

Executive Committee Notes

Friday 23rd October 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:

Mike Wojcik, Chief Executive Officer (MW)
 Marianne Melsen, Representation and Democracy Manager (MM)

Apologies

Notes of the meeting

	Notes	Actions
1	Mat Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BLSA Board – first meeting took place yesterday. Meeting was good and discussions included the possibility of having a BLSA version of Re-use Fair (including lab coats). Rites of passage – started the planning for RoP for 2021. Hoping that the event can go ahead as an in-person event in July. Connecting Practice – session took place earlier this week. Working with SMD to make students aware of the programme. Students' Union inclusivity – working with VP London to better understand the experiences faith groups have with the Students' Union. Survey has also highlighted problems with racism, in particular online. Attended orientation meeting with the other Executive Officers and the university's Senior Executive Team. SMD survey – continuing the work on a survey for SMD students about their experience this term. SSLCs – attended a couple of SSLC meetings. Scrutiny Panel – attended the first meeting of the Scrutiny Panel with the other Executive Officers. 	
2	Cameron Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employability project – finalising the details for the first employability event, which is taking place on Thursday 29th October. Also met with the university's Careers Team to see how they can collaborate on future events. Part-time officer – did a virtual drop-in session for the part-time officers. Also some individual meetings with reps to identify areas of collaboration. Postgraduate student experience – had (virtual) office hours for postgrads with TDS. Decolonising the curriculum – CS has been invited to speak about the Students' Union's stance on decolonising the curriculum at the next Faculty Forum for HSS. Course Rep training – helped deliver Course Rep training. Online exams – recruited four students to feed into the discussions with the university. 	
3	Tiana Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Islamophobia Awareness Month – planning for AIM continues. Met with Ab Soc to organise Islamophobia Awareness training. Black History Month – lots of events and activities. TDS hosted a BHM quiz on Instagram. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anti-racism training – met with relevant staff members and JJ to prepare anti-racism training for student groups. BAME reps are going to help deliver some of the training. • Anti-semitism definition – TDS has submitted a motion to Student Council with JSoc. • International student experience – collaborating with the International reps on a new event for international students. Also met with the university's International Team – TDS raised concerns about international fees and timing of lectures. • Attended a new university meeting about understanding and celebrating race and ethnicity. 	
4	Jack Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covid comms – in discussions with the university about creating a video that explains the covid safety rules. • Buddy scheme – working on an idea to facilitate that students can meet other students that have similar interests. • International pronouns day – published article on the website with TDS. • Study Well – met with BL Pre-Clinical Rep to look at joining up initiatives. Also held stakeholder meeting with key people in the university. Planning soft launch in mid-November. • Immigration changes – attended briefing about the new visa system for students, and the immigration changes for EU citizens. • Sexual and gender-based violence – met with staff members to write an update on the Sexual Violence Action Plan. Update to be published on the website soon. • Rep drop-in – did a drop-in session for the part-time officers to learn about their projects and the issues they've experienced this term. 	SA to let JJ know about student buddy app.
5	Aphrodite Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability – involved in a project to create a new app that enables students to get involved in sustainability initiatives. Also met with the Students' Union at Bangor University to learn about their Waste Week. Sustainability work continues in collaboration with the other Executive Officers. • Employability project – met with an external organization to discuss placement opportunities. • PhD students – met with the PGR (S&E) Rep ahead of the next Doctoral College Management Group meeting to look at actions to improve the experience for PGRs. • Educational development – working with Science and Engineering Faculty to improve the training for teaching staff in Science and Engineering. • Course Rep training – helped deliver the Course Rep training. • Academic Welfare – finalising the third case study for this project. 	
6	Shamima Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fees – continuing to lobby the university to address student concerns about fees. • NSS Taskforce – a new NSS Taskforce has been set up to ensure the issues identified in the NSS are addressed. Taskforce will be meeting regularly to monitor progress. • Memorandum of Agreement panel – attended panel to discuss approach to collaboration between the university and the Students' Union. • Islamophobia Awareness Month – working with TDS to organise a panel for IAM about islamophobia in Students' Union's. • Reporting and strategic planning – working on some changes to the reports to the university to highlight the Students' Union's progress on key areas of work. Also working with the Students' Union Senior Management Team to review strategic planning. 	SA and CS to organise meeting to discuss NSS and education project.

To find out more about any of the above contact a member of the Executive Committee -

www.qmsu.org/ reps/ exec