

ROEHAMPTON STUDENTS' UNION STUDENTS' UNION COUNCIL

The 7th Students' Union Council Meeting (SUC) of the 2019/20 Academic Year
Tuesday 28th April 2020, 5 pm
Conducted via telematic conference on Zoom

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A G E N D A

1. **Welcome to the 7th 2019/2020 meeting of SUC** [Greta Zaltieri – SUC Chair]
2. **Record of virtual attendance** [Greta Zaltieri – SUC Chair, Johanna Korhonen – Student Voice Coordinator, Kate Griffiths – Minuting Officer]
3. **Rules of the chatroom** [Greta Zaltieri – SUC Chair]
4. **Updates on Matters Arising** [Greta Zaltieri – SUC Chair]¹
5. **Officers' Updates** [Sabbatical & Part-Time RSU Officers]²
6. **COVID-19 Updates** [Sabbatical Officers]³
7. **Any Other Business**

Next SUC Meeting: Monday 18th April, 5pm, conducted via telematic conference on Zoom

¹ Please note that the Minutes and the Matters Arising from SUC VI will be sent out in advance and taken as read. During this section of the meeting, the Chair of RSU will ask for any updates on existing matters arising.

² Please note that written updates will be sent out in advance and taken as read. In this section of the meeting, officers will be addressed individually and will have the opportunity to share any thoughts with the council.

³ Please note that the Chair of SUC has not received any papers for this item, neither the indication to table them. Therefore, they will be presented orally.

ATTENDANCE

CHAIR: Greta Zaltieri

MINUTING SECRETARY: Kate Griffiths

IN ATTENDANCE:

Dan O'Donoghue (RSU President)

George Walker (VP Community and Welfare)

Levi Mbiya (VP Education)

Farrah Black (Gender Equality Officer)

Fabian Jasonson (Froebel College Deputy President)

Ethan Thubron (Male Sport President)

Danielle Chegwidan (Female Sport President)

Laoise Holohan (Environment and Sustainability Officer)

Nicolo Sodaro (Postgraduate Students' Officer)

Annabel Black (LGBTQ+ Officer)

Sophie Harris (Mature Students Officer)

Luke Coffey (International Students' Officer)

Ellie Hall (Digby Stuart Deputy President)

Jacob Aferi (Male Inter-Faith Officer)

Katie Nguyen (Whitelands College President)

ABSENCES:

Dre Mbwese (Froebel President)

Jake White (Mount Clair Site Rep)

Joshua Sadler (Students with disabilities' Officer)

Jude Stellato (Trans Students' Officer)

Minaal Ali (Southlands President)

Olivia Jayeola (Mental Health Officer)

Samir Abubakar (Whitelands Deputy President)

Shez Khan (Southlands Deputy President)

Sierra Kamara (BAME Students' Officer)

Stephanie Rosenje (Female Interfaith Officer)

Tamiah Forbes (Digby President)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Johanna Korhonen – Student Voice Coordinator

Lauryn Fleming (Student)

Vittoria Butti (Student)

Jess Hardwick (Student)

SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES

Items for Discussion	
Item 6: COVID-19 Updates	<p>The board discussed the current situation of lockdown due to the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The Sabbs are currently working on a No Detriment Policy and Accommodation Hall fee waiver;-On campus students have been given financial relief; the private rental market is slightly different, but off-campus students can contact the Off-Campus Accommodation Department for help and guidance;-Questions regarding studying abroad and eventual compensation for missed classes will be raised with Senior Management;-All officers agreed it is a good idea for the £50,000 of Senate Budget to go the Student Emergency Hardship Fund. <p>ACTION: PTOs to continue to collect and provide feedback, Sabbs to bring urgent matters to the University and report back at next SUC.</p>

FULL MINUTES OF THE MEETING

- **Welcome**
- **Confirmation of Quoracy**
- **Request for Any Other Business**
- **Minutes from the Previous Meeting**

<p>Greta Zaltieri (SUC Chair) noted:</p>	<p>Welcome, Attendance & Apologies:</p> <p>Welcome to the seventh SUC meeting of the academic year 2019/20, via Zoom.</p> <p>We are here to hold the monthly Students' Union Council meeting. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss Officer updates and Students' Union matters. This meeting will be held online via Zoom due to the Pandemic and in line with Government Regulations to stay at home.</p> <p>Greta then directed Council Members to the "Rules of the Chatroom" document that was sent out in light of the current situation and explained the "raise hand" function as well as the fact the meeting is not locked, so members can still join, even after the meeting has started.</p>
<p>Greta Zaltieri (SUC Chair) noted:</p>	<p>Quoracy:</p> <p>We need over half of the members to be in attendance to make any decisions or vote, this is 13 PTOs with the current membership of 27 elected Part Time Officers. We have 14 Part Time Officers in attendance, meaning we are quorate for voting.</p>
<p>Greta Zaltieri (SUC Chair) noted:</p>	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting:</p> <p>We have circulated the minutes from the previous meeting and have not received any corrections.</p> <p>SUC Members did not have any further corrections to the minutes.</p>

<p>Greta Zaltieri (SUC Chair) noted:</p>	<p>Matters Arising from the previous meeting:</p> <p>The matters arising can be seen in the attached table.</p>
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MATTERS ARISING

<p><u>Agenda Item 16:</u></p> <p>Bring Back Thirsty Thursdays</p>	<p>Update: The RSU has supplied the Bar with the equipment to run karaoke and the ownership of the Thursday night event is with the Union Bar.</p> <p>COMPLETED</p>
<p><u>Agenda Item 10:</u></p> <p>RSU Autumn By-Elections</p>	<p>Update: All roles were filled during the election.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-Faith Officer (Male): Jacob Afedi • Postgraduate Students' Officer: Nicolo Sodaro • Mount Clare Site Rep: Jake White • Environmental and Sustainability Officer: Laoise Holohan • 2 NUS Delegate positions (open place & women's place): Fabian Jasonson, Farrah Black <p>COMPLETED</p>
<p><u>Agenda Item 14:</u></p> <p>"Breaking Taboos" Campaign</p>	<p>Update: Dan O'Donoghue is waiting until after the elections to run this campaign so as not to distract from this democratic process.</p> <p>IN PROCESS</p>
<p><u>Agenda Item 15:</u></p> <p>Lobby for Climate Change Emergency</p>	<p>Update: The University is in the process of forming new enabling strategies and one of these is the sustainability strategy. Dan O'Donoghue is having conversations with the University and the Amnesty International Society about this. Currently they are reluctant to declare a climate emergency but with support we can challenge them on this.</p> <p>IN PROCESS</p>

<p><u>Agenda Item 17</u> <u>(AOB):</u></p> <p>On Campus Sports Facilities</p>	<p>Update: George Walker, Levi Mbiya and Sport Presidents have had a conversation with Sport Roehampton to explore options for sport facilities.</p> <p>David Lloyd and another company have expressed interest in buying the sports facility so it depends who we prefer. A decision will be made in April/May.</p> <p>IN PROCESS</p>
<p><u>Agenda Item 8:</u></p> <p>Gender Gap in Security Staff</p>	<p>Update: There is now a Mental Health First Aider in post and training will be open to all staff in the next couple of weeks. This course is normally £300 but will be free to staff and students.</p> <p>Farrah updated Council Members that more female security staff have now been employed and wanted to thank George Walker for pushing this issue.</p> <p>COMPLETED</p>
<p><u>Agenda Item 9:</u></p> <p>Registering Preferred name for Trans Students</p>	<p>Update: We will continue to update as and when with this agenda item.</p> <p>IN PROCESS</p>
<p><u>Agenda Item 10:</u></p> <p>Reward of RSU Event Tickets for Flat Reps</p>	<p>Update: George Walker is meeting with the CLDO's next week so a report will be given during the next SUC meeting.</p> <p>IN PROCESS</p>
<p><u>Agenda Item 13:</u></p> <p>Part-Time Officers Well Being</p>	<p>Update: A document is being drafted surrounding this.</p> <p>IN PROCESS</p>
<p><u>Agenda Item 8:</u></p> <p>Prayer Rooms on Campus/Whitelands</p>	<p>This item is being put on hold due to the exceptional circumstances of the COVID19 pandemic. Changes will resume as soon as the situation unfolds.</p> <p>IN PROCESS</p>

Reminder of SUC Guidelines

<p>Greta Zaltieri (SUC Chair) noted:</p>	<p>SUC Guidelines:</p> <p>Please remember to follow these ground rules for the Students' Union Council meetings. To emphasise, members are kindly asked to turn on their audio and video settings and to bear with us as we learn to run SUC virtually.</p>
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ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Agenda Item 5: Sabb Updates

<p>Dan O'Donoghue (RSU President) noted:</p>	<p>Wanted to congratulate all those who took part in Candidate Question Time, which was all held online for the first time. We had 300 people viewing the event and 2,500 accounts reached so this was a great success. Now we just need officers to encourage their student peers to vote via the online portals.</p> <p>Student Senate Update: The £50,000 allocated to the students will be used for the Student Hardship fund, due to the current situation.</p>
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<p>George Walker (VP Community and Welfare) noted:</p>	<p>It has been a very busy time for all the Sabbs and we are currently collating information from the students to feedback to Senior Management. The current list of FAQs would not be possible without the feedback received, so do please keep it coming.</p>
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<p>Levi Mbiya (VP Education) noted:</p>	<p>Has been meeting with Stephen Driver regularly regarding the no detriment policy and again, student feedback is paramount to this.</p>
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<p>Greta Zaltieri (SUC Chair) noted:</p>	<p>Conversations and questions surrounding Elections and Covid-19 will come later in the meeting.</p>
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<p>Agenda Item 6: <u>Officer Updates</u></p>	
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<p>Annabel Black (LGBTQ+ Officer) noted:</p>	<p>Participated in the SSOAP Isolation Challenge as well as the Drag Society challenge which has been a lot of fun. Has also been elected as the new Roe Paul Drag Society President for the academic year 2020/2021 so this will be something to look forward to in the new term. Has been talking to both Emily Cookson and Sam Nelson as to how to celebrate Pride remotely.</p>
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<p>Sophie Harris (Mature Students Officer) noted:</p>	<p>Took a break in order to focus on her well-being but is now back and planning a virtual social with the Mature Students. She is also offering weekly Zoom catch ups and fun things to do in order to take students' minds off any difficulties they may be facing. Been in touch with Student Engagement too see through a couple of projects that had been started and aiming to build a virtual community going forward.</p>
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<p>Farrah Black (Gender Equality Officer) noted:</p>	<p>Is currently running in the RSU Elections to become the new Student Union President so this is taking up a lot of time at present. She is also looking to give a handover to Annabel as the new Drag Society President.</p>
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<p>Fabian Jasonson (Froebel College Deputy President) noted:</p>	<p>Is also running in the elections, so this is taking over at the moment. If anyone does need support in the meantime, Fabian is based in Chadwick. However, there seems to be groups of Glion students who are taking over and this has been brought to the attention of Security.</p>
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<p>Nicolo Sodaro (Post Graduate Students')</p>	<p>Elections and assignments are taking over at the moment. Will bring up the matter of tuition fees for Business PG students later in the meeting.</p>
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Officer) noted:	
Laiose Holohan (Environment and Sustainability Officer) noted:	Has been involved in the Society elections and has been elected as the President for the Amnesty International Society.
Jacob Afeidi (Male Inter-Faith Officer) noted:	Unfortunately, has experienced two tragedies as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and, as a result, has encountered unexpected challenges. Initially set up a What's App group for students to discuss University related issues. However, it is now becoming a free for all and it has become very challenging to mediate.
Greta Zaltieri (SUC Chair) noted:	You have all the support of the Council and we are so sorry to hear about your losses.
Ethan Thubron (Male Sports President) noted:	Working on delivering new ways in which Sports Memberships will work. Some clubs pay money and never see exactly where this goes as well as other teams paying less and getting the same as clubs who have paid more. There needs to be a uniform membership and if you want more then you pay this directly to the club.
Ellie Hall (Digby Stuart Deputy President) noted:	Pushing the elections to students as well as concentrating on deadlines.
Danielle Chegwidan (Sports Roehampton)	Trying to get clarity on Tour refunds, which has proved challenging as the company are trying to give credit notes instead of cash back. We also cannot have the Sports Awards as we normally would, so Danielle is working with Sport Roehampton as to how this

<p>President - Female) noted:</p>	<p>will work. Has struggled with engagement of students since lockdown; the content is there, it is just making sure students have the tools to access it.</p>
<p>Katie Nguyen (Whitelands College President) noted:</p>	<p>Has been contributing to a National case study for equal access in the UK.</p>
<p>Luke Coffey (International Students Officer) noted:</p>	<p>Please see written update. Has also been in touch with Dante regarding a handover.</p>
<p>George Walker (VP Community and Welfare) noted:</p>	<p>Together with Fabian Jasonson and Farrah Black, George represented Roehampton Students' Union at the National Conference and wanted to thank both Fabian and Farrah for giving up their time for this.</p>
<p>Greta Zalteri (SUC Chair) noted:</p>	<p>Congratulations to everyone who took part in this year's elections.</p>

<p>Agenda Item 7: <u>Covid - 19</u></p>	
<p>George Walker (VP Community and Welfare) noted:</p>	<p>Thank you for all the contributions so far. The main points to this document will be the No Detriment Policy, Accommodation Hall fee waiver and the £50,000 emergency hardship fund. We will use this meeting as a platform for any questions / updates.</p>

<p>Annabel Black (LGBTQ+ Officer) noted:</p>	<p>There is an upcoming tuition fee payment due on the 6th of May of £4,000. What are we paying for and are we entitled to compensation or no payment at all?</p>
<p>George Walker (VP Community and Welfare) noted:</p>	<p>This is a personal opinion but students are well within their rights to ask this question. However, there may be repercussions to this as it will have a significant effect on Roehampton as a whole and the University could look very different as a result. But this is a very valid point and something that can be raised to Senior Management.</p>
<p>Laoise Holohan (Environment and Sustainability Officer) noted:</p>	<p>The Sabbs have done a great job in giving financial relief to students who are on campus, but will there be any allowances made to those who live off campus?</p>
<p>George Walker (VP Community and Welfare) noted:</p>	<p>The privately rented sector is slightly different, but will get in contact with Maxina Patterson and continue to push this. If someone is struggling, then they can always contact Maxina about this.</p>
<p>Sophie Harris (Mature Students' Officer) noted:</p>	<p>Thank you to the Sabbs for all the hard work they have done already. Would like to ask about study abroad students, as they are already down on credits and therefore this second term is very important in their overall grade. They are under more pressure as a result.</p>
<p>George Walker (VP Community and Welfare) noted:</p>	<p>This is something we are more than happy to ask Senior Management as it is a very valid point.</p>

<p>Greta Zaltieri (SUC Chair) noted:</p>	<p>There is an email that off campus students can message if they are having problems etc and this is: offcampus@roehampton.ac.uk</p>
<p>Fabian Jasonson (Froebel College Deputy President) noted:</p>	<p>What can we do about people breaking quarantine rules?</p>
<p>George Walker (VP Community and Welfare) noted:</p>	<p>This is a hard matter to police but we are operating under the mantle; See it, Say it, Sorted. We will obviously mention this to Senior Management too, but as it is technically breaking the law, then you are well within your rights to get the Police involved. Your safety comes first.</p>
<p>Danielle Chegvidden (Female Sport Roehampton President) noted:</p>	<p>Has spoken to a private landlord and the view is that if you are still receiving Student Finance then you are liable to pay your rent and bills as normal.</p>
<p>Levi Mbiya (VP Education) noted:</p>	<p>Email Levi and CC in Dan and George if you're having issues surrounding this topic as soon as possible.</p>
<p>George Walker (VP Community and Welfare) noted:</p>	<p>Does everyone think that the £50,000 from Student Senate going to the Student Hardship Fund is a good idea? Everyone gathered agreed that it was.</p>

<p>Jacob Aferi (Male Inter-Faith Officer) noted:</p>	<p>Have we lost any members of staff to Covid-19?</p>
<p>George Walker (VP Community and Welfare) noted:</p>	<p>We are not privy to this information at this time, but Line Managers are constantly checking on their staff. It would be great if we could recognise those lecturers who are going above and beyond during this time.</p>
<p>Dan O'Donoghue (RSU President) noted:</p>	<p>Echo what George has said as without lecturers, we would not be a University. This pandemic could also mean significant changes to University life for years to come, so the ripples will be sizable.</p>

Any Other Business

<p>George Walker (VP Community and Welfare) noted:</p>	<p>Well done to those standing in the Elections. There are a few days left for voting so please can everyone promote this to their cohorts and encourage people to vote. We have great voter turnout potential with this and Johanna is working really hard to make this possible. Next SUC we will ask for feedback surrounding the process.</p>
<p>Nicolo Sodaro (Post Graduate Students' Officer) noted:</p>	<p>In regard to Elior workers, we do not think we have qualified for the 15 hours per week payments as only 3 out of the 25 people employed have.</p>
<p>Fabian Jasonson (Froebel College Deputy President) noted:</p>	<p>They introduced a policy saying if you have not worked 15 hours a week for the last 8 weeks then you do not qualify for funding. However, there is no literature on this. We have asked Elior several times, but in vain.</p>

<p>Danielle Chegwidden (Female Sports Roehampton President) noted:</p>	<p>Is a supervisor at the Bar but still does not qualify. Nobody at the Bar from her knowledge does. There is also no furlough opportunities and no sick pay during this busy time. This is the same for Nicolo and Fabian.</p>
<p>Dan O'Donoghue (RSU President) noted:</p>	<p>We are aware of this and will schedule another Zoom chat to discuss it and formulate an email to send to those heads of service. Reggie Blennerhassett manages the Elixir account, so it would be important to include him in this email. Use your Officer power and the Sabbs will support you.</p>
<p>Annabel Black (LGBTQ+ Officer) noted:</p>	<p>Concerns about timescales as the next tuition fee instalment is due very soon. Will there be answers in time?</p>
<p>George Walker (VP Community and Welfare) noted:</p>	<p>We will pose that question in Student Senate and Katie will be a part of this, so we can work on a draft statement to present to the VC.</p>
<p>Jacob Aferi (Male Inter-Faith Officer) noted:</p>	<p>Can we combine workers hours then distribute to individuals?</p>
<p>Greta Zaltieri (SUC Chair) noted:</p>	<p>This is helpful input as collectively we can make an impact. Thank you all again for attending and for following the Chat Room Rules. The next SUC will be held on Thursday the 28th of May at 3pm. This will be the last one of the year. The SUC Chair Closed the Meeting.</p>

ROEHAMPTON STUDENTS' COUNCIL MEETINGS **GUIDELINES**

1) **All elected officers are kindly asked to participate to the meeting with both audio and video on.**

In order to ensure a smooth run of SUC, out of respect for your colleagues, and as a method to achieve fairness of expression, all elected officers are kindly asked to enable their audio and video connection during virtual SUC meetings. If there are any special circumstances that will not allow you to turn your video or audio on, these have to be communicated to the Chair before the meeting.

2) **Officers are not allowed to use the Zoom chat function.**

The Zoom chat function will be disabled. If you need to communicate something urgent to the Chair during the meeting, please message the Student Voice Coordinator, Johanna Korhonen, via Facebook.

3) **Raising your hand.**

If you want to intervene, use the Raise Hand Function on the chat. You can access the Raise Hand Function through the Participants Tab on the right side of the screen. There is no need to physically raise your hand, and please note that if you physically raise your hand there is no guarantee that the Chair will be able to see you and give you the word.

4) **General notes.**

- You will be muted when you enter the conversation and you will not be able to unmute yourselves. Only the Chair of SUC will have the possibility to unmute you.
- The meeting will be recorded. Please, do not forget to turn on your audio and video and to keep them on for the whole meeting. You will be unmuted when it is your turn to speak, but it is important officers can see each other for the two hours of SUC.
- If you are having technical problems, do not worry, it can happen! Simply try to resolve them while the meeting goes on as usual. If you need assistance or need to communicate anything urgent, send an e-mail to the Chair or a message to the Students' Voice Coordinator.

5) **Students' Participation**

As always, we want to keep encouraging students' participation at RSU meetings, so spread the word with your friends and especially with your committee. Students attending the meeting will not be able to unmute themselves and intervene.

Sophie Harris

Mature Students Officer



Students' Union Council update on 28/04/2020

Manifesto Objectives:

- Due to the Covid-19, unfortunately my plan for a last big social meet up is not going to happen. However I am going to offer the mature students a social meet up via Zoom for anyone who wishes to attend.
- I am also planning to do an online weekly session. Quiz night with the mature students will most probably be the way I proceed with it. That allows students to drop in and out on weeks they are able to. I will do this till the end of my role, to keep students connected and hopefully help anyone who may be struggling.
- Other than that, I am limited in what else I can do. I will keep communicating with the union and university and anything outstanding that I was part of, hopefully the next officer can take over for me.

Other activities I've been involved with:

- Online courses and online mental health tips which I can share with mature students.
- Checking in with students to ensure that they are OK. Mature students tend to have a lot more juggling going on, even more so now we are online only. So I will be checking in with them all after having a break myself to deal with everything.

Farrah Black

Gender Equality Officer & NUS Delegate



Students' Union Council update on 28/04/2020

Manifesto Objectives:

- Little has been able to be done from home since the Women's Conference on March 11th
- Trying to share lots of positive feminism related content through social media where I can

Other activities I've been involved with:

- Online courses and online mental health
- Washing my hands 😊

Laoise Holohan

Environment & Sustainability Officer



Students' Union Council update on 28/04/2020

Activities I've been involved with:

- I'm putting out good vibes

Annabel Black

LGBTQ+ Officer



Students' Union Council update on 28/04/2020

Manifesto Objectives:

- Safe space for LGBTQ+ and faith/religion
- Safe space for BAME LGBTQ+
- Roehampton Pride festival

Other activities I've been involved with:

- Pride celebrations around the globe have been cancelled this year. To raise our spirits, I've created a virtual challenge for the LGBTQ+ community called 'Queer Couture'. I have challenged people to post photos of themselves in their most fabulous, ridiculous and exquisite outfits / makeup to boost morale and pride in the LGBT community.
- I been supporting fellow students in their officer campaigns by sharing their campaign posts on social media, and offering advice and verbal support
- I am running for RoePaul's Drag Society President / Vice President, and have been campaigning creatively on social media
- I've been discussing via email how to digitize my Roey Pride campaign, in order to virtually bring Pride to our students.
- I've contributed to the weekly SSOAP Isolation Challenge by recording myself playing my saxophone!
- I've contributed to the Drag Soc challenge – sharing photos of myself doing mundane household activities in drag
- I've been playing my saxophone in the street for the weekly NHS celebration

Luke Coffey

International Students' Officer



Students' Union Council update on 28/04/2020

Activities I've been involved with:

- Personally reaching out and messaging friends and other international student acquaintances to check in on their quarantine circumstances
- Continued Facebook presence, mainly sharing national/international news regarding covid19, as well as sharing Roehampton and RSU news
- Brief profile/quote by me is now on the Roehampton website's DTP page, potentially will have something posted on the international student page as well
- Potentially co-hosting two webinars in May for potential and prospective American students, dates TBD by Jackie Christopher and International admissions office
- I have surprisingly only had two international students reach out to me regarding circumstances related to quarantine/evacuation/reimbursement... and was able to steer them in the direction of Roehampton's professional resources