly on feedback on assessments which links to VPE Feedback Campaign which was launched on 7 December online, and a tangible campaign will run next semester; secondly that students must be made aware of the complaints and appeals decisions.

Action: VPE will write a response to the Green Paper on behalf of HUU in the next few weeks and will meet the NUS Policy Advisor.

- Student Led Teaching Awards have launched and have received 150 nominations so far. VPE and Education Coordinator will select days to campaign at the Laws, the library and Scarborough Campus, as well as continue to promote the campaign in semester two.
- VPE attended a meeting as a full member of the Library and Learning Innovation Senior Management Group for the very first time. This was productive and it was decided that 24 hour loan items in the High Demand Collection will be made available for 48 hours for students with a registered disability or leaning difference. Other issues were discussed such as the lateness of lecture times and how this affects students, particularly those with families and the possible creation of a university social media policy.
- The VPE is currently the co-owner of a project within Learning Enhancement and Academic Practice (LEAP) looking at the long term implementation of the Academic Support Tuition policy. There is an agreement to employ 5 student interns to work on the implementation project

Faculty Coordinators

All Coordinators are busy listening and responding to the views of Course Reps.

HUBS

- In HUBS, there has been networking events run alongside the SSC by the faculty co-ordinator to develop the skills of course reps and imbue them with knowledge of the system and the confidence to represent their peers. In addition, the faculty co-ordinator has enquired into the portfolio of work in marketing compared to other areas of HUBS as there seems to be a pressured deadline for marketing students
- Some students raised the issue of the new feedback system on e-bridge, and the confusion caused by lack of communication from faculties as to how the e-submission form worked.

Actions:

- The Education Coordinator will gain access to the Course Rep page on e-bridge to ensure swifter communication and to acquire an understanding of the system.
- Extra Training will be provided for Course Reps after the exam period in January for new Course-Reps.

Arts and Social Sciences Co-ordinator

There have been concerns surrounding the issue of degrees given as part of C2016+. There has been the suggestion of a possible campaign to work on this. Electronic submission was also raised, as it was deemed confusing and not communicated sufficiently to students.

Actions:

- The Education Co-ordinator will send department representative details to FASS co-ordinator.

Faculty of Education Co-ordinator

An e-mail has been sent to the whole faculty garnering support for an Education Society. The change from tangible copies of the referencing guidelines to electronic form has been a cause for concern due to difficulty of use, particularly when writing essays. The FC will discuss matters regarding this with the Faculty. Finally, a question was raised on the flexibility of parking in campus car parks and the problem of signage.

Action:

- VPE will pass the issue of parking to the President, and will arrange for him to meet the Faculty of Education Co-ordinator.

Postgraduate Research

- There has been a workshop centring on research projects, providing a chance for research students to interact with the University and meet fellow postgraduates, as well as develop key skills. Registration for Tier 4 Visa students will change to every month as opposed to every week, relaxing the pressures on these students.

Councillor for Scrutiny

VPE and Councillors for Scrutiny to meet Thursday 17 December to discuss funds and Objectives plan. VPE informed Zone that he used funds carefully this year and has not overspent.

Chair Welfare and Community – no report

Chair Activities – no report

Chair Sport – no report

Chair Environment and Ethics

- Chair has received NUS Waste Audit Report
- Had a meeting with Head of Accommodation regarding waste. There will be a push from sustainability committee next semester and a position for a student officer has been created.

Next meeting

Scheduled for the week starting 1 February 2016.