

STUDENTS' UNION COUNCIL
The 3rd Students' Union Council Meeting (SUC) of the 2019/20 Academic Year
Monday 16th December 2019, 6PM

SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES

Items for Discussion	
Item 8: Gender gap in security staff	<p>The Gender Equality Officer raised concern that there is lack of female security staff at RSU events. The Sabbatical Officer team clarified that the RSU hired a new external security team this year – Paratus - due, in part, to the fact they promise to always supply female staff to the RSU events. They aim to ensure that there is a number of female security staff present at RSU events.</p> <p>ACTION: Sabbatical Officers were actioned to raise this concern with the RSU events team.</p>
Item 9: Registering preferred name for Trans Students	<p>Trans Students' Officer raised concern about name change issues trans students have faces, particularly international students, as UK students can change their name by deed poll.</p> <p>Students found that if they wish to change a name on their academic records (e.g. on their email) they have to speak to the University registry and can get this changed but if this name appears on their degree certificate but does not match their 'legal name' it may cause legality issues in terms of their degree being valid, which is a concern for these students.</p> <p>They also wanted to bring attention to lecturers addressing student by the correct pronouns: the option to specify how students wish to be addressed should be promoted more.</p>

	<p>ACTION: George Walker to raise these concerns at LGBT+ Network Meeting with Jude and Mars and report results at the next SUC meeting.</p>
<p>Item 10: Free or discounted BOP tickets for Flat Reps</p>	<p>LGBTQ+ Officer raised that Flat Reps feel disenfranchised with the RSU and feel they are not rewarded for their efforts. Sabbatical Officers emphasise that Flat Reps report to the Colleges and not the RSU, and that the RSU does not currently have the resources for this, as granting a free entry to events to 170 Flat Reps would have a large financial impact.</p> <p>It was also highlighted that Colleges reward Flat Reps by either giving them free Summer Ball tickets or free tickets for Freshers Week.</p> <p>It was proposed that there could be a middle ground so Senior Flat Reps would be rewarded as they've shown a commitment to the scheme and are taking on more responsibility. However, the decision for this sits within the College teams.</p> <p>ACTION: Sabbatical Officers to raise this with the College Presidents and the CLDO's to see what their take is on the Flat Rep Reward and if they'd be open to consider changing it. (Only Froebel College Officers were present at this SUC meeting to express their views.)</p>
<p>13 Part-Time Officers Wellbeing</p>	<p>BAME Students' Officer raised a concern about Part Time Officer wellbeing. A number of suggestions were raised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More personal support and more personal check-ins. • More information about the roles prior to elections • A compulsory handover process with the current and new PTO to ensure continuity in the role. • The Part Time aspect of the role should be emphasised to students via RSU communications.

It was clarified by the Student Voice Coordinator that all requirements for the role and a schedule are included in the PTO Guidance document. This is the first year the RSU has added more structure to the roles and more guidance, which may have put on additional pressure to PTOs. It was emphasised that the written SUC updates can be short bullet points and PTOs should not stress about the length, as this function exists for transparency.

ACTIONS:

- PTO Mentoring will be put in place – this will include checking in regularly and 121 support.
- More structured handover will be facilitated by Sabb mentors with current part time officers and new ones from April 2020.
- Election Workshops will be run prior to Election to introduce students to the PTO and sabbatical officer roles and explain what they will entail.