

Roehampton Students' Union **STUDENTS' UNION COUNCIL**

The 1st Students' Union Council Meeting (SUC) of the 2019/20 Academic Year
Wednesday 23rd October 2019, 5PM
Cedar 101, Froebel College

S U M M A R Y O F T H E M E E T I N G

- **Welcome, confirmation of quoracy, request for any other business. (p. 6)**
- **There were no minutes or matters arising** as this is the first meeting of the academic year. **(p. 6)**
- **Guidelines for SUC** were introduced. **(p. 6)**
- **'Bring Back Thirsty Thursdays' Idea** was discussed. **(p. 6)**
 - o Engagement has been lower in the Union Bar on Thursdays, last year this night was branded as 'Thirsty Thursdays'.
 - o The RSU has never run the event but only provided support by hiring a karaoke machine for the cost of £600, which was making a financial loss for the RSU.
 - o The RSU has previously added the event on the RSU What's On page but this year this has not been done, as this event denotes binge drinking and the RSU wants to focus on more inclusive events and promote safe nights out.
 - o Going forward the RSU has secured a karaoke service for lowered cost of £7 a week, which will be provided on Thursday nights. RSU will also look into renaming the event to make it more inclusive and to promote this to students to drive engagement.
 - o The idea was formally rejected by the SUC members and will not become Union policy. However, it will be addressed by the RSU Events team.
 - o BOP themes were also mentioned: not every student can afford the cost on an outfit per week and the RSU are able to provide a better student experience doing themes as seasonal events, such as Halloween and Christmas, with more thought through theme and the decorations of events, as apparent during Fresher's Week.
- **Sabbatical Officer and Part Time Officer Updates** can be found as an attachment. **(Discussion p. 8, Full updates p. 23-36)**

- **RSU By-Election Announcement:** nominations are open until 6th November for four vacant Part Time Officer roles and two NUS Delegate roles. Voting is open 11th Nov – 13th Nov. **(p. 9)**
- **Student Senate Funding Report** was given by Dan O'Donoghue (RSU President) running through funding decisions and their stages from previous years and in more detail for the academic year 2019/20. **(Discussion p. 9, Full report p. 18)**
- **Formation of second BAME Students' Officer** was discussed based on feedback from last year's officer but the conversation was concluded that there is no need for a second role. **(p. 11)**
- **'Breaking Taboos' video series campaign idea** presented by Dan O'Donoghue (RSU President) - Part Time Officers agreed to support the campaign. **(p. 11)**
- **'Lobby the University to declare a Climate Change Emergency' Idea** was discussed **(p. 12)**
 - o The RSU has opened a conversation with the University and a working group will be established to gather student feedback and work towards this. Part Time Officers support this idea.
 - o The idea was formally accepted by the members of SUC, so it will become Union Policy and the RSU is mandated to lobby the University to declare a climate change emergency.
- **Concern about lack of sport facilities presented** by Danielle Chegwiddden (Female Sport President). **(p. 15)**
 - o There is concern that the space sport teams currently use may be sold in the future so there will be a need for new facilities. The RSU Sabbatical Officers and Danielle will take the concern forward to the University and Sport Roehampton.
- **A new Agenda Item Description Form** was approved by the members of SUC and this form will be used going forward by anyone submitting and Agenda item for SUC. **(Discussion p. 15, Attachment p. 22)**