



## **UUSU Student Executive**

**Meeting Date: Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

**Time: 11am – 12.30pm**

**Location: MS Teams / E019 Coleraine Campus**

**In attendance: VP Education, VP Sport and Wellbeing, VP Coleraine, VP Magee, VP Belfast, VP Jordanstown**

### **Minutes**

1. Minutes from previous meeting, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2022
  - Minutes approved
  - Strike Action Report shared.
2. Matters Arising / Actions
  -
3. Chair's Communications
  - Nothing to Present, will be contained in portfolio/officer update and further item points.
4. Officer Updates

#### VPB

- Award season ongoing, have attended multiple including SAAI'S in Dublin, included Large Officer Team of the Year, Welfare Campaign of the Year (Period Poverty), and Amy Merron for Activist of the Year.
- Involved in filming for International Students App
- Submitted Green Impact Report
- Met around Wellbeing Space on GBD.
- Involved in catering quarterly review.

#### VPJ

- Attended all award sessions, looking forward to LTA's later this week.
- Disciplinarys ongoing, taking up significant part of the calendar.
- Work ongoing on Joint Statement on Protection of Women with university and Trade Union involvement in development.

#### VPE

- Organising of LTA's.
- Had second Phd forum, plans to establish working group to establish best practice and how best to support. Changes to our own representation strands to come. To be a regular forum and more regular working groups to continue development.
- Learning and Teaching Committee last week, communication around how library resources are to be moved and how students are to have best availability of resources. McClay Library at QUB will be available for study space and online resources.
- Involvement in Student Mental Health Impact Plan, providing Education standpoint into conversation.

#### VPC

- Looked at development of campus, involved with Campus Life Director and Estates to develop plans of Prayer Spaces. Awaiting final plans.
- Involved in revalidations.
- Engaged with new Compass Student Engagement Officer.
- Been working on handover meeting planning and plans for handover to ED.
- Conversion Therapy letter to go out later this week after slight revisions with GPC.

#### VPM

- Met with QUB and NUS-USI around UCU Stance around marking boycott. If beneficial could speak with UCU Ulster Branch to see feelings and plans after comms with David L.
- Irish Language meetings with Director of Cross Border engagement, timeline being established on timing of bi lingual signage and university plans for this.
- In person meeting next week on Housing Co Ops. Legal entity to be set up separate to UUSU.
- School of Health Sciences bursary paper work ongoing.

#### VPSWB

- Colours was a great success and main engagement for last number of weeks.
- Work on Mental Health Campaign and video work with VPC and Sports Officers ongoing.
- Catching up on outstanding work.

#### President

VPC assumes Chair.

### 5. Portfolio Reports

- Sustainability – VPB / VPM – Submitted Green Impact Report, engaged on Wellbeing Space. Met with Quakers, and sent UUSU letter of support for their funding application to support University engagement on issue. Seeking feedback on Green Week. Funding Granted for Green Impact work, supplies available and work ongoing to seek more funding with external support.
- EDI – VPJ / VPE – Questions being asked around funding and roll over of existing funding from Santander. Support sought for Africa Day and support of university BAME Network.
- Mental Health Portfolio – VPC / VPSW – UUSU Meets videos have been created with local individuals who have struggled and dealt with MH issues. Videos on Tourette's, bereavement etc. Further speakers have been confirmed with various areas of MH Covered. Met across UUSU staff to start process of establishing a full mental health strategy.

### 6. Policy Updates

Submitted Application to PSNI Small Grants Scheme, around Mental Health and freshers engagement.

An Dream Derg – Protest in Belfast, seeking support and engagement from fellow officers.

### 7. Unitu

Question of ownership and staff buy in being brought to University senior management. Push back from university towards us. Capacity issues and trade union relationship queries may cause issues,

further lobbying from us has resulted in a PVC wishes to move it to linking with Module Feedback reform. On UUSU to push and ensure it is kept on the agenda.

#### 8. UCU Strike Mitigation

Marking Boycott potentially not going to happen this year, university have been involved in serious discussions around Mitigations, comms have been drafted for students. Questions around repeats, post grad students if they are submitting later in the summer. Unclear from UCU on their current strategy. UUSU role to lobby for support for students around mitigations, comms message to be developed if appropriate.

#### 9. Health and Life Sciences Policy Paper

Updated paper to be potentially submitted, having sought feedback. Seeking funding for students through transition board and externally. Faculty and School Reps have been kept in loop.

#### 10. Period Poverty Update

Remind officers to complete questionnaire for government. Seek testimonials from students.

#### 11. Student Roost Issues

Issues has been raised by SR around Cityside shopping and Tesco, bringing trollies from shops to accommodation and abandoning them. Caused an accident, Tesco is seeking to escalate situation around loss of property and issues around accident caused. SR seeking support from UUSU to provide educational support to students. VPB suggested locking mechanism of trollies, issues around that trolley only costing £1 compared to taxi cost of £4/5. Issue expected to become potentially worse in future.

Suggestion to have arrangement with Tesco and dedicated trollies for Student Roost.

#### 12. Impact Report

Reflection of the year, link to David L to see what structure we need to take. Key areas to get down in writing. Time to get the ball rolling.

#### 13. Handover Process

Start process of developing handover, bringing meetings together potentially sooner rather than later. Getting down successes and suggestions for incoming officers coming into their new roles. Arrangements to be made around time commitment and 25 hours paid element for new joiners. Officers to follow up with President, President Elect and David F.

#### 14. Breastfeeding Awareness Scheme

Desire to Put up additional material around awarness scheme on all campuses from VPC. Permission has been granted to place in Compass spaces. Clarification required from Estates on placement.

#### 15. PhD Council Policy

Encourage involvement of PhD reps in Council, further work to come following further forum discussions.

#### 16. Any Other Business

VPB – Discussion on feedback to be given to OH around classifications being publicly made available at graduation event. Mixed feelings reflected, questions if it is university information to share publicly.

#### 17. Date of next meeting

Actions Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 -

	Update Policy Tracker	All
	Setting up Strike Response Group	VPJ