

Executive Committee Notes

Friday 13th November 2020

Present

Shamima Akter, President (SA)
 Mat Robathan, Vice President Barts and The London (MR)
 Tiana Dinard-Samuel, Vice President Communities (TDS)
 Jack Juckes, Vice President Welfare (JJ)
 Aphrodite Liddington, Vice President Science & Engineering (AL)
 Cameron Storey, Vice President Humanities & Social Sciences (CS)

In attendance:

Alvin Ramsamy, Deputy Chief Executive Officer (AR)
 Mike Wojcik, Chief Executive Officer (MW)
 Annie Mitchel, Advocacy Manager (AM)

Notes of the meeting

	Notes	Actions
1	Mat Update Situational Judgement Test – An external body (UKFPO) who run an exam for medical students have had various issues to do with booking and Extenuating Circumstances. BLISA, other medical schools/SUs and SMD have raised, booking slots have been cancelled and re-scheduled but there are also issues with this. Continuing to work to get sorted. Blizzard Mews Project – continuing to work on this.	
2	Jack Update Joint Welfare Group – was production and useful discussion. Advisor Training – attended a meeting to discuss this after raising concerns from students. Annual Fund – met to discuss this Student Life – discussed vaccinations, how that would work. Students would likely need to go to GP or the normal process, rather than available on a Uni site. Study Well – wrote an intro from the campaign, and more marketing material confirmed. Soft launch coming soon. Union Development Board – met with Shamima, Aphrodite and staff to discuss issues with the terms of reference with this new subcommittee. Connecting Students – new scheme run by students at Bristol Uni. VP People, Culture and Inclusion – have the regular catch up with them later. Be Kind Campaign – ready to go and will be launched either today or Monday, depending on the website.	
3	Tiana Update Athena Swan – had the gender equality meeting, first time attending. Still working towards the equality charter, also discussed gender disparity on the group. Will ask about the structure e.g. are their faculty specific sub groups. Sustainability Board – attended this, they would like a liberation rep on there. Will attend if no student volunteers. Went through a report that looked at how the Union could improve their sustainability. Themes may go to the January student council. International Game Night – ran an event using the game Among Us. Doctoral Management Group –meeting later about this with Cameron to discuss the campaign and Grad Fest. Islamophobia Training Session – facilitated this, feedback has been good and learnt a lot. Anti-Racism – met with a BL rep to discuss the work and upcoming Diverselsh. Trans Awareness Week – starts today, have spoken with reps about activity and Union comms have created excellent designs. Hearings – sat on a student disciplinary. Project Talk – went with Jack to discuss this. Communities Board – took place this week. Went well, some reps missing.	

4	<p>Cameron Update</p> <p>School Meetings – One school hesitant to listen to him, and were slightly obstructive. Is being raised as meeting was intended to collaborate and help. Has gone really well with other schools. Teams Channels have been created for all students/course reps in some schools – will make it easier to close the feedback loop. Some schools don't have the resources to do it, so will speak to management.</p> <p>HSS Faculty Awards Panel – great applications, winners have been chosen, Cameron wanted those chosen to reflect those who have impacted students the most.</p> <p>HSS Board – chaired, thanks to Aphrodite for taking minutes, not many reps turned up so concerned about engagement, but meeting went well with the reps that are engaged. Useful to have this before Uni meetings as could take feedback the feedback directly.</p> <p>Decolonizing – met to discuss this. People gave good info about what is going on in individual schools.</p> <p>E-learning Steering Group – attended with Aphrodite and went through a report Aphrodite and Mat had written.</p> <p>Library – survey has been developed by the History rep about what they would want to see in a guide and how it could be better.</p> <p>IFW Students – meeting with these students later to discuss his role and the Union.</p> <p>Careers – meeting them with Aphrodite to go over their projects and room for collaboration. .</p>	
5	<p>Aphrodite Update</p> <p>E Learning Group – attended with Cameron.</p> <p>Student Etiquette – met with University staff about behaviors during online teaching. Developing a campaign.</p> <p>HSS Board – took minutes at this meeting to help.</p> <p>Advisor Training – attended a separate meeting with Cameron to discuss this. Gave feedback.</p> <p>Online Meeting – discussed faculty specific issues, such as some online lab sessions not being useful and software not being high quality.</p> <p>S&E Board – took place, went well. Attendance was low but they were all from different backgrounds so a nice mix.</p> <p>Meta Compliance - met twice to discuss this, working on putting cyber security modules as part of the HEAR transcript.</p> <p>Union Development Board – also attended this</p> <p>SSLC – feedback on how these have been going</p> <p>121s – have these with Shamima and MW.</p>	
6	<p>Shamima Update</p> <p>Disciplinary Panel – had one this week.</p> <p>Principal – had first meeting with the Principal. Was positive, spoke about next semester, Covid and others. Have asked to set up meetings with all Exec.</p> <p>Annual Fund – met to discuss this, funds available to use for projects. Sharing info internally and will discuss.</p> <p>University Council – submitted report on Unions activity.</p> <p>Finance – had a session on Union finances and will write something up for students.</p> <p>Library – discussed lead time for bookings has been changed to zero. Will also look at opening hours over Xmas.</p>	
7	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>BL Confessions - inappropriate posts have been flagged on an independent social media page. Group discussed how to approach. AR explained previous approaches and that SU (and even QMUL) have no control over independent pages but can-do things like report to the platform, raise with QMUL and remind students of behavior standards and impact of unprofessionalism on their course if they are found to post unacceptable content. Can also highlight extra support resources in our general if themes are coming out of confessions. AR will also reach out to QMUL comms to update the guidance/process on this.</p> <p>Union Development Board – discussed the Terms Of Reference, and that this board duties are fulfilled by other existing new boards, so would be a duplication so decided to suspend until a clear purpose is defined for it. Exec agreed, also noted there are too many boards in the new structure as it is. Also noted the mechanism for students to feed in ideas needs to be promoted more and potentially clearer. (New website should already make it clearer)</p>	

To find out more about any of the above contact a member of the Executive Committee - www.qmsu.org/reps/exec