

**Societies, Sports & Opportunities Executive Minutes**

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| Date & time | 28th March 2023 17:00-19:00 |
| Location | Moore 004.5 |
| Attendance | * Alastair Copland (AC) (VP Societies & Sport) - Chair
* Hannah Hockin (HH) (President)
* Julia Saunders (JS) (Student Opportunities Manager) - Secretary

SSO Members:* Charlie Kerr (CK)
* Luca Smith (LS)
* Leo Davies (LD)
* Ella Vallely (EV)
* Issy Litvak – (IL)
* Peter Collier – (PC)
* Muscab Salad (MS)
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| Apologies | * Deya Kombakova – SSO member
* Harrison Clinton (HC) (part attendance)
* Madelaine Gray (MG)
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| Item | Minutes |
| Officer Update | Updated on document and events from Term 2, future plans for Term 3 and setting things up for next year.No questions |
| Student Conduct Training & Committee Roles | AC referred to the paper. Specific focus on Community, Culture & Conduct training, and the importance of it. Student Group Training was run in 2 phases this year. Main training in May then followed up with development training sessions throughout the year.We ae proposing Community, Culture & Conduct training should be completed in May. How do we ensure engagement? Every committee should have at least 1, hopefully more, in attendance to ensure culture in groups is good. A specific focus on Sports clubs (not exclusive to but more occurrences of concern).AC discussed a Carrot/Stick approach proposing possible options as belowA – sports clubs could not take part in fixtures/walkover givenB – can't attend CIYKC – badges on webpageShould there be consequences for societies as well?How would this be perceived?IL – As long as consequences are clear from the beginning there is no reason that committees wouldn’t do it. The punishments don’t seem extreme. Feels justifiable. Would be negligible to club if not completing the training.As long as options are clear and there is more than one chance – i.e video etc.EV - What about non BUCS groups re. fixturesAC/JS confirmed any core activity not necessarily just FixturesIL – What about clubs that don’t compete?AC – How would it be perceived.LS – What if people are away and can’t attend the training?JS – Maybe the video content/online quiz aspect that we discussed in the last SSO. Also, it wouldn’t need to be everyone from committee but at least one.AC – If all agreed Student Opps can get comms out before training in May.JS – We will discuss within Opps and make a decision on what we take forward.AC then discussed the training content explained as per the paper.IL – feels should be more than one person so they don’t become the fun sponge.HH – Conversation about making mandatory for Pres, Wellbeing and Social Sec.AC- That would be over 400 people?HH – Could we do training in Windsor?JS – Could do 2 sessions and tailor to socs and sports, or include competitive socs with the sports with tailored content.Can be in person or online but would need to complete the online by a specific deadline in the SummerHC – How will attendance be monitored as Minimum operating standards were not followed through withJS – Leniancy was showed this year so will be firmer with the consequencesIL – What would be the timelinesJS – Deadline would still be early in summerIL/EV - What about not being able to attend Freshers Fair or do Taster sessions?CK – Is it more sports clubs? Would we not do it for Socs as well?AC – It is across both but more often with Sports ClubsHC – What about rewarding groups that do do it rather than punishing those that don’t.i.e at Freshers’ – get first dibs on where they go at Freshers’ Fair.AC – unsure what incentives could be available. Badge system from Never ok could be used.HC – Thinks it may be a stick for Socs but not for sports clubs. If played a sport for 5 years doesn’t think people would care.EV – Doesn’t think it is necessarily an incentive but still good to be there.CK – some people only play 1 sport so wouldn’t compare whether other groups.IL – Proposed priority to CIYK tickets? How would you police/stop people going to CIYK for example.EV – Doesn't feel like there should be much of a reward for doing the bare minimum.CK – Think it’s important to have Social Sec to attend CCC training.HH – May struggle with people saying that they had attended previously so may not want to attend.MS – Nightlife events – could be potentially all nightlife around september.EV – Could you ban their socials or welcome drinks?AC – Before May training Student Opportunities can draft up consequences of what would happen if they went ahead.JS – Think it’s better to concentrate on things that Student Opportunities can impact – ie training, facility allocation, freshers, tasters, fundingHC – What about elections – VONCJS – Don’t think democratically could be done |
| Never Ok Campaign Update | Presentation from Hannah: Campaign updateNo questions or comments |
| Society Awards Update | Venue: SU venue. More opportunity around decor and environmentMaybe approach for Founders next year in term 2People have exams but it is a SaturdayMediterranean theme for food/style but not dress up as not accessibleFood and layout: Round tables similar to colours, Food options explained. Sit down meal.Awards – Spotlight removed, reasons givenDiscussion around adding other awards – i.e social media/advertising but concluded needed more time on that going forwardTimeline – meal then awards – hoping for a positive change to offer value and improve the flow. Afterparty.Pics and video contentLS – asked if we will be doing the group bookingJS – to confirm, not discussed yetAC – nominations – targeting groups who don’t normally engage to provide and offer supportCK – asked question around numbers of tickets available.LS – asked about any awards being announced before the night – crests for coloursJS – that was colours not crestsCK – when we do the review next year look at awards that fit othersAC – explained did feedback with groups and people claimed would be ‘a civil war’. Needs more thought on how it could be best improved in the future.LS – thinks it’s a good idea to email the groups to offer support and explain.CK – asked is it mentioned in trainingJS – discussed want to do a development session on nomination trainingLS – shout more about who chooses the winners as people think it is just VP Soc SportJS – Alastair can include that in emails. |
| Student Opportunities transparency | Joining next 2 agenda points in the interest of time and overlapThe SU often receives requests for more transparency, how the SU works, how Student Opportunities works, how decisions are made.AC – realises that once you speak to the staff teams the reasons why things are done in a certain way become clear so the question is around whether it can be communicated better.What is working? What isn’t being engaged with and are there any ideas for the future?Newsletters – are engaged with in SSO but not sure many others do. EV - Goes to the other mailbox but not focussed.LS – Likes it, reads it and looks forward to itWhat is one way to get info across? Newsletter works but how do we get people to read it.IL – If people don’t want to engage they won’tJS – Maybe we can use instagram to push when the newsletter has gone out.AC – How can we better improve transparency?CK – Around awards is there an FAQ on how awards are chosen, the panel etc?LS – there is info on the websiteEV – people thought she made the choicesJS - explained that was because there is an SSO person on panelEV – asked whether we can specify that it is a sports person for Socs and vice versaJS – added that change into the web content reviewAC moved onto the subject of funding – how many people know about how much is given out where to find info and how to apply?Student Opportunities have allocated approximately £40k so far this yearInformation on funding has been shared freshdesk and blogsJS mentioned that it is also discussed in Student Group TrainingEV – access fund banner was a good ideaLS – Access fund doesn’t feel like it’s been promoted as muchAC – we have given out as much if not more. Will promote again as may not know can still apply for itLS – if committees don’t promote as much they won’t knowIL – don't think for some committees it makes much difference – i.e. polo doesn’t touch the sidesHH – work being discussed in Cost of Living group to align better to more expensive membershipsIL – is it being looked into outside of just memberships – i.e. lessons afterwardsHH - trying to make groups be transparent about all of the hidden costsAC – To summarise Student Opportunities can take forward transparency around Awards panel and funding, and how to applyAC – wants to go away and think more about voiceCK – with events such as awards – would it be useful to put out a google form for people to interact with the process, i.e. if things have changed why rather than asking people to send in an emailJS – what would you include in a formCK – unsureJS we will have a thinkCK – processes – things not updated on Freshdesk i.e. forms get updated but not necessarily addedWould it be possible to have set times to make changes and then announced.JS – we would aim for summer admin period. Probably changes throughout the year are more urgent.LS - could their be a VP drop in on nominations and awardsDrop ins – sometimes people want to see specifically are not there. Can that be announced as people come in specifically to talk to people but they aren’t there so as not to waste timeJS – can ask to speak to others. Sometimes can’t be helped if people aren’t available. |
| Student Leader Update | No comments |
| AOBColours Ball FeedbackVarsity FeedbackHockeySocs Awards Panel | Colours Ball feedbackEV – got a lot of hate about half and full colours. Announced after tickets were available as people had bought to get that award. Why were so few given out?Feels it took away from the momentEvent was great, had a good timeCK – agreesFlow was a lot betterWhen colours was announced there was no-one to celebrate withEV – table plans – wasn't with committee and had specified.LS – thinks smaller and off campus groups feel neglected.AC – agrees and happy to follow up afterwardsVarsityEV found it stressful as couldn’t get some of the performers inSports where the half time was happening didn’t know they were performing so was embarrassing. Needs to be communicated.CK – thought it was fun, nice event, enjoyed event, better than surreyFelt ALS didn’t know what was happening about the site plan or the fixtures that were happeningIL – Insanity – fighting the internet as hot spotting, difficult job for them to manage, meet standards and not have complaints.JS bought up the current situation Student Opportunities has with a sports club that is in debt and notworking with the SU to resolve the situation and asked if there were any views on how to deal with them,. Suggested, splitting the groups, deratifying or micromanaging. LS thinks micromanaging is good next step as it may just be a bad committeeEV thinks if they are not remorseful, they should potentially be deratifiedAC – thinks possibly limiting activity and teams and not able to play if not bought a membershipIL – are they reimbursing what is reasonable?AC explained depends on club modelEV – proposed could they make them dormantCK – if committee this year would be on committee next year, can you stop them running.MS – micromanage asapHH – deal with new committee from the very beginning, micromanage from start.AC – send comms out to group/members about state of the club and that they would be micromanaged.Special session after training.Socs Award panel info – form coming to applyRatifications – issue with the formNext SSO – AC to look at when people can do after exams |