

Minutes

Attending

Voting Members

Vice-President (Welfare) – Chair	Greg Unitt	GU
First Year Students' Officer	David Middleton	DM
International Students' Officer	Agnes Saaren	AS
Postgraduate Students' Officer	Daisy Smale	DS
Trans Students' Officer	Jamie Faulkner	JF
Women's Officer	Holly Allum	HA
Mature and Part time Officer	Jenni Block	JB
Student Trustee	DS	

Non-voting Members

Head of Student Engagement	Mike Riley	MR
----------------------------	------------	----

1. Welcome & Apologies

Apologies

BME Students' Officer	Lydia Owusu-Afram	LO-A
Disabled Students' Officer	Kayleigh Millar	KM
LGBTQ+ Students' Officer	Tom de Bruijn	TdB

2. Approval of Minutes and Matters Arising

Minutes of the Meeting of the 6th December, 2017 were approved

Question on 4.e. How will the nutritional information being used?

GU: Looking to add labels to posts on the menu and structure with monthly scheduled posts in advance of the menu so that people can access the ingredients and information prior to selecting.

3. Officer Report

- a. V-P Welfare's Report (GU)

International Mobility Group

Were in the SU yesterday providing information on working abroad or gap years, mainly in the USA or China.

Sexual Assault Campaign

Run by HA & JB, GU enjoyed the awareness training they ran more than he thought he would, feedback has been received from Dave Corcoran (Director of Student Support and Transition) and Becky Potheary (Nurse Health Advisor). HA outlined that there were issues around attendance as it was frustrating when students said they would attend on Facebook but then didn't turn up and gave no notice/apologies. GU believes the next session will be better attended as word of mouth will spread and encourage more to attend. Also it will be compulsory for next year's officers. HA unsure about how to continue for next year, but will discuss ideas with JB, someone is running for the Women's Officer role so HA will check with them.

GU did not realise that his main job would be to deal with messages on FB asking him to book appointments and deal with people, and he has a lack of knowledge about Student Support services. JF notes that there is issues with how Student Support approach students. They want to work with next year's officers. GU feels that everything is outdated, particularly emails. JB and HA concerned about the email sent last week regarding the attack on a student in Bognor and subsequent update email (from Dave Corcoran). JB suggested that what would be more beneficial is to have a welfare page on the SU web page as is a different platform to the University website. HA asks why our policies and contact details are not on the new website. GU notes that his email is wrong on the board at the entrance to the SU but luckily people FB message him. Most big charities have twitter not Facebook, DS noted that the SU and the University do have these pages but it is a student engagement issue. JB suggests a monthly drop in with the officer responsible for welfare.

4. Campaigns

a. Bystander Intervention Training

GU: There were powerpoint issues and not many people attended. The video was not great and it was not at all engaging, especially when compared to JB and HA's sexual assault session. The information was contradictory and problematic. It was useful for JB and HA to be able to challenge the training and its content. JF felt it was very heteronormative and very against men which is essentially sexism. GU outlined that there was a lack of variety and in 2 hours was solely about males assaulting females. HA noted that 10% of cases were of a female assaulting a male and was concerned by this.

b. Buddy Scheme

Outline presented. The scheme has been agreed following a meeting between CBR, SIZ, Student Support and Accommodation. The University noted that they already have a similar programme, but GU responded that this scheme will be more sociable than academic. The Buddy scheme is a match for current students to assist new students settling in and is especially useful for International Students. Sign-up involves some analysis of interests and matches to the incoming students. Also, social buddies for exceptional volunteers to attend trips. JF it's a great idea, especially for students who don't drink alcohol as this year there were very few alcohol free events. JB mentoring is more educational and this is more social. HA interests would be similar within courses, so you may end up matched with someone on your course. JB suggests that officers and lecturers could put people forward who they think would be good.

5. Further items

a. Wifi in the SU

People don't want to socialise here because the SU Wifi is not up to standard. GU outlined that there is a Zee Bar WIFI but it isn't well advertised.

Zee bar is not seen as an alternative study space, and it needs to be more utilised. HA asked what can we do about it? GU suggested that he thinks the Wifi code should be displayed.

b. Catering

Elior have responded to complaints around the food allowance and have enabled it to be rolled over to the end of the week.

c. Welfare Week

Stand up event did not happen. DM would like to work with GU to make this happen, JF suggested an open mic and karaoke night as these are often dominated by the same students each week.

d. Car parking

No spaces marked out so people are parking selfishly. GU will raise at Student forum the following week.

There is no parking for students at Bognor, especially those who are split site. If they park in the streets around the campus then they get aggravation from local residents and no parking signs are being put up. DS said that it was unlikely that they would resolve parking issues as they were looking to enhance the bus service. JB mentioned that buses were an issue for those living in Stockbridge as they often ran out of tickets.

6. Any Other Business

a. Mitigating Circumstances

To evidence a family death for an individual is more complicated than it should be, as some cases would need several documents to link a student to a family member. Mit circs have advised that a letter from Student Support will suffice however this is not included in their documentation so is not known by students.

JF outlined that the stress of not knowing if you have mit circs is distressing. He recognises why it has to go to the Board but he was asked for further

evidence that he could not obtain and would require him to divulge very personal information.

The Mit Circs process needs re-assessing to remove unnecessary stress.

Action

Vice President to carry out a review of Mitigating Circumstances and feedback to the committee.

b. Nominations

Issues with awareness. GU suggested that MR is meant to put it on Facebook, which is not the case, as MR updates the website and the Returning Officer posts details and information on Facebook, Twitter, etc.

HA was unhappy as it was not stated anywhere that officers were supposed to find their replacement. Officers are not expected to find replacements, however it is noted that the more visible and effective an officer is the more likely another student is to wish to take on the role, for those positions which have been quieter that year it is requested that officers help with the recruitment of a replacement by talking to students and outlining the role. JB asked if we can extend nominations by a week. All unfilled positions are held open for a further week.

c. Liberation Officers Training

Liberations training is not enough. Not equipped to handle many issues.

d. Zero tolerance UCSU page

JB and HA have provided everything again and it's still not up.

Action

JB and HA to send to GU to ensure information is uploaded.

7. Date, time and location of Next Meeting

tbc