

Executive Committee Notes

Friday 29 September 2023

Present

Serena Ali-Jabir, President (SAJ)
 Tahmid Khan, Vice President Welfare (TK)
 Amaan Abbas, Vice President Barts and The London (AA)
 Aisha Qadi, Vice President Science & Engineering (AQ)

In attendance:

Jak Curtis-Rendall, Head of Communications & Marketing (JCR)

Apologies

Matthew Beach, Vice President Communities (MB)
 Jovani, Vice President Humanities & Social Sciences (SS)

Notes of the meeting

	Notes	Actions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> During Welcome Week and this week all the Executive Officers have led Students' Union welcome talks as part of school induction sessions. These talks aim to introduce the Students' Union to new students and encourage them to get involved. All the Executive Officers attended the QMSU / QMUL SET (Senior Executive Team) Orientation Day on Wednesday. The event involved the Exec and senior members of the university's management team. The Executive Officers aims for the year were presented, alongside some of their individual manifesto goals. A series of current topics affecting students and ideas were discussed together. 	
1	<p>Serena</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcoming Students: The past weeks have been very busy. Serena met many students when hosting welcome talks, introducing students to the Students' Union and answering queries. 16-18 Oyster Cards: Many students have raised concerns about 16-18 Oyster card problems so Serena followed up with the university – whom, have hopefully now contacted students with a resolution. Building Works: Serena attended university meetings and discussed upcoming infrastructure renovations. Her focus now will be to work with the university to mitigate the impact to the student experience. Executive Officer / University Senior Executive Orientation session: led and presented on the Executive Officer's and Students' Union priorities for the year to the University's management team and discussed common areas of interest and ideas. Governance: Attended the University Governance committee which included discussions on Students' Union and student representation at University Council. 	
2	<p>Tahmid</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accommodation: Tahmid met with the Residential Life Manager and has previously met with the Housing Services team regarding his accommodation for students review project. This was an initial introductory meeting where common areas of interest and ideas were discussed. Further updates will be released later in the semester. <p>ACTION: <i>JCR send Tahmid draft Accommodation Survey questions for review and comment. [The survey that will be open to all students is due to launch towards the end of October]</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial Assistance Fund: Meetings have started with Tahmid supporting these. He will also be mystery shopping the Fund over the next few weeks to test the experience students receive and to identify areas that could be improved. 	JCR

	<p>ACTION: All to let Tahmid know if they can support with the mystery shopping task for the Financial Assistance Fund.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation Fund: Has now opened for applications and will close on 23rd October for the January graduations. Tahmid will be reviewing applications and will need to support from another Executive Officer reviewing these to ensure it is a robust process. <p>ACTION: All to let Tahmid know if they can support with reviewing graduation fund applications.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Amaan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome Week: Amaan has been directly involved in leading and supporting Welcome at BL. Move-In Weekend, BLSA Help Squad, BL Families and Whitechapel Welcome Fair went well with good attendance at most events, despite the Garrod Building not being ready in time. • Welcome Talks: Have delivered welcome talks to new students for the MBBS, Intercalated and Dentistry programmes. • MBBS Curriculum Working Day: Attended this event with staff in the Medical School to look at what changes can be made to the curriculum to improve education provision and the student experience. • Hate Speech Incident: Have worked with the university to support students impacted by the hate speech incidents affecting MBBS Year 1. Amaan has been in regular contact with the university and the investigation is ongoing. Amaan has also released a joint statement here (www.qmsu.org/news). • Garrod Building: continues to be delayed due to drainage issues, but the furniture for the new BLSA/SU spaces has started to arrive! www.qmsu.org/garrod 	
<p>4</p>	<p>Aisha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employability: Currently drafting an employability survey to collect qualitative data that will help write up a report to the uni on how students feel about employability support during their studies, and how to embed these key principles effectively. • Islamophobia Awareness Month (IAM): This campaign is coming up in November and planning is under way. Currently working as part of the organising committee, including planning and prepping to host an event as part of the campaign. Sat on 2 of the 4 meetings so far with discussions focused on mapping out the content and event plan for the month. www.qmsu.org/iam • Science & Engineering Opportunity Day: Ran a Students' Union stall at this event with Jovani. The stall showcased the Students' Union and how people can get involved and also featured the Course Rep and Autumn Elections. • Comms & Social Media: Have filmed a series of videos for the University and Students' Union's social media channels on topics such as: what happens after Freshers and to reassure students they haven't missed out now Welcome Week is over. Also filmed a campus tour video. @QMSU 	
<p>5</p>	<p>Matthew</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black History Month – Preparations for the campaign going well. Matthew is working on finalizing two events to take place mid/late October. One with BAME Rep (Mile End) Aliya Garraway to bring a curator / cultural producer to Queen Mary for a zine making workshop. The second event will involve a PhD student screening a film they collaborated on, following by a talk and discussion after. www.qmsu.org/bhm • Sustainability – Have created new links between the Students' Union and the Institute of Humanities and Social Sciences Environmental Futures Director. Also finalising an event for Sustainability Week in November that will bring an arts organisation to campus to run a workshop about photography and environmentalism centering on the Canal on Mile End campus. • Postgraduates – finishing presentation that will be delivered as the Students' Union induction talk to first-year postgraduate research students. Also finalised event plans for an informal social and drop-in event in Ground Café for postgraduate research students after their induction sessions have finished. 	

6	<p>AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mucci's redevelopment – discussed approach to Mucci's redevelopment. Will support the university in collecting student feedback about the space when it opens following refurbishment.• Graduation Fund: Aisha is free to support reviewing applications. Amaan has put a hold in the diary for now, Tahmid to update with date once confirmed. To check in on this at a future Exec Committee meeting.	TK/SAJ
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To find out more about any of the above contact a member of the Executive Committee - www.qmsu.org/rebs/exec