

**Committee Name: Guild Officer Group**
**Date & Time: 9:30 am 19th of March 2021**
**Present:**

In attendance	Apologies	Absent without apologies
<p>Tobi Adeyemi – Guild President            Amie Raphael – Activities and Employability Officer            Jules Singh – Education Officer            Rebecca Cutler, Postgraduate Officer            Rob Hegarty, Sports Officer            Charlotte Minter, Welfare and Community Officer</p> <p>Imogen Mann, Disabled Students; Officer            Matthew Griffin, Ethical and Environmental Officer            Israel Tamale, Ethnic Minority Students’ Officer            Sorcha Hughes, LGBTQ+ Students’ Officer            Wei-Lun Chen, International Officer</p> <p>Also in attendance:            Tom Snape, Policy and Campaigns Coordinator and            GOG Secretary</p>		<p>Yu Xu,            Campaigns            Officer            Em Andress,            Trans and            Non Binary            Officer            Alex            Heighton,            Trans and            Non Binary            Officer            Alice Morley,            Women’s            Officer</p>

No.	Item for discussion	Questions/Comments/Voting Decision From Discussion	Action
1	<b>Welcome</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TA opened the meeting</li> </ul>	
2	<b>Minutes from the last meeting</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TA highlighted that her last name was spelled incorrectly. TS to update.</li> <li>WC highlighted that he sent apologise. TS to update.</li> </ul>	TS
3	<b>Updates From Officers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>IT is working on arranging a new careers event and is excited for the upcoming Black Voices events.</li> <li>RH is focusing on getting sport and the gyms back and running.</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SH has been recovering from history month and working on her dissertation. They've also been working on a mental health forum and some work with Not On.</li> <li>▪ WC has been working on many projects such as a cook book for One World Festival!!</li> <li>▪ IM has been working on the Disabled Students' Commission.</li> <li>▪ JS has been working on the student submission to the monitoring return on the Access and Participation Plan.</li> <li>▪ MG has been working on compost week, a fossil free and divestment report and sustainable transport.</li> <li>▪ RC has been working with officers from other unions on the support research students have during COVID. Also been working with the new dean of postgraduates and director of PGR to establish good relationships.</li> <li>▪ AM has been organising society activity for after Easter!</li> <li>▪ CM has been working on a safety campaign with the community warden's team. This includes working on how reporting works. Has also organised the online vigil tonight.</li> <li>▪ RC gave an update on the 'Women who lead your Guild' event.</li> <li>▪ TA has been working on Black Voices, in particular the longer term picture of the campaign beyond her tenure. She's cooking up a strategy to push University Council to commit to divest from Fossil Fuels. She's also been working with other Russell Group Unions on shared concerns. In her capacity as a member of the NUS Democratic Procedures Committee, she has been working on making NUS conference accessible.</li> </ul>	
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4	<b>Stumbling Blocks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IM been having difficulties getting a campaign off the ground due to risk assessments taking extra time.</li> <li>▪ AR offered to help move this along. IM to contact AR with details.</li> </ul>	AR
5	<b>Committee Chairs Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ JS provided an update on the Education Committee. Fair assessment policy and library open times have been the big issues of discussion. Library services have taken on-board the work that came from those discussions.</li> <li>▪ AR updated on Activities Committee. Super AGMs and Save a Society were the biggest areas of discussion. The committee also considered a range of grants and ideas.</li> <li>▪ WC updated on the Welfare and Liberation Committee. The committee approved a range of events and campaigns. The Indian farmer's protests were also discussed. It was also approved that The Guild formally adopt the term Awarding Gap instead of Attainment Gap – RC is going to take this further at the University.</li> <li>▪ TA updated on the campaigns committee – no new campaigns were approved but the committee instead have been focusing on developing those already approved. A student submission around recycling was also considered.</li> </ul>	
6	<b>Sharing Best Practice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RC introduced the agenda item. This item came from the discussion around MG's sustainability survey – which caught some controversy around terminology. The idea is that consideration could be given to how frustrations like this could be avoided in the future by sharing information around liberation or sectional groups.</li> <li>▪ SH stated they thought this was a good idea.</li> <li>▪ TS stated that this has been discussed as part of the consultation with officer</li> </ul>	

		<p>training. In the long term it seems like there is a training need that could be included as part of officer training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TA suggested that circulating communications or events prior to publication may help with catching these issues before they 'go live'.</li> </ul>	
7	<b>Historical Research On Sexuality Committee Update</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ SH updated on the first meeting of the steering group that are researching the University's connection to conversation therapy historically. It was raised that three months may not be enough to adequately engage in this and platform survivors. Generally SH is feeling positive about the impact the project could have.</li> </ul>	
8	<b>Freebies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ RH introduced this item. The sustainability concerns around the amount of freebies the guild gives out are significant. As part of the Guild's sustainability drive it was suggested that we aim to reduce freebies by 50%.</li> <li>▪ CM discussed an idea that has been raised elsewhere, in which tokens are used to limit usable.</li> <li>▪ RC discussed how elections are often bad for freebies.</li> <li>▪ Different ideas for more sustainable elections were discussed.</li> <li>▪ The committee agreed that this was a good idea.</li> <li>▪ RH stated that this would be given further consideration and taken to the next GOG.</li> <li>▪ TA stated she would like to see some kind of plan for how this would be rolled out.</li> </ul>	
9	<b>Disabled Students' Commission</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ IM gave an update on the DSC.</li> <li>▪ WC asked for further information about the access needs students have.</li> <li>▪ IM gave more details on the issues persisting on the data.</li> <li>▪ TA discussed what could be done to support this getting further shared around.</li> </ul>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ There was a general discussion about the various university staff who have been unhelpful in trying to share this survey.</li> <li>▪ RC highlighted the recent speech in the Senate by a disabled student about the impact of online learning – while this has been positive for that student in particular, there is potential for the guild to use this as an opportunity to use this to escalate the issue to take it higher.</li> <li>▪ Officers were asked to support in sharing this around.</li> </ul>	
10	<b>Maintaining Positive Changes Post COVID</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ WC stated in light of the previous agenda item, while the changes made due to COVID are not totally positive – there are probably things that could and should be retained beyond this year.</li> </ul>	
<b>Additional Items</b>			
8	<b>AOB</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ TA raised that GOG do not have much money left in their budget for socials.</li> </ul>	

**The Chair closed the meeting at: 10:47**

**Date of next meeting: xxx**