



UUSU Student Executive: Minutes

Meeting Date: Monday, 25th October 2021

Time: 2 – 4pm

Location: MS Teams [Click here to join the meeting](#)

In Attendance:

O McCloskey, President; G Boyle, VP Education; R Allen, VP Jordanstown; R Miller, VP Belfast; C Donnan, VP Coleraine; R Harling, VP Magee; F Darragh, VP Sports & Wellbeing

Minutes:

M Mulholland, Student Voice Manager

Meeting Minutes

1. Minutes from previous meeting, Wednesday 14th October 2021

Approved

2. Matters Arising

No matters arising

3. Agenda items carried over from previous meeting 14th October 2021

3.1 Policy Implementation – updates

- Overview of policy allocation shared by President with a lead officer on each and a 2nd officer in support to help with continuity of implementation. President will hold overall responsibility and oversight.

ACTION: Final approval of allocation will come through the next meeting of SE

3.2 Senate Seat allocation

- Approved: Senate seat allocation
President | VPE | International | Post-grad | Distance Learner

ACTION: Bye law amendment needed to reflect seat allocation

4. Chair's Communications

- Given the extremely busy start to year, President welcomed the regular meetings of SE now fixed in calendars

5. Officer Updates – to support Council updates

VPB

- Green Space project –Belfast Council webinar 12th November Council involving all stakeholders
- PSNI currently registering bikes on campus

VPJ

- Black History month – planning underway and connect made with Afro-Caribbean society

- Work continues with James from the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion network

VPC

- Student Deals – conversations on going with local businesses
- C Peile now supporting student well-being initiative has had a positive impact
- Other mental health initiatives continue to be developed
- CV workshop on Coleraine campus confirmed on campus for 10th November

VPE

- Course Rep inductions still ongoing, over 500 reps elected
- First meeting of UU/UUSU Student Voice Task & Finish group on the 4th November which will have rep involvement
- Marking & feedback policy extended from 14 to 20 days – challenged for more evidence – noted this is the HE standard
- EC1 policy has reverted back to pre-covid process criteria – UUSU disappointment noted
- ASQEC- first meeting taken place
- Health Science move – first student meeting taken place 21st Oct to support the student experience during transition
- Blackboard – updates coming up which may impact student access. Student communication will follow.
- Integrity working group – actions from this committee around essay mills, plagiarism and study skills sessions to ensure students have educational awareness
- Student Learning Experience survey – being developed with Academic Rep Coordinator
- EDI – working on a proposal for EDI officer role with VPJ

VPM

- Support for Health Heroes – Stormont protest 8th November to pressure on the Executive to respond
- Well being garden – still engaging students on campus
- Launch of new app – “Jump” in collaboration with UU

VPSW

- KWAF (Keep Wednesday After Free) – campaign work continuing across campuses
- Magee facility developments – Impact of Health Science relocation - Gym being relocated but will be losing studio space. Opportunity for container to be brought on campus to support activities

President

- Graduation – agreement for April graduation for those previous cohorts who missed their event. Second working group to be established to develop plans with officer involvement
- GBD – move postponed to Sept 2022. Extended travel secured into the next semester. Other mitigations being researched
- Student drinks spiking – response has been provided to local media requests. Actions being developed in response to this issue.
- National Council – SE team had an opportunity to attend in person
- Social Media – activity on pages to be kept refreshed and updated
- Staffing – hiring for current UUSU vacancies ongoing
- No keys No degrees protest – positive response across the media. Work ongoing
- Campus life – regular meetings ongoing with Director of Campus life, providing opportunity to escalate issues
- Freshers fortnight – successful roll out of events and positive response from membership

- Covid – priority is to keep students and staff safe and being actively supported by the officer team and staff
- Admin – officer toil to be taken to support personal wellbeing.

6. Approach for UCU strike position

Team discussion around the ongoing situation and impact of strike action post COVID. Options discussed on next steps in developing policy.

7. Graduation update

As in Presidents Update - graduation costs being monitored.

VPC – Survey being worked on around yes or no options to gauge interest in attending graduation.

VPJ - No recorded ceremony for Winter Graduations.

8. National Council update

- First meeting held in the previous week, positive experience to attend a face to face meeting. UUSU will host the meeting in Feb 22. Support being sought from team.
- Next meeting 12th & 13th November in Carlow (VPSW/VPC/President - leads)

9. Officer Team Building Day

Confirmed 3/4th November 2021, Jungle NI – opportunity to develop the SE team and plans for the year ahead.

10. Student Executive – officer role review following move from four to three campuses

- EDI Officer position job description update (Grace/Rebecca) for Information
VPE - For information
- Options identified based on UUSU EDI strategy – cross campus role description has been drafted and shared with the meeting group.
Next steps – developing roles in time for 2nd Council approval to enable bye law change in advance of leadership nomination open time line.
(provision in supporting remaining limited membership on the Jordanstown campus)

Action: President to take forward to CEO as time pressured decision

11. Sexual Assault Awareness Update (President) for discussion.

- PR requests being addressed
- Actions and response being developed

12. Any other business

- Student wellbeing – updates from officers on recent communications around off campus incidents of sexual harassment – as in agenda item 11
VPM – to draft up communication with PSNI to arrange student consultation; extra measures encouraged on licensed premises; promotion material shared and developed.
- Tabled questions for Student Council, 27th Oct 21 – Discussion on questions received from Student Councillor Ansell in advance of the next meeting. President to take forward responses.

13. Date of next meeting – 16th November

