Agenda for Societies Exec Committee Meeting

10/11/2020

0945-1045

1. Welcome
2. Action points from Societies council and updates
3. Society Communications
4. Future Society Events with Societies Collaboration
5. Promotion of society exec committee- 2 remaining spaces
6. Society Training outline
7. Dates for future meetings (Exec and society council)
8. AOB

**Attendees**

Clare Hunter, VP Student Development (CH) - Chair

Sarah Anderson (SA)

Ellie Gomersall (EG)

Jamie McDowall, Student Opportunities Coordinator (JM) – Clerk

**Welcome from Clare**

* Shared notes from October’s Societies Council
* GDPR Guidance for societies is now on the resources page on the website

**Societies being able to see when new members have joined**

* JM: this can be accessed using Sales Purchases tab
* Sarah can’t see this but it has worked for Ellie. The video we created was useful for explaining this
* JM: it takes time to double check society admin rights on MSL
* EG: will use society presidents’ group chat to let people know this

**GDPR**

* EG: this needs to be a really important part of societies training. It’s a legal requirement to adhere to GDPR. All society committee members should be aware of it and receive training before gaining access to their admin page
* CH: agreed. We can act on this
* JM: I can set up an online form for GDPR training, which committee members must complete to gain admin access for their society
* SA: can examples be included in GDPR guide of what systems are in place for managing this?
* CH: we could potentially make videos to help explain this

**Discord**

* CH: there is a Lanarkshire channel which is managed by students. Clare has not spoken to these students directly. It was set up as a voice for Lanarkshire societies. It might make sense for them to open this up to other campuses. Online learning has made differences between campuses less relelvant.
* SA: Disabled Students Group have set up a Discord channel, other groups have discussed creating their own as well
* CH: Societies are welcome to come together on this to prevent having too many channels. You can work together to organise this

**Online events and communications**

* CH: we made a note in Council minutes to create a list of events that have worked this year. We have not done this yet.
* CH: we still need to fill the two remaining executive committee positions but can’t force people to do this
* SA: we can suggest to people to help make them realise they’re good at what they do and empower them to join the committee
* SA: role descriptions can be daunting (especially for Student Trustee role). We need to make sure people aren’t scared to get involved
* CH: emails and social media seem to have limited success right now. Do we have any other suggestions for communications? Societies will use the methods that work best for themselves. A lot of societies are still in the process of getting up and running. We maybe need to make all comms methods clearer on society pages. Could we make a roadmap of what platforms societies use?

**Future events and collaborations**

* CH: some societies are running well, some aren’t managing yet. Do we have ideas to promote and involve other societies?
* SA: 16 Days of Action plans can be shared. Social Work society are hosting a talk from Women’s Aid, we can promote this to relevant societies
* CH: Have you asked for this event to be added to the website?
* SA: it’s only just been confirmed but we will do this
* CH: what can we do? End of year events?
* EG: the obvious way to go is joint events eg. sport and society events. I would still like to do this but online society events are much better, easier to run and easier for people to engage with when it is a smaller group. We need to encourage societies to do their own online events. I don’t know why some are struggling. Societies who say they don’t have any events are answering their own questions on why people aren’t getting involved
* SA: true but it has been a strange year. It doesn’t feel like it’s started yet. Committee members can’t be responsible for people reading messages etc. on what activities they are doing. But it’s hard. Communication is hard and there’s no real way of sorting it. I think discord works well
* CH: comms is probably the biggest difficulty right now. There is no app that can replicate the random conversations you have with others when on campus. Ellie is right that bigger events are hard for people to have a voice. People get more involved during smaller events
* SA: can active students take turns to attend other societies events to help attendance?
* EG: This would probably feel quite patronising. I think the biggest issue is fear of running online events. We need to help society committees and give them confidence
* CH: this links in well with the volunteering roles we are developing