
Roehampton Students' Union Students' Union Council

The 3rd Students' Union Council meeting (SUC) of the 2018/19 academic year
25.10.18, 5PM
Covent Parlour, Digby Stuart College

ATTENDEES:

In Chair: Chuchu Nwagu (Students' Union President)
Minuting Secretary: Kate Griffiths

Members: LP – Liam Parsons (VP Education), GW – George Walker (VP Community & Welfare), TB – Theo Benjamin (Digby Stuart DP), TF – Tia (Tamiah) Forbes (Digby Stuart CP), SP - Shay Patel (Southlands CP), CA – Ciara Ansley (LGBTQ+ Officer), JCK - Jacob Cooper King (Interfaith Officer - Male), and PEM – Penny Elliot-Miles (Froebel DP), DM – Dre Mbwese (BAME Students' Officer), KM – Kevin Muhika (Whitelands CP), TR – Tanya Robinson (Whitelands DP), BB – Belinda Bradley (Disabilities Officer), BA – Beth Amos (Mental Health Officer), JM – Joshua Malone (Mount Clare Site Rep), MD – Matthew Delicate (Environmental and Ethics Officer), NC – Navya Chaturvedi (International Officer), , KA – Kareena Alford (Students' with Caring Responsibilities Officer)

Apologies: DO – Daniel O'Donoghue (Froebel CP), RC – Ruth Clements (Interfaith Officer - Female), SH – Sophie Harris (Mature Students' Officer), and EG – Elijah Grey (Trans Student Officer), JH – Jordan Harris (Male Sports President), KB – Kaysh (Okasia) Brown (Female Sports President), LC – Lily Crozier (Gender Equality Officer)

In attendance: **Matt Wall – Chief Executive of the Students' Union**
Kirsty Robinson (KR) and Sam Mwachuma (SM) – Elixir Catering
Jerry Woods (JW) - Director of Estates and Facilities
Mostak Ahmed Imran (MI) – ISOC President

Roehampton Students' Union
Students' Union Council

A G E N D A
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25.10.18, 5PM
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Welcomes & Apologies

1. Confirm quoracy
2. Notification of any other business
3. Welcome to the 3rd 2018/2019 meeting of Students' Union Council [**Chuchu Nwagu**]
4. Apologies for absence [Oral - Chuchu Nwagu]
5. Approval of minutes from last SUC (11.10.18, 5PM – Chapman Hall, Southlands College).

Items for Discussion

6. University Catering providers – Elior [**Representatives from Elior**]
7. University Security [**Jerry Woods – Director of Estates and Facilities**]
8. Waiting times for Counselling Service [**Daniel O'Donoghue – Froebel College President**]
9. Music at RSU Events [**Tia Forbes – Digby Stuart College President**]
10. Live Stream [**CN, President RSU - Oral**]

Items for Information

11. A member of Union Council to become an RSU Trustee [**CN, President RSU - Oral**]
12. Officer & Committee Updates. [**All officers - Oral**]
13. Task Force review and assignments [**CN, President RSU - Oral**]
14. Update on the Idea's platform [**CN, President RSU - Oral**]

Any Other Business.

Next Union Council Meeting (II)

15. Items to be brought to UCM II
16. Date: Thursday 8th November 2018, 5PM Location: TBC, Whitelands College

TITLE:	Welcome
MINUTES:	CN: Welcome to the third meeting of year and a special welcome to Minaal who has been elected as our new Southlands DP, many congratulations.

TITLE:	Approval of Minutes 11/10/18
MINUTES:	All those present approved the Minutes from this meeting with the adjustments discussed.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

TITLE:	Action points from the last meeting
MINUTES:	CN: There were no action points from the last meeting to follow up.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

TITLE:	University Catering Providers
MINUTES:	<p>CN: Welcome Elior to the meeting. Please feel free to ask any questions.</p> <p>SP: Had a lot of students asking if the curly fries could be brought back. Is this possible?</p> <p>KR: If there's demand then we can bring them back.</p> <p>LP: Could always submit these as ideas so we have a scale of how these ideas are received.</p> <p>SP: Also had complaints about the price of a Snakebite going up quite considerably.</p> <p>KR: We've had to up prices due to our supplier but we can go back to them with feedback.</p> <p>GW: Even if the price dropped to £3 instead of £3.10 then this would be acceptable.</p> <p>JC-K: Wanted to thank Elior for always providing a Vegetarian/Vegan option across all catering outlets.</p> <p>KR: The plan is to ultimately create a fully vegan option at all meals so both vegans and vegetarians can eat it.</p> <p>LP: The waiting time seems to be longer at Pub Grub, especially on Wednesdays when the Sports teams come back from their matches.</p> <p>__: We currently don't have enough buzzers for all the orders we're getting and we often find that these buzzers aren't returned so if we</p>

	<p>could ask for your assistance on this that would be greatly appreciated.</p> <p>CA: Maybe there needs to be staff training on the buzzers as hers went off without the food being ready.</p> <p>KA: Could the buzzers be set with a lower noise or a different buzz as they're a little shocking when they go off?</p> <p>KR: There is a button to mute them so they won't constantly make that noise, but we could look at this.</p> <p>Mo: Is the meat Halal on Whitelands and Digby?</p> <p>KR: The meat we serve should be Halal across all campuses, but sometimes it's down to the suppliers we use and what they've got in stock at the time of ordering. Obviously Halal meat is perishable so we are conscious not to over order to avoid waste. We will feed this back to the suppliers though.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Action point – Keep JC-K and RC in the loop re: Halal meat.</p> <p>DM: As a vegan, it would be good if there were more options more frequently. Portion size is also an issue as there's not enough given to make a proper meal.</p> <p>NC: Could we potentially have more international cuisines available?</p> <p>SM: The different colleges do different menus so there is a range but we can take this on board.</p> <p>GW: Wanted to raise the issue of the plastic/biodegradable cups debate and whether there's been provisions by the University to put a dishwasher in place.</p> <p>KR: Brought demonstration cups to the meeting of what plastic reusable cups would look like. They could be used in normal nights at the bar, but wouldn't be used during Bops as they are a trip hazard. Currently exploring the option of a deposit scheme but could use feedback from the students on this.</p> <p>MW: Keep in mind that we currently don't dispose of any plastic waste on campus at the moment and these reusable cups would bring more plastic in to the environment. You have to weigh up whether the dishwasher would be a worthwhile investment and would a deposit scheme work?</p> <p>CN: We are required to lobby the University for reusable plastic cups as it was an idea that was passed last year.</p> <p>JC-K: Could we put it back to the students to vote with more information surrounding the scheme?</p> <p>GW: We need to add new context as circumstances change.</p> <p>LP: Would the cups be a worthwhile investment if we are only using them 4 out of 7 nights?</p> <p>TB: Would it be a hassle to get the deposit back if the payments for drinks were made by card? Lengthy process.</p> <p>BB: Would there be an option to have money off the products if we brought our own cup?</p> <p>KR: Not sure we could discount the alcohol due to suppliers but there's also a hygiene grey area with students bringing their own cups due to contamination and who ultimately holds the blame if anything happened.</p> <p>MW: Bars also operate on licenced measures so bringing your own cup could be problematic due to this too.</p> <p>KA: Could students leave their student card as a form of deposit?</p>
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	<p>TF: It's a good idea in principal but this could lead to a cycle of people keeping the cups then the University having to spend more money to replace them.</p> <p>SP: Can we recycle the biodegradable cups?</p> <p>SM: Put them in the normal bins and they'll degrade over time.</p> <p>TF: When working in restaurants the back of house team separate the bins to make sure there's no cross-contamination.</p> <p>KR: If we do this it defeats the object as we want to educate students. It would also mean we would have to re-train staff.</p> <p>MD: We need to increase the number of bins around campus.</p> <p>MW: Every coffee cup, with the exception of Starbucks, needs to go in to the general waste bin to decompose otherwise they will contaminate the recycling.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Action Point – Send out a survey online to establish whether officers want this to go to the student body as a whole or whether the decision just needs to be made by officers.</p> <p>GW: Just how biodegradable are biodegradable cups?</p> <p>MW: They need to reach 60 degrees in order to start degrading so we need to work out the options and the consequences of this to put them to SUC.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Action Point – Bring this to next meeting and push out to Elior.</p> <p>CN: Arrange regular meetings with College Presidents and Elior to keep each other informed.</p> <p>SM: Keep pushing the Cheatah Pizza.</p>
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ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

TITLE:	Update on the Idea's Platform.
MINUTES:	<p>CN: From our side we want to give you a greater commitment to push the ideas that are posted online. Every student wants to make a valid contribution and we should respect and support this.</p> <p>GW: Based on our Bye-Laws we don't have to but it's nice to show support.</p> <p>LP: It also helps to grow the sense of community.</p> <p>JC-K: There's been some good ideas that have just missed out on getting to the threshold, could we sponsor these ideas?</p> <p>CN: The Student Voice Team could get in touch. Do we then make the decision to bring all ideas to SUC?</p> <p>MW: The ideas need to be well publicised on social media to gain traction and if everyone in the room spoke to 2-3 people then all ideas would make the threshold.</p> <p>LP: If you share the link to the ideas page then this becomes so much easier.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Action Point – Send an email every week with the current ideas online.</p>

	CN: Suggestions on how to improve this are always welcome.
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ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

TITLE:	University Security
MINUTES:	<p>CN: Welcome to Jerry Woods, the Director of Estates and Facilities.</p> <p>JW: Joined in January so still very new to everything. Adrian (Oldknow, Head of Security and Logistics) couldn't make the meeting, so anything that can't be answered now will be fed back to Adrian.</p> <p>PE-M: The gate times seemed to have changed on Froebel (main gate) and the side gate is also open all the time.</p> <p>JW: The main gates should shut at 8pm and there's key card access til 11pm. There's 24 hour access to students and these times shouldn't have changed but will look into this. The dwell time is longer than we'd like, but this is for universal access so any disabled students don't encounter problems.</p> <p>We are also looking at vehicle access and to allow notified/registered vehicles on to campus but nothing's been agreed on yet.</p> <p>TB: Where there's works on Digby, and subsequently no main gate, a group of students walked back on to campus at 4am the other morning and nobody was there to check ID's. It's a little concerning.</p> <p>JW: There should be routine checks going on so will follow up with this. The plan going forward is to direct everything through the side gate at Digby.</p> <p>TF: Shaw benches.</p> <p>JW: The bike sheds have been taken away so we will be moving the seating back, but will make sure this can't be moved once it's placed. We do need to look at this to prevent too much noise from disturbing the flats, but will arrange a meeting with Flat Reps and Sergei next week.</p> <p>TF: If an email could be sent first, before anything is taken away or moved as it caused uproar on Digby.</p> <p>TR: There was a fire alarm at Whitelands today and security didn't show up for half an hour.</p> <p>GW: There was also a long wait time on Froebel the other day too.</p> <p>JW: It's not ideal, but with small numbers of staff, they have to prioritise what's more important.</p> <p>TR: The Whitelands alarm went off at midday which is unusual.</p> <p>JW: Will look into this.</p> <p>KA: Some of the bins across campus don't have lids and with the squirrels/cats it means that there's rubbish all over the place.</p> <p>JW: There's a new contract coming into effect in the new year and this aims to reduce the number of large bins on campus with the addition of a trash compactor on site to improve waste management in general.</p> <p>DM: Why aren't there more security guards on site? Is it possible to hire more?</p>

JW: It's what we can afford and there's high demands on the University budget. There's a consultation process with the Security team and this will be brought up.

DM: Who funds the security team?

JW: We receive a total of £2million a year and this mostly comes from student fees. Obviously if there is a decrease in students then this is reflected in the budget.

DM: Wants to know what other students think about this.

CN: Could write an open letter to the University or put it on the ideas page.

JW: We have to make decisions about what to prioritise and there are generally a small amount of incidents which is not disproportionate to staff so there is a balance.

CN: If noise complaints and lock outs dropped then other incidents can easily be staffed. We need to take responsibility for our actions and the consequences of these.

JW: It's been a relatively good start to the year in terms of incidents.

MI: Danbury Avenue, just outside Whitelands is not safe at night and the gate seems to be open from 4am to let the cleaners in. Even if there were a couple more staff during the night this would be beneficial.

JW: Will check this.

DM: Do the basketball courts need to be locked at night?

JW: There's noise and light pollution that could come from this and people in the local area have complained in the past.

TF: Noise complaints take up a lot of time, could things be double glazed?

JW: It's difficult with the age of some of the accommodation buildings.

PE-M: The service desk is a good platform but it needs reviewing as there's been an ongoing issue that's currently unresolved having logged it 3 weeks ago.

JW: We have a small number of in-house maintenance staff but we will review this. Glad people are using the online service but will take the feedback given. There's also an app that you can download too.

DM: There's an issue with the cleaner in Garden Court as they won't touch the kitchen if there's even a small amount of washing up left out.

JW: We had a new cleaning company that starting in August, so there's been some initial teething problems but will take this feedback away.

Action Point – email Jerry Woods
(jerry.woods@roehampton.ac.uk) as to specific areas you're referring to regarding cleaners.

CA: Our cleaners come twice a week but this is also an issue as it's not consistent.

JW: We aim to deliver the same standard of service across all areas of the University and we've invested in training for the staff using chemical free products. Will take this to the Cleaning Manager, Terry, who's the one on the ground.

JM: There's a number of teenagers who come on to campus once or twice a week and they're especially targeting Mount Clare.

	<p>JW: If it's becoming a problem then report it to Police. We're limited as to the measures we can put in place to protect Mount Clare ie: fences, as it's a listed building and this restricts us.</p> <p>TF: Wanted it noted that Flat T31 have great cleaners and that they should receive the praise they deserve.</p>
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TITLE:	Music at RSU Events – Tia Forbes
MINUTES :	<p>TF: Has received feedback from a number of students that they're not happy with the music played at Bop and that the inclusivity is missing. Is it possible to infiltrate more styles of music into events?</p> <p>DM: Not so much an issue with the music, but the Bop DJ mixes the songs too much and this becomes frustrating.</p> <p>TF: Don't want this to come across as a Black vs White issue, just wants there to be something for everyone on a night out. We are a 50% BAME University though and this isn't reflected in the music at Bop.</p> <p>NC: Would like to see some more international music at events as well.</p> <p>CA: The Bar plays alternative music but the main room is unchanged as the Grand and Infernos/Fez don't play this music.</p> <p>PE-M: Could we give this feedback to the Bop DJ in the main room?</p> <p>CN: Due to the Bop hosting themed nights, it's thought that this a more cheesy night out, so the music reflects this. Do students think Bop would benefit from something different?</p> <p>JC-K: Could we use Thirsty Thursdays as a taster session for alternative music?</p> <p>MW: You'll never please everyone and we have to be careful around the topic of inclusivity. We aim to cater to a wide audience and are mindful of our demographic being 75% female and 50% BAME. We have also found that because Infernos can cope with a higher number of students than Fez on a Wednesday, Bop numbers have subsequently decreased.</p> <p>TF: Feels like the social life is the heart of University and wants all students to have the same great experiences.</p> <p>CN: We are mindful that by catering to inclusivity we're not being authentic to ourselves. We recognise the need and it is on our radar.</p> <p>TF: Don't want to wipe out the current playlist completely, but just add to it.</p> <p>MW: Send us the sort of music you'd like to hear.</p> <p>DM: We could start slowly by ensuring the DJ doesn't mix the songs and then maybe we could have a bashment Bop once a month.</p> <p>CN: We'll take this feedback but there is a wider conversation to have.</p> <p>JC-K: Could we get Steve Molyneaux (RSU Events Manager) in to an SUC meeting?</p> <p>MW: Think this would be better suited to a focus group outside of the meeting to ensure we are tackling other issues during SUC. Commercially there's a pressure for us as an SU as around 30% of our income comes from our events.</p> <p>CN: When we asked students to fill in the Events Survey, none of this came out in it. We've sampled this type of music at Thirsty</p>

	<p>Thursdays and nobody turns up and also put it as an idea on the Ideas Platform and it hasn't reached the desired amount of votes. MW: There is scope for Bop to be a more well-rounded night, but there is a financial risk for us to change this event completely. It's down to you to discuss.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Action Point – Agree to bring this topic to another forum.</p>
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<p>TITLE:</p>	<p>Live Streaming SUC</p>
<p>MINUTES :</p>	<p>CN: We started this conversation of Live Streaming the meetings last year and are now picking it up again. Live streaming is a way to create transparency to students and accountability to those who they elected.</p> <p>DM: Has own personal fears about not wanting to be on camera but overall thinks it's a good thing.</p> <p>BB: The minutes should be made accessible.</p> <p>JC-K: There's a gap as we haven't had access to the minutes.</p> <p>PE-M: People are lazy and they're not going to go on to the website to access the meeting.</p> <p>CN: There's a conversation to discuss whether SUC should be open to students at all? Johanna suggested a pre-meet for sensitive issues.</p> <p>CA: This shouldn't be the case because if someone wanted to hold you accountable for something then they could.</p> <p>JC-K: If we live stream then you don't have the ability to say something off the record.</p> <p>SP: Our job as officers is to feedback to the students anyway, so there should be no need for a live stream.</p> <p>KA: There would need to be live moderation and this is difficult to achieve.</p> <p>CN: How would you feel if the meetings took the form of a Candidate Question Time and students were able to feed into the conversation online? What we forget is that SUC isn't a feedback forum and we should be held accountable. We are naturally comfortable in SUC but it won't be like this in the real world and we need to discipline ourselves for future occasions.</p> <p>CA: Never seen SUC advertised, do we do this?</p> <p>CN: We must make an active effort to do more.</p> <p>JC-K: SUC used to be on the Events schedule but it's disappeared so an idea would be to put this back so students are aware of when they're happening.</p> <p style="color: red;">A vote was then taken as to whether Officers would like the meetings to be Live Streamed.</p> <p style="color: red;">DM, KA, CN and NC all voted for Live Streaming Jc-K, PE-M, BB, MD, JM, SP, CA and TR all voted against Live</p>

	<p>Streaming the meetings. TF, KM and MA all abstained from voting.</p>
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ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

TITLE:	A Member of SUC to become an RSU Trustee
MINUTES:	CN: If anyone would like to put their name down for consideration then let Chu know by the end of next week (2/11).

TITLE:	Officer and Committee Updates
MINUTES:	<p>JC-K: ISOC are running a charity night so get involved in this. TF: Renovating the Diner and the passageway between Digby Square and the Diner. DM: Monday, Digby Diner, 6pm doing a spoken word evening. PE-M: Organising Prague trip and a B@1 night. BB: Had a meeting with Rachael O'Brian, the NUS Disabilities Officer and is also meeting with the Language Board. MD: Attending the Student Sustainability Summit presentation in Manchester on the 31st of October. KM: Hosting the Halloween Grand pre-drinks in the Sett. KA: Looking to hold a support group on the 15th of November but this is yet to be finalised. Wants to create a tab on the website for parents and carers. JM: Trying to integrate Mount Clare with Froebel and arranging a charity football event. There's been accommodation issues on Mount Clare that have been reported but ongoing issue. MA: New to the role but hoping to make more events in the Reef, such as a Reef Rave. SP: Southlands ties will be available to purchase next week. CA: Trans awareness week next week. NC: Gathering feedback from Internationals and hoping to hold a welcome event soon. TR: Supporting Movember so keep an eye out for events. CN: Congratulations to Matthew for the Little Green Festival which was a huge success. BAME leaders conference will be on the 7th of November and you need to register for this – it's free. There was a policy passed last year re: the BAME attainment gap so is continually working with Marilyn Holness on this. Continue the great work everyone.</p>

The date of the next meeting will be Thursday the 8th of November in Whitelands College.