



Executive Committee

Minutes

Present: Tom Foy (Chair), Chris Clark, Chris Miller, Tessa Dumbelton, Charlie Eggleton, Phillip Holland, Trey Douglas, Sander Eland, , Mal Edgson (GM & Secretary)

In Attendance: Tristan Tipping (DGM), Matthew Kitching (RDM)

date: Thursday 24th Sep 09

time: 6.00pm

location: N1.01

Item		Lead
1	Apologies for absence : Ellie Alcock, Lesley Megarity. Chris Barlow, Ashley Coles Callum Judge, Louise Delahunty	
2	Approval of minutes of the meeting held on the 27th May 09: approved	
3	Matters Arising:	
3.3	Exam Feedback Campaign: CC organised this campaign which had some resistance from the University but served to raise the issue	
3.4	Attendance Policy: MK reported that the University have tightened this policy due to international students issues. We have lobbied and agreed revised wording	
4	Executive Officers Project plans	ALL
4.1	Tessa's plan for an Uxbridge Society has already been set up. Also at the meeting of Editorial Board it was agreed that this will be reserved in the paper and one of the Freshers Helpers is writing a short article and the Uxbridge Society are organising a few trips which will also be profiled. Tessa will also contribute. TF will ensure that deadlines are circulated Action TF	
4.2	Societies: A list of Society officers will be circulated to Sander. Action CM	
5	Agreement of Executive Committee 'Code of Behaviour': The tabled document was agreed subject to the inclusion of a sentence around transparency that encouraged blogging to the membership. Also a play the ball not the player agreement about handling disagreements. TF to make amendments Action TF	
6	To consider funding bids from student societies: To be distributed by the Sabbaticals and the Societies Officer in relation to the budget available and ratified by Societies Council. Part of the budget will be retained for societies who form during the year.	CM
7	To receive Sabbatical Reports:	TF, CC, CM
7.1	CM reported AU Training and Handbooks have been produced. 70 students have attended at least one of the sessions. Sports Launch is on Sunday Launch of 'Where's Our Grass' Campaign. University meeting will be taking place next week at which the Union will be represented. Relaunch of updated Sports Strategy	

	<p>Brook St Fair grossed £250, down on last year. CM speculated that this may have been either the wrong time or the wrong place. Consider the gateway concourse for next year and avoid induction talks.</p> <p>Freshers Helpers Training: CM reported he had really benefited from being with the Uxbridge helpers and some very positive things came out including trips to Wycombe nights</p> <p>New Societies Formed and allocated funds of : Shiesha £500, Uxbridge £300, Ballroom Dancing (no allocation yet),</p>	
7.2	<p>CC reported</p> <p>Education Campaign Launch: Presented Education Campaign to University management and received a very positive response with a formal action planning document to be created, student consultation will follow. As a result PG bursaries have all ready been increased to £9,000</p> <p>QAA: CC has attended sessions on the work of the QAA and the role of our audit including our feedback into it both through interviews by QAA auditors and also thorough our Student Written Submission.</p> <p>NSS Ambassadorship: CC has been appointed to this role on behalf of NUS and is working with a number of students' unions in our region.</p> <p>Twitter: CC has been maintaining a blog on Twitter</p>	
7.3	<p>TF reported</p> <p>Academic Appeals: has attended academic appeals and review panels resulting in wins in 5 out of 6 cases. These cases have raised a number of general issues upon which we can campaign to make a difference.</p> <p>Mitigating Circumstances: working on Mit Circ panels some of which may come to appeal.</p> <p>Student Charter Meeting: This meeting to completely redraft the student charter has begun with a progressive range of principles that the union would enthusiastically support as they are currently expressed.</p> <p>Times Higher Student Experience Awards: Bucks has been nominated for the Big Deal – The University have also been nominated in the IT section for Bucks TV</p>	
8	<p>University Art Shop – to discuss the implications around it closure: There is no other art shop in Wycombe, let alone one which allows students to purchase quickly materials needed it for hastily set assignments which are a feature of the courses in C&C. It was agreed there had been a shocking lack of consultation about hits. TF has requested a meeting with the programme leader and Trevor Nicholls regarding this to establish the situation. Action TF It was noted there might be an art shop in Amersham & Wycombe college. It was noted it is not fro the Union to sort this out but for the University to make proper arrangements for students to complete their assignments. The Union will lobby the University to make sure this happens</p>	TF
9	<p>Black Students Campaign Materials – It was agreed to find out what the Black Students Campaign is Action TF</p>	TF
10	<p>Support for Final Year student in C&C: TF reported that C&C do not offer final year tutorial support to their students on the basis that students do not want them. Our information is that this assertion is not correct and students do want tutorials at this critical time for them. It was agreed to take this up under the theme of guaranteed tutorial time. TF to talk to students in these areas and other small course areas and how these are being effected. Action TF</p> <p>It was also noted that direct entry students are not receiving their element of the Big Deal even though they have paid the same level of fees and received the same level of bursary. The Dean is taking this up with a view to offering compensation.</p>	TF
11	<p>Financial Report: ME reported that the Union had made a surplus of £45,000 in 2008-09 which has gone some way to help the Union climb back from its indebted position. Early indications show that our bar trading could be particularly strong this year. The draft budget for the year will go to Trustee Board next week and includes budgets for campaigns and projected for each officer.</p>	ME

12	Email addresses for Executive Officers: ME reported that he would arrange for all officers to have a position@bucks.ac.uk email address. Members should expect to be contacted by Sarah Woodward from the ARC who will organise this. Action ME	ME
13	Any Other Business	
13.1	Faculty Big Deal spend: PH asked if the Union can request a statement from the University about how the Big deal money was spent at course level. TF to ask some probing questions. Action FT	
13.2	Using New Technology: It was noted that Bill Schaff is chairing a working group. CC to contact Bill regarding using this for more sophisticated use of IT e.g. Widgets etc. Action CC	
13.3	Exec Hoodies: TF will organise for those who have given their sizes, Fairtrade.	
13.4	Blackboard Shells: TD asked Are the shells up and running with students in them? MK reported these are set up as a generic student rep one which will be populated once all student are enrolled (end of next week) 160 people are now signed up as reps. MK will set up a specific Society & Health shell. Action CC	
13.5	Transport for sports teams: SE asked how sports teams without cars or drivers will get to their fixtures. CM reported that the committee will be responsible for organising this with the help of the sports office. The staff in this area will make alternative arrangements.	
13.6	Request for £400 more funding from the campaigns budget for 'Where's Our Grass' T Shirts was approved.	
13.7	Education Campaign: SE asked fro the exec to meet to do some more work on the education campaign ME to agenda this for the next meeting. Action ME	
14	Date and time of next Meeting: ME to organise a survey of availability unless other wise state the next meeting will be two weeks today	