

## Full-Time Officer Group (FTOG)

12:00 – 13:30, Online Meeting (Zoom)

### Present

Mikey Brown, President (**President**) (Chair)  
 Josephine Conway, Activities and Employability Officer (**AEO**)  
 George Christian, Sports Officer (**SO**)  
 Jules Singh, Education Officer (**EO**)  
 Wei-Lun Chen, International Officer (**IO**)  
 Danielle Murinas, Postgraduate Officer (**PGO**)  
 Aaliyah Simms, Welfare & Community Officer (**WCO**) (arrived at 12:15)

### Also in Attendance

Jo Thomas, CEO (**JT**)  
 Sam Jones, Executive Assistant (**SJ**)

### Apologies

None.

No	ITEM FOR DISCUSSION	Notes	ACTION
1	<b>Minutes from 25.10.2021</b>	The minutes from the 25 <sup>th</sup> October 2021 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.	<b>Approved</b>
2	<b>Priority Campaigns</b>	<p>The SO updated the Officer team on progress on recruitment for student volunteers for the Officer's Mental Health campaign. The SO noted the need to urgently recruit additional student volunteers in order to hit their target of 1000 positive conversations.</p> <p>The Officer team discussed plans to promote the volunteering opportunity. Officers to all share the opportunity publicly. The President agreed to discuss with C&amp;M to promote through central guild comms channels.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
3	<b>UEB Agenda Items (15.11.21)</b>	<p>The Officer team discussed their upcoming meeting with the University's Executive Board (UEB), and possible items to include on the agenda.</p> <p>The EO suggested adding 'Article 26 scholarships' to the UEB/Guild agenda, noting that approval from the University for the project had been delayed.</p> <p>JT suggested adding on an agenda item on the Guild's performance during welcome week. The AEO agreed to present the Guild's data and information from Welcome Week. The PGO suggested framing the item in terms of continuing student engagement into semester one.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>

		<p>The President suggested adding an item on ‘student safety’ to the UEB/Guild agenda, noting the significant growth in demands on Guild services related to student safety following the relaxation of COVID-19 demands. JT noted the possibility of seeking additional resource from the University to support student safety content. Officer team to discuss.</p> <p>The President suggested including a short item and paper, updating UEB on the Officer Team’s priority campaign for the year ahead. The President suggested creating a ‘one page’ document to dover the key aims and timeline of the campaign.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
<b>4</b>	<b>Online Learning</b>	<p>The Officer Team discussed a proposal from a number of students across a number of colleges to continue with the University’s current provisions for online learning. The EO noted that under current University plans, students would be required to return to complete in-person learning from semester two onwards. The EO noted concerns from a number of international students who were continuing to study remotely abroad due to concerns about COVID-19 levels in the UK.</p> <p>The President noted a significant need for the University to support students to continue with online learning from semester two, particularly in the Business school and other departments with large numbers of international students. The PGO noted the view of the PVC Education that distance learning provision would end at semester two. The Officer team discussed their approach to lobby the University to change this approach.</p> <p>The WCO noted that several students had reported being told to take a leave of absence from their course if they were unable and/or unwilling to return to campus in person. The President noted the need to identify the number of affected students. The PGO noted a number of PG students who had been told to take a leave of absence in light of their caring responsibilities.</p> <p>The EO and IO agreed to discuss possible next steps, suggesting a possible survey to assess the number of students affected by the University’s current policy. The President suggested raising urgently with senior University staff to seek their views.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>EO/IO</b></p>
<b>5</b>	<b>International Night</b>	<p>The IO updated the Officer team on plans for a refreshed International Night in the Guild’s venues. The IO noted their ambition for the development of an expanded regular international themed club nights. The EO noted the opportunity for a Desi themed night.</p> <p>The IO agreed to discuss with the Director of Engagement and Venues Development Manager.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p>

		The PGO and EO noted similar issues with accessing support for PG and Commuter Students social events. JT noted the significant workload for staff in the Guild at the present time, and ongoing discussions with the Guild’s Senior Management Team on possible avenues to free up staff resource and provide additional capacity for new projects.	<b>IO</b>  <b>Noted</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>‘No Meeting’ Fridays</b>	The CEO updated the Officer Team on plans for the Guild to shift towards avoiding set meetings internally on Friday’s each week. JT noted the aim to free up time to move projects forwards. The Officer Team agreed to move forwards with implementing ‘No Meeting’ Friday’s in their diaries.	<b>Noted</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Making It Happen</b>	<p>The EO noted a University Campaign, ‘Making it Happen’, seeking to promote the student voice and improve the University’s NSS scores. The EO noted that a recent University email to students to promote the student voice, which had not mentioned the Guild of Students at all. The President noted that they had fed back their disappointment to the University that the Guild’s democratic structures and student rep system had not been mentioned.</p> <p>The EO noted a recent meeting with the University at which they had learned of an expanded role for the University’s new Academic Experience interns to cover wellbeing and student safety issues, outside their previous remit. The PGO noted their concern about the side-lining of Guild Officers, and the nature of the new Academic Intern positions as non-elected.</p> <p>The President noted the positive investment of the University in the student experience via the Academic Experience Interns. The President suggested approaching the relationships strategically, seeking support and collaboration with the new positions with the Guild’s involvement clearly highlighted in the joint communications. The PGO noted the importance of having Guild representation in these spaces moving forwards. The President noted the commitment of senior University to collaboration and co-creation of new projects.</p>	<b>Noted</b>  <b>Noted</b>  <b>Noted</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>Celebrating Communities – Commonwealth Games.</b>	The EO updated the Officer team on an opportunity via the Guild’s involvement in the Commonwealth Games for student groups to access a ‘Celebrating Communities’ small grants fund of £2m from the City Council to support voluntary activity in the run-up to the games in 2022.	<b>Noted</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Officer Key Meetings</b>	<p><b>President</b> – SPRC, Spiking Task Group, Activist Network, TEK TU meeting, Forum for Global Challenges, DBFO Pritchatts Park meeting, Opening of the Exchange, Renters Union meeting, Call with BCUSU President.</p> <p><b>AEO</b> – Spiking Task Group, CQAC, Scrutiny Panel, CHEF.</p>	<b>Noted</b>  <b>Noted</b>

		<p><b>Sports</b> – Commonwealth Games meeting, ‘Movember’ coordination meeting, Spiking task group, BUCS Super Series. (for ‘Xplosion’), Scrutiny Panel, ‘Xplosion’ event, Welcome Week de-briefing.</p> <p><b>IO</b> – International Students Employability Working Group, Scrutiny Panel, CHEF.</p> <p><b>Education</b> – OTA winners lunch, HEFO management group, Timetabling Management Group, University Senate.</p> <p><b>PGO</b> – PGR Wellbeing meeting, University Senate, Opening of the Exchange, Scrutiny Panel.</p> <p><b>WCO</b> – Meeting w/ Campus Services.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
<b>10</b>	<b>Schools/ Colleges/ Dubai Update</b>	No Items noted.	<b>Noted</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Guild Communications &amp; Social Media</b>	<p>The Officer team discussed their planned communications for the coming week. The Officer Team noted the following items for promotion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Guild Counter at Med School building.</li> <li>• Drink Spiking Safety</li> <li>• Possible Industrial Action (UCU)</li> <li>• Officer Priority Campaign.</li> <li>• Diwali</li> </ul>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
<b>12</b>	<b>Part Time Officers</b>	<p>The PGO noted their support for the LGBTQSO on LGBT+ history month, together with the Activist Network.</p> <p>The President noted discussions with the WO about drink spiking. The WCO agreed to discuss with them.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
<b>13</b>	<b>AOB</b>	<p>The WCO noted the upcoming ‘National Carer’s Day’ on the 25<sup>th</sup> November. The WCO noted plans for a social event for student carers on the day.</p> <p>SJ updated the Officer Team on plans for the upcoming away day on the 5<sup>th</sup> November.</p> <p>The President noted the upcoming deadline for items at the All Student Meeting. The Officer team discussed possible items to include on the agenda.</p>	<p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p> <p><b>Noted</b></p>
<b>14</b>	<b>Meeting Reflection</b>	No Items noted.	<b>Noted</b>