

Minutes of the Meeting of the Student Senate

Tuesday 23rd March 2021

Via Zoom videoconferencing 5:30pm

PRESENT

Members:

Angie Flores Acuña	
Ashly Milena Alava Garcia	
Charlotte Mallinson	
Christopher Dunne	Chair
Daniel Mapatac	
Daniel Philitoga	
Darshan Dalal	
Elizabeth Champion	
Emily Long	
Georgia Day	
James Taylor	
Jude Pickett	Sabb representative
Julia Komar	
Katherine Waldock	
Lola Brin	
Lucas Jakabovic	
Luke Caesari	
Madalina-Andreea Toea	
Megan Dee	
Orla Tarn	
Roma Eccles	
Sebastian Ripley	Sabb representative
Simran Mahajan	
Will Lloyd	
Zachary Edge	

Also in attendance:

Tali Atvars	Head of Student Voice
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Tim Fry
Hannah Fatkin
Eleanor Peters

Student Voice Coordinator
Student Voice Coordinator
Student Voice Assistant (Minutes)

Section I Standard Items:

A. Apologies

Daniel Mapatac
Janet Williams
Owain Beynon
Rebecca Hardy
Megha Roy

(Note Daniel Mapatac arrived later on in the meeting)

B. Minutes from previous meeting

AGREED: to approve the minutes of the meeting held on 2/2/2021.

Section II Students' Union Submitted Items:

A. SABB Update

JP explains that not much has changed since last Senate meeting in terms of in person Student Union services, due to Lockdown. Have created a virtual calendar of events and groups can apply for money for a virtual speaker or event at random. SR explains that Speak week ran in a different way this year and had a lower turn out then hoped for - 678 cards and 1115 comments. Considering a second Speak Week to get more feedback. Also, the SU was successful in lobbying for rent rebates for students in University owned halls. For students in private halls, a fund of £350 was made available for those in financial hardship. 1800 students applied for these rent rebates and were successful. JP updates Senate regarding the funding from the Welsh Assembly that was talked about in the last Senate and that this has been put toward the hardship fund and support services. The SU received a portion of this and it will be going toward Advice. Also, the elections this March had the highest ever turn out of voters - 27% of all students registered at CU. Furthermore, AGM will be different this year due to ongoing restrictions. It will be split into two events; on 27th April and 29th April. On 27th it will be a student senate meeting where any student can join and bring motions. On the 29th, the trustees of

the organisation will deliver a Facebook Live event where a report of actions after the meeting on the 27th will be given and they will be available for questions. SR highlights that the automatic fund that students received, was particular about household income and other factors resulting in more students receiving the bursary. Furthermore, there is a hunger for face to face teaching after Easter so the SU hopes to facilitate this. Finally, Education Sabbs are looking at how online and face to face teaching can be blended in the future to enhance learning. JP adds that the SU are looking into student safety and how to make students feel safer in the area. CD thanks JP and SR before asking for questions. SM asks about tuition fee rebates and if they will happen. SR explains that this is a national campaign and CUSU has announced they are on board with this. Talking about lobbying Welsh Government to see if they can provide further support. MD asks when voting on the motions for AGM will take place. JP answers Tuesday 27th April.

B. AGM Update

[Was incorporated into SABB update.]

Section III Chair's Items

A. Resignation of Megan Melville

CD explains Megan Melville has resigned from Student senate so asking current members if a by-election should be held to fill the vacancy. This absence will only be for the next meeting.

Motion is approved.

Section IV Submitted Items:

None

Section V Any Other Business:

1. Lapsed motions – none submitted

CD asks if anyone has anything to raise. JP asks if anyone wants to get involved in student safety and if they do, to contact them. LJ asks where the money for the Amazon vouchers that were gifted to students during elections came from. SR explains the money was made available after receiving an insurance claim due to Covid, so it was not budgeted. This

means they were able to spend it during elections. The SU offered it as a thank you to encourage student turnout and to encourage 1st years to get more involved at the SU as they have had limited opportunity this year, as well as students that have been here longer. RE asks for further elaboration to this answer. SR elaborates, saying that due to disruption to services in the SU, such as the Taff, they could claim on their insurance. EL asks why they did this. JP says these are all the answers that they have currently as it was not their decision specifically, it was a collective decision and says students can email them if they have further questions. EL accepts this.

The next meeting will take place at 5pm on Tuesday 27th April via Zoom