

**Trigger Warnings: History months and Campaigns, Trans and non-binary student experience, Disabled Students experience.**

**Present**

*Committee members:* Dean Turner (DT, Welfare and Community Officer), Trinity Barson (TB, LGBTQ+ Students' Officer), Robin Hayward (RH, Trans and Non-Binary Officer)

*Non-Committee Members:*

*Staff Members:* Jane Baston (JB, Senior Voice Coordinator & Minute Taker)

**Apologies**

Fern Warwick (FW, Student Member)

**Absence Without Apologies:**

Bipasha Biswas (BS, International Representative), Lucianelle Semou (LS, Student member), Aoife O'Driscoll-Paton (AOP, Disabled Students' Officer), Semmer Preet Singh (SPS, Ethnic Minority Students' Officer) Ollie Cotena (OC, Student Member), Sukhmam Singh (SS, Student Member)

Item No.	Item Title	Meeting Notes	Time
<b>Start</b>			14:00
1	<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions</b>	DT welcomed everyone to the meeting.	14:00-14:05

2	<b>Officer Updates</b>	<p>RH updated on their work on NUS Liberation Conference and conversations with other Officers.</p> <p>RH has raised some concerns with NUS about how they can improve Conference for next year.</p> <p>DT suggested mentioning this to AC so that she is aware.</p> <p>RH has also been working on some events that are planned to run during UoBExtra.</p> <p>RH has also continued work with the Gender-Neutral Toilets action group. There has been some progress here but it's waiting on decisions from the Guild regarding quotes.</p> <p>DT noted that this has been impacted by Easter and Annual Leave which means it's been delayed. DT noted that a lot of the relevant conversations are happening outside of the action group.</p> <p>TB has been sharing key dates and events that have been happening.</p>	14:05-14:16
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		<p>TB has been working with the LGBTQ+ Association on regular coffee and social events. These are currently paused due to exams.</p> <p>TB has also been working on communicating with relevant societies about Pride. They've decided not to attend Birmingham Pride to due sponsorship from companies that support Israel.</p> <p>TB noted that they're also considering if they could run a social on the same day as Pride so that people can attend that.</p> <p>DT has continued working on Community Breakfast. A few of these have been dedicated and run in the Medical School. 150 students attended the first one.</p> <p>DT noted that they've seen some movement from some University members onboard with the harm-reduction approach.</p> <p>DT will be attending the next University Executive Board meeting with a paper that should take this work forward.</p>	
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		<p>TB asked for some clarification on what the harm-reduction approach is.</p> <p>DT noted that it's about changing the University's approach from being punitive to educational and welfare centred.</p> <p>DT mentioned that the Guild is already supporting this approach but having the University onboard means that we can work with them on it.</p>	
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3	<b>Democratic System Update &amp; Ideas</b>	<p>JB updated on the democratic system and invited any feedback from the Committee.</p> <p>DT noted that the Anti-Racism/Anti-Fascism action group showed flexibility of the system and how it can be used in different ways.</p> <p>RH mentioned that the action groups have felt well-facilitated. They feel like decision-making spaces with flexibility inbuilt around the remit of the policy or idea being discussed.</p> <p>RH noted that there was a lot of engagement with some of the recent ideas which was good to see and shows that people want to engage with the system.</p> <p>RH noted that extending the time for the Student Demonstration of Interest has worked well.</p> <p>DT noted that the wider staff team don't necessarily have a full understanding of the action group process so it might be useful for some more education around how it works and the remit of it.</p>	14:16-14:26
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6	AOB	<p>DT updated on the Encampment that is taking place on campus. They have been working with AC on the University's position.</p> <p>DT noted that they've been meeting with the University regularly on this. There is a meeting planned with some members of the University SMT and some members of the encampment tomorrow. It will be chaired by AC and DT.</p> <p>DT mentioned that everyone in the encampment is doing well. They do have a donation page if anyone wish to support them.</p> <p>DT gave an update from FW who wasn't able to attend with feedback on the democratic system.</p> <p>JB suggested that this is forwarded to JB and SD who can pick this up.</p> <p>RH noted that the issues with Liberation Conference were associated with the feeling that accessibility wasn't being taken seriously.</p>	14:26-14:47
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		<p>RH mentioned that it would be useful for the NUS Delegates to know more about the accessibility features of the venue. NUS weren't good at sign-posting these features.</p> <p>RH noted that the way discussions were being facilitated was not accessible and required moving about a room to participate in the discussion.</p> <p>RH mentioned that they now have connections with a wider network of trans students who are campaigning together. This will need to be passed on to their successor.</p> <p>DT thanked RH for their feedback.</p> <p>DT asked how they are planning their handover to their successor.</p> <p>TB doesn't need to do a handover as their continuing in their role.</p> <p>RH is waiting until exams are over discuss with their successor. They'll be collating together various notes.</p>	
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		<p>JB noted that the official start date for the new PTO is the 15<sup>th</sup> July. There is training planned for the end of July.</p> <p>DT thanked everyone for their engaged with Welfare and Liberation Committee and wished them luck with future endeavours.</p>	
End		Meeting Ended	14:47

**Date & Time of next meeting: N/A**