

# Sustainability Board

3 November 2021, 2-3pm, MS Teams

## Attendance

Present:

- Minahil Khan, Sustainability Officer (Barts and the London) – [MK] **Chair**
- Tala Sammur, Sustainability Officer (Mile End) – TS
- Alina Hassan, Mile End Sustainability Representative – AH
- Magdalini Parouti, Charterhouse/West Smithfield/Lincoln's Inn Sustainability Representative – MP

Apologies:

- Rosa Hughes, Barts and the London Sustainability Representative – RH

In attendance:

- Tom Stockton, Sustainability Coordinator (Students' Union) – [THS]

## Agenda item 1 – Welcome and introductions

- MK opened the meeting and all present introduced themselves and their role.

## Agenda item 2 – Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

- There were no comments on the previous meeting minutes.
- There were no matters arising.

## Agenda item 3 – Updates from Sustainability Officers

- MK presented updates on her plans for the year ahead as Barts and the London Sustainability Officer concerning;
  - Book exchange- MK had contacted the libraries who did not have space for second-hand books. Instead, she was working to establish a book swap area in BLSA within the Griff Inn.  
**Action: THS to put MK in contact with Griff Inn managers to establish swap shelf.**
  - Lab coat reuse- MK has been in contact with a student and another academic about establishing a lab coat reuse scheme but is awaiting a reply. Action: THS to put MK in contact with staff responsible for lab coats at Mile End.

- Green spaces- MK discussed ideas for adding more green space at Whitechapel. A roof garden was deemed not feasible after discussion with staff. THS suggested MK draw up plans for green spaces at ground level including input from BL students which can be pitched to the University.
- Food waste- MK hopes to meet with Griff Inn staff to better understand the volume of food waste created and feasibility for participation in food waste schemes such as composting or Too Good To Go which was used at the Mile End Campus prior to Covid and will be restarted soon.
- TS presented updates on her plans for the year ahead as Mile End Sustainability Officer concerning;
  - Campaigning for the University to join the Students' Union in declaring a Climate Emergency, hoping to pull together a document detailing what the declaration would mean in practice and incorporate aspects of the Green Charter once she has met with the students involved in preparing this last year. **MP asked to be invited to this meeting.**
  - TS will go ahead with preparing for a Campus 'Green Week' to take place 14-18<sup>th</sup> February and asked for ideas for events to include from board members.
  - TS hopes to develop a centralised feedback collection form on sustainability matters before Christmas.
  - From January to March TS hopes to plan several collaboration events with societies. AH mentioned plans for Banking and Finance society to host an Environmental Social Governance (ESG) themed event.
  - For Veganuary, TS and other board members hoped to identify companies to collaborate with to bring more vegan food to campus.

#### Agenda item 4 – Whitechapel Projects

- This was covered under Agenda Item 3.

#### Agenda item 5 – Queen Mary Sustainability Week Review

- THS highlighted that 18-22 October was Sustainability Week across Queen Mary during which a range of events taking place which members could join. The University hopes to begin planning for the 2022 Sustainability Week soon and so invited input from the board.

#### Agenda item 6 – UN Climate Conference/COP26

- The board agreed to contribute to a website article for students discussing their views on COP26 and how to get involved with sustainability. **Action: THS to circulate draft article for input from board members.**
- MP hopes to organise an event within her LLM course linking law firms and sustainable development organisations.
- AH suggested inviting any Queen Mary students or staff who had attended COP to be guest speakers or interviewees at a future event. THS will aim to find out who from Queen Mary attended.

## **Agenda item 7 – Green Impact 2021/22**

- THS highlighted that the Students' Union would once again be participating in the Student Organising for Sustainability (SOS-UK) Green Impact Scheme which sees the Union's sustainability performance assessed across a range of criteria. Queen Mary has received the 'Excellent' award each of the last 3 years.

## **AOB**

- The next meeting will take place on Thursday 20 January 2022 6-7pm. It was agreed that this meeting date would be reviewed once exam timetables are published. MP listed a preference for Wednesday or Friday meetings.