

London South Bank University
Students' Union Council Meeting
UC19022024

Authors: Seyi Adejori

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Date: 19022024

Time: 5:00PM

Location: SU Conference Room

Agenda

- 1.0 Welcome and apologies
- 2.0 Chair's introduction
- 3.0 Agree the accuracy and approve the minutes of the last meeting.
- 4.0 Election of Vice Chair
- 5.0 Note any matters arising from the minutes not covered on the agenda.
- 6.0 Officer Reports
- 7.0 Officer group discussion
- 8.0 Items/papers/policies to receive, consider, discuss, and approve.
- 9.0 Note items for information
- 10.0 Any other business and date of the next meeting

1.0 Welcome and apologies

1.1 Voting members in attendance:

- Devonte James (President, DJ)
- Abdirahim Ibrahim (Chair of Union Council, AI)
- Fatema Rabbi (Vice President Welfare and Equalities, FR)
- Charlotte Adam (Vice President Activities and Employability, CA)
- Md Nayeem Sadman (Vice President Education, NS)
- Abdul Kadir (Disabled Part Time Officer, AK)
- Jamie Jenner (LGBTQIA+ Part Time Officer, JJ)

1.2 Apologies

- Mst Muslima Khatun Fahmida (Women's Officer, FMK)
- Abdur Rahman Tanim (International Students Officer, AT)

1.3 In Attendance

- Matt Myles Brown (Deputy CEO, MMB)
- Rachel Mundy (Student Voice and Outreach manager, RM)
- Seyi Adejori (Student Voice Coordinator, SA)

1.4 The Chair brought the meeting to order.

1.5 No conflicts of interest were declared.

1.6 There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

2.0 Chair's introduction

2.1 The Chair opened the meeting.

2.2 Full Time Officers introduced themselves.

2.3 Part Time Officers introduced themselves.

2.4 Chair introduced himself and his role in the Union Council.

3.0 Agree the accuracy and approve the minutes of the last meeting.

3.1 The Council approved previous Union Council Minutes as an accurate record.

Need to be emailed on what they approve and changes they would like to make.

4.0 Election of Vice Chair

4.1 The Chair asked for a meeting for volunteers to be the Vice Chair.

4.2 CA, NS AND DJ volunteered.

4.3 CA received the most votes.

4.4 CA is now elected to be Vice Chair of the Union Council.

5. Note any matters arising from the minutes not covered on the agenda

5.1 Ayobami Olawunmi (Mature and Part Time, Part Time Officer, AO) has not engaged with the UC and has been contacted several times by the SU.

5.2 The Chair put in a motion of no confidence for AO.

5.3 Majority of the UC voted for no confidence.

6. Officer Reports

6.1 The full-time officers were invited by the Chair to give updates to Council as to their work on behalf of the union since the beginning of term.

6.2 Devonte James

- Good month process of NSS Talks and going to final year students and helping them from first to last year. The NSS talks have been happening from Feb to March in the Southwark, Havering and Croydon campus.
- Phone Banking for Apprentice students which has been productive.
- DJ is looking forward to helping more students in the next Phone Bank coming up in the first week of March.
- DJ is working on some side projects with Simon (Chancellor at LSBU) and Southwark council. The aim of this project is to create a sense of community and belonging amongst students and future students. Posters and billboards of LSBU will be posted around the area.
- DJ previously discussed in the last meeting how students can mentor and support other students in the years below them. This particular project has had low engagement but DJ is in constant communication with the students in case of changes. Currently it is too late to address what they can do for the student this semester, so it is noted for next time to start this project earlier.
- Having meetings to create lecture slides to promote students safety, DJ has been working with FR on how to do this.

6.3 Fatema Rabbi

- FR has been working on how students can be supported when it comes to the cost of living crisis. Students have benefited from the 3.50 meal deal, FR is exploring other ways to help.
- FR is working on the promotion of the Hardship Fund, as most students are unaware of this.
- Continuously working on decolonising the curriculum with LSBU staff member, Tony Moss.
- FR working in collaboration with the Opportunities Team to help in the facilitation and operations of the Lunch and Learn sessions.

- Has found student who wanted to work with her on this project
- FR working on 'Less risk, more reward' session with LSBU, to help students with budgeting.

6.4 Nayeem Sadman

- NS findings have shown that there is no strong evidence for free printing and lecture capture.
- Working with the Opportunities Team and SA to work on how to engage Course Rep into Academic Communities.
- NS is working with the Opportunities Team to do recurring Lunch and Learn sessions with the Course Reps and student attendees.
- NS and Vice Chancellor, Tony Moss have formed a meeting group about lecture capture. NS plans on working closely on this topic with him.

6.5 Charlotte Adams

- CA reported that she looked at employability and placement with international and home students. Her findings was that international students struggle to find placements. One of the reasons being that they cannot go to startups as they need a company that earns a certain amount.
- CA also reported that home students are struggling to find placement as well.
- In order to get some more insight, CA is working with MMB on a survey about employability and placement.
- CA worked closely with the opportunities teams on Refreshers and reports it was a success.
- Varsity is coming up and the comms team have been efficient with putting posters up already. CA aim is to make Varsity attractive to everyone, particularly students who do not like sports.
- CA is focusing on how to make Varsity as inclusive as possible.
- CA is working on building a successful relationship with LSBU Active and reports it is going well.
- CA and FR are working on Wellbeing week. The main focus is to let students know that sports can help you throughout your studies. You can do different exercises for example, kinetic movements between exams that can be calming and helpful.
- CA and FR distributed a Christmas Card to students in order to signpost useful departments.
- CA is working with Luke, the Head of Wellbeing and Mental Health on Disabilities, on a commitment that will be made by students for students that the university can be held accountable to.

6.7 The part-time officers were invited by the Chair to give updates to Council as to their work on behalf of the union since the beginning of term.

6.8 Abdul Kadir (DSO)

- AK has done a Meet and Greet event in November
- AK is consistently helping push the Buddy Scheme in the group chat.

6.9 Jamie Jenner (LGBTQIA+)

- JJ booked a desk at Freshers Fair. It was highly engaged and a lot of students signed up for the network on the day.
- There were logistical issues around the planning of the first event, after the issues were sorted the Game Night event was engaging.
- Low attendance of Karaoke Night event but was enjoyed by people that attended.
- JJ has planned the following events for LGBT History Month - Film Night, currently in collaboration with Dover Castle and Drag Night.
- JJ planned this for the network last year but the event was strained due to costs, so collaborating with different teams is beneficial.
- The network group chat is engaged, everyone is looking forward to going to Pride in the summer.

7.0 Officer group discussion

7.1 This Item was postponed due to time constraints and an action given to RM to organise another meeting.

- RM facilitates what is working well at engaging the network, what events work and what is not working at all.
- RM writes on a flip chart board for the Union Council to see.
- RM lists what is working - more people signed up to communities and networks due to enrollment and casual conversations; talking to students due to frustration and finding a common ground. Prompting a conversation in the group chat about a lived experience and lighthearted conversations on the group chat.
- RM lists what is working - themed nights, for example, Baal Night. Campaigns surrounding purposes for example, disability history month. More focused projects using tools such as phone banking and conversations to promote.
- RM lists what is not working - Games Night did not really work because it was not working towards change.
- RM lists that PTOs and Sabbatical Officers should try and think about why a student should come to an event? What are the selling advantages? For example to meet new friends, share things you are struggling with.
- RM lists that PTOs and Sabbatical Officers should promote exclusivity with events. They should know their audience for the project and identify what they want.
- RM lists when planning an event always promote in three ways so the audience is more likely to remember.

8.0 Items/papers/policies to receive, consider, discuss, and approve.

8.1 CA's policy on placement is under review.

9.0 Note items for information

9.1 No items were raised.

10.0 Any other business and date of the next meeting

10.1 FR - Part Time and Sabb Social - 28th Feb

SA raised next meeting to be on Monday the 18th March 4:30PM - 6:00PM

11.0 The Chair closed the meeting.