

Draft Minute of Board Meeting

Friday 26th March 2021, 10am via Teams



Attendance & Apologies

| Members Present | | |
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| | Name | Title |
| IN | Ismail Nizami | President – Chair |
| CH | Clare Hunter | Vice President Student Development |
| LH | Luke Humberstone | Vice President Welfare and Wellbeing |
| MMcR | Mark McRitchie | External Trustee |
| RW | Roddy Williamson | External Trustee |
| EG | Ellie Gomersall | Student Trustee |
| YG | Yusuf Qureshi | External Trustee |
| KR | Karuna Rink | Student Trustee |
| MH | Mark Hamilton | External Trustee |
| In Attendance | | |
| DD | David Devlin | Head of Student Support Services |
| SD | Sinéad Daly | CEO |
| RA | Rose Allison | Venues Manager |
| RS | Finance Manager | |
| Apologies | | |
| MC | Maeve Cowper - late | Head of Student Development, Professional Services - Student Services |

| Item No | Item | Lead |
|---------|--|------|
| 27.1 | <p>Welcome, opening, apologies & declaration of interests</p> <p>Declaration of interest forms have been completed by KR and MH</p> | IN |
| 27.2 | <p>a. Board Membership – approval of new trustees</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Karuna Rink (known as Shivani) - approved ii. Mark Hamilton – approved <p>b. Appointment Committee Update</p> <p>Ismail updated the board about plans for targeted recruitment to ensure we have a full complement of trustees by the end of June. We need to recruit 3 trustees. We particularly need to recruit more women and also someone with financial expertise.</p> <p>Ismail is getting the support of SL to send out targeted emails to students groups such as: Women, PhD, Business students. He will also be encouraging University staff to promote.</p> <p>Action: Keep the board informed</p> | IN |
| 27.3 | <p>a. Minutes of meeting held on December 18th 2020 and February 12th 2021 (Bye Laws meeting)</p> | IN |

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| | <p>Approved b. Matters Arising All recorded in Action Log.</p> | |
| 27.4 | <p>a. Finance Report - Approved b. Management Accounts - Approved c. Budget for 2020-21 - Approved</p> <p>Action: Revisit Budget once we have confirmation of Block Grant from UWS.</p> <p>Need to have a plan for what we spend the Bounce Back Loan on. Bring back for discussion at the June board meeting.</p> | RS |
| 27.5 | <p>Commercial Report - Approved Rose presented her Commercial report</p> <p>Action: Update the Risk Assessment to take cognisance of organisational and health and safety risks.</p> | RA RA |
| 27.6 | <p>Support Services and Representation Team – Approved.</p> <p>David presented the Student Services Team</p> <p>Actions: Amend the paper to remove reference to Ellie being first trans woman elected as President.</p> <p>The board wanted to acknowledge the huge achievements made by the Students Support Services team – in particular the marvelous levels of engagement in our Rep Systems, Student Councils and election.</p> | DD DD |
| 27.7 | <p>Chief Executive Report</p> <p>SD presented the Chief Executive report - Approved</p> | |
| 27.8 | <p>Paper on Bye Laws - The following amendments were approved:</p> <p>Bye Law 1 – Trustees and Sub Committees Section 2: Membership</p> <p>Decisions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Membership section ii is amended to read: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>A maximum of twelve trustees made up of:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>A minimum of two and up to four Student Trustees, as defined in Article 21 of the Articles of Association</i> | |

b. *A minimum of four and up to six Lay Trustees, as defined in Article 22 of the Articles of Association.*

- Amend all terminology of Union Trustee to Board of Trustee.

- **Appointments Committee**

- **3.c.11 Appointments Committee Membership**

Amend part 2 to read:

Any two Trustees, with a minimum of one Lay Trustee

a. Bye Law 6 – Referenda

Referenda Purpose

There was a discussion what is meant by the definition of a policy and policy decision.

Decision:

It was agreed that this section of the Bye Law should be part of a wider discussion and evaluation of student council and policy submission.

- **Reinstate section b which reads:**

A referendum may not be called on any issue which has already been sent to a referendum for a period of 6 months. (this was removed in error)

Calling a referendum

This whole section needed amended to be compliant with Mem & Arts.

Decision - Amend to read the following:

A referendum may not be called on any issue which has already been sent to a referendum for a period of 6 months.

- a. *A referendum may be called on any issue by:*
 - i. *A resolution of the Trustees*
 - ii. *A majority vote of the Student Council; or*
 - iii. *A secure petition signed by 3% of the membership or agreed to by at least 150 Student Members (subject to Articles [24.1] and [26.2.1])*
- b. *The Union may run more than one referendum simultaneously.*

b. Update on Referendum on Strike Action

This is up for discussion at the Student Council next week.

There is a proposal not to proceed with the strike action following commitment from the University to make changes to the algorithm and no detriment policy.

Decision: If the strike is to go ahead we need to seek legal advice on any potential risk for the Union, for example, being

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| | sued if a student fails their exams for taking action etc. | |
| 27.9 | Confidential Items See confidential minute | |
| 27.10 | Dates of Next meeting – 25th June 2021 | |
| | Close | |