

Executive Committee Notes

Friday 24th November 2023

Present

Aisha Qadi, Vice President Science & Engineering (AQ)
 Matthew Beach, Vice President Communities (MB)
 Amaan Abbas, Vice President Barts and The London (AA)
 Serena Jabbar, President (SJ)
 Jovani Palnoni, Vice President Humanities & Social Sciences (JP)
 Tahmid Khan, Vice President Welfare (TK)

In attendance:

Alvin Ramsamy, Deputy Chief Executive Officer (AR)
 Charlotte Kendrick, Deputy Managing Director (CK)

Apologies

Notes of the meeting

	Notes	Actions
1	<p>Amaan</p> <p>Events - Final Whistle, working with Events team and Students' Union staff to organise this. Planning the annual flag ship events with the team</p> <p>Garrod Opening – working with Faculty and Students' Union staff on the opening of this space. BL Drama & Music are doing performances, sports teams, academic societies will also be there. Aimed at students and alumni.</p> <p>EDI – looking at the governance of this within ISHE, and discussing topics such as safe spaces for people to discuss their experiences.</p>	
2	<p>Aisha</p> <p>Course rep conference - Employability within the curriculum session at the course rep conference was well attended. This included collecting qualitative data based on a few questions that was asked. These questions link well with the Employable Education Survey launching around March. The data was then reported back to the Employability Curriculum Group meeting, with great insights and surprising insights to the course reps' responses. The data provided a good opportunity to raise developments of students' understanding of employability.</p> <p>BL women's only fitness sessions - Discussed with sports team opportunities to introduce women in sports project at BL just as with Mile End. Looked around the BL fitness suite to propose ideas for women's only gym and sport sessions/classes. Points to note back on include security camera logistics as well as adding blinds to ensure it is as private as possible.</p> <p>Women's only space discussion with student groups - Discussed with some student groups on their thoughts about a women's only space (social space/common room) on campus and their reasoning for wanting the space. Student groups have been encouraged to collect data from their members on number of interests, which can provide helpful data collection for the proposal. Proposal will be sent to either the 2nd or 3rd sticky campus meeting</p>	
3	<p>Matt</p> <p>Liberation – discussed with Students' Union staff about the decolonisation campaign planning for terms 2 and 3, and starting to reach out to higher education organisations who do decolonising work to ask whether they would be part of a drop-in event. Also talked about asking the library for a space</p>	

	<p>to hold a temporary exhibition on Queen Mary history and current decolonising developments. Chaired third Asian Heritage Month student-led organising committee and confirmed plans for food trucks, a mini film festival and screening, mukbang video, tabletop games and table talkers, Asian cultural food event, book club/author event, even discussing partition, and other also promotional materials for the month. Discussed with Executive Officers and Students Union staff about how Liberation is/isn't currently functioning and potential other models.</p> <p>Postgraduate Taught – Will be attending the Programme Directors forums to speak about how postgraduate taught feedback is collected and actioned. Discussed with QMUL the potential for informal temporary working group as well as whether there could be scope to the expand National Student Survey Taskforce. Raised importance of postgraduate taught student-staff liaison committees with Vice Principal for Education. Met with Amaan about postgraduate taught and research integration with the Barts and the London Students' Association.</p> <p>Postgraduate Research – Met with Director of Graduate Studies for Dentistry and discussed revisions to the representation structure. Contacted Director of Graduate Studies for William Harvey Research Institute to present PGR feedback from the Institute and ask to formalise their internal representation structures with those in the Students' Union. Discussed with Students' Union staff what PGR projects we would like to prioritise in the upcoming Block Grant bids, as well as the questions ahead of next Postgraduate Consultation Group.</p> <p>International Students – Met with Senior International Advisor for a catchup on upcoming plans for a World Cafe, Refugee Week, and International PGR Mixer and QM Services Meet and Greet Part 2.</p> <p>General – Attended Library Celebrations and Conversations event and learned about plans for formalising research culture as well as the history of Queen Mary's open access policy. Attended Student Council and submitted report on work conducted since last meeting, however, it was not quorate.</p> <p>Sustainability – Attended Allotment Action Group meeting and discussed budget for revitalisation of the space. Worked with Student Experience Directorate to source materials for Climate Action Week event. Met with fellow event organisers to discuss format.</p>	
4	<p>Tahmid</p> <p>Cost of Living – walked through campus with Estates to identify heating and eating spaces</p> <p>QMSU Services Board – attended this, discussed the new Griff space and alcohol free consultation, and improving use of unutilized spaces and further considerations of making our spaces inclusive.</p> <p>Financial Assistant Fund - Discussed improving the accessibility settings of the website. Submission of evidence process is being simplified after Tahmid feedback.</p>	
5	<p>Jovani</p> <p>New Doors at Geography - After being told by Part Time Officers that they've had problems with accessibility for some years now, we have taken this to the school and estates. We've been told that the doors will be replaced.</p> <p>Consistency within HSS - Have liaised with SPIR and SEF about introducing turnitin originality pre-submissions which is practiced within other schools, which is considered good practice in other schools and now both schools have agreed to introduce this. Good step in the right direction of getting good practice known and spread throughout HSS.</p> <p>Purple Box - Have had an anonymous feedback mechanism proposed to HSS, this is something that students mentioned they'd appreciate in a digital accessibility learning meeting. This is</p>	

	something practiced within EECS and has had a lot of positive feedback. Positive news on this progressing so far.	
	<p>Serena</p> <p>Library Opening – supported this event by speaking at various points and helping through out it. Was great to celebrate a project where student feedback was heard and acted upon.</p> <p>6 Asian Hertiage Month – organising an event which she will share more information about once it's confirmed, explores mental health and south Asian women.</p> <p>Engagement – working with QMUL on this theme, and ensuring defining engagement with studies is defined by students.</p>	
	<p>OFS Freedom Of Speech Consultation</p> <p>7 A couple of the Executive Officers may feed into the response Students' Union staff are drafting, which will highlight the many operational challenges with the bill. AR attended a Roundtable led by NUS and lawyers who work in the sector, which the variety of challenges were discussed.</p>	

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