

Minutes: Student Council – Open Zone

[Unconfirmed]

Meeting 02 of the academic year 2021-22

Date / Time: 8th February 2021, 17:00-17:30

Location: MS Teams

Chair (Ex-Officio): Joanna Dine-Hart (JDH) Union Development Exec. Officer

Secretary: Lawrence Robertson (LR) DSU Staff

Attendees: Feyisayo Promise Ibdunmoye (FPI) Student Member
Emmanuela Bediako (EB) Student Member
(early departure)
Amir Iqbal (AI) Student Member

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

JDH

Apologies were received from:

Shamsia Qadir (SQ) Student Member
Navi Kaur (NK) Student Member

The following members were not present, but did not submit apologies:

Pravin Pankhrjan (PP) Student Member
Anseena Anees Sabeen (AAS) Student Member
Iqra Umer (IU) Student Member
Sion Pope (SP) Student Member

JDH Welcomed attendees to the meeting and briefly recapped the purpose of the zone: to discuss union-wide issues and to hold the Union Development Executive Officer to account.

2. Notifications of Any Other Business

ALL

No items were received for AOB

3. Minutes from the Previous Meeting, Actions and Matters Arising:

ALL

n/a

4. Welfare Check-In

JDH

JDH Asked after the welfare of zone members.

AI Responded that they were fine.

No other comments were raised to the contrary.

5. Executive Officer Update and Scrutiny

JDH

- JDH Outlined the projects they had undertaken since the last meeting, as summarised below:
- Preparation of DSU's stance on the government's ban on conversion therapy.
 - Planning work for Women's History Month. There will be efforts to highlight the stories of influential women, and an event will take place in the Zen Zone, hosted by the DSU Women's Liberation Officer.
 - Attendance at numerous meetings with the University to represent students.
 - Work on period poverty (Free the Flow) campaign.
 - Campaigning for 'welfare boxes' to be placed around DSU.

JDH Asked for opinions on the placement of sanitary products in male bathrooms (as well as female and gender-neutral ones) within DSU. The rationale for this was clarified by explaining that there are DMU students who are in the process of transitioning gender to male, but who still menstruate.

Those present thought that this was a good idea.

EB Asked for an update on the progress of this when possible / when relevant information becomes available.

AI (On the subject of welfare boxes) Raised the point that we shouldn't encourage over use of certain items, such as paracetamol. They also raised the concern that some people may take more than their fair share.

6. Zone Development Fund

JDH

JDH Mentioned that £250.00 was available as a development fund for the zone and suggested that this could be used to fund informal zone meetings / social events, giving members the chance to get to know one another better.

This idea was well received by all.

JDH Invited zone members to submit any alternative ideas for the use of the development fund to them by email.

7. AOB:

ALL

There were no items for AOB.

JDH Closed the meeting.