



University of Suffolk Students' Union

March 31st, 2021

Student Council Minutes

Minutes– Belinda Bradley

Host & Questions – Bradley Allsop

Chair – Alex Gooch

Vice Chair – Daniel Betts

Time	Items		Action
13:00	1a. Welcome/ How the meeting will work	<p>AG: Okay, I think we'll make a start. We've done the maths and we're quorate but still if you have and friends, nag them it would be helpful with the debate. I can't find my screen – this is today's agenda, you've seen this already, we'll move on. Keep your mike muted, if you want to ask questions, ask questions -</p> <p>BA: I'm questions, changing my name now.</p> <p>AG: Any questions put them on the chat, or say I want to speak this. Remember you can speak in favour or against. The chair will read out your question if you put it in the chat and tell you if you can speak. Keep your points on topic and brief, remember you're representing your cohort and members of the university. We'll run polls on call for you to vote, these will be up for 2 minutes. If you can't vote, message questions, you can vote to accept, reject or abstain. That will happen for each report and motions. Results will be provisional until after the meeting so we can check.</p>	
13:04	2. Announcements	<p>AG: Announcements, do we have any announcements?</p> <p>BA: A couple but just to remind people we're live streaming and recording this so turn off your camera if you don't want to be seen. Slides after that? Elections- we're not having that for once, they happened, we had our results night, a week before?</p> <p>AG: Even longer than that!</p> <p>BA: We've elected our team for 21/22 year and on that's on the website but I'll put it on the chat. It was a challenging year for all but well done to all candidates. We're still looking for officers for these positions, if you know any one who would make a</p>	

		<p>good officer, please get in touch. We're looking to open nominations in sept. any questions drop me an email.</p> <p>AG: Sofia? There's something on Sofia.</p> <p>BA: Just to remind people it exists, we've seen less submissions this year. Make sure you're logged in and enter through there. There is a useful training option there on how to use it, you can flag issues through Sofia. It's useful for us to see. Any questions, look on Brightspace first, still unsure then drop me an email.</p> <p>EK: It's tedious.</p> <p>AG: Speak to Dan or Mauro and they'd be happy to help.</p> <p>BA: On Emily's comment, thank you, it's useful to know what reps think, but drop me an email, I'm happy to chat. Its there for you so it's not working, we'll look to improve it.</p>	
13:12	3. Approval of minutes from the last meeting	<p>Ag: Minutes were sent out so we should be good for polls. So as we said at the start, accept, reject or abstain from minute last meeting.</p> <p>BA: I think that's everyone.</p>	19 accept 2 abstain
13:13	4. Motions & Actions Update	AG: Officer reports, Pres Dan.	
13:14	5a. Officer Reports – President Education Update	<p>DG: Hi folks, thank you Chair. Those who didn't catch my update at forum, I have a report here as well. My standardise feedback got adapted to providing high quality feedback which will be confirmed in student charter. Campaign is completed as much as possible. Wellbeing sessions have been set up, thank you to SSWAS for helping me complete this. Good night out has been hard as no nights out but we have put the framework in place to complete this. I will meet with good night out campaign coordinator on 8th April and update next student council on progress.</p> <p>I've been working on other projects. Part time students on what works well what doesn't work well and how block affects students on first year study. Been holding a discussion on extenuating circumstances. We had a jam board and got really good feedback. Been looking at grad school rep structure and putting in place structure so if we want to give post grad a bigger say on experience.</p> <p>AG: On another note, next council, next will be AGM so any member is allowed to turn up and we will go on to that in a bit. Ready for any questions, whack in chat and we'll move onto poll</p> <p>BA: No questions from me</p>	21 accept 1 abstain

		AG: Lovely, in that case if you're ready we'll give it a go. Once again, accept, approve or reject abstain	
13:18	5b. Officer Reports – VP Activities and Welfare Update	<p>MC: Good afternoon, thank you chair yeah so for me as you know I'm co leading active by with student life which used to be Infozone. We've been doing a lot of work and its been a long journey, started in November. Final stages, so we realised key issues and as a results, created four scenarios, we believe are specific to what students experience on campus and will have a large impact. Just finalising now and then the programme will be around April. If we'd like to you participate, you'll get an email. Moving on to extra circular, we released a survey but didn't get a lot of people filling it in, so the task and finishing group met to gather more info on what students want we found the same data as found in December, so good to know students are looking for languages and placement. I'm also looking for networking, implement networking opportunities and socialise in general. That's what people have missed. I'll be working with SSWA's as well, as their sessions are popular. Looking to run sessions for groups but keep it open. Liberation and student life work together to make support more accessible. UOS working on website about officers and events, should be a really good page to go to. Give it a go, give students a monthly opportunity to complete a one-off activity. Next week meeting with seas to work through ideas, but always looking so il put my email, contact me and I'll reply.</p> <p>AG: Will accept any questions. Questions, what do you think about raising what jessie raised?</p> <p>Ba: What Dan's report?</p> <p>AG: Yes, Dan, someone noted on an online chat, 'Dan's report block learning affects lots of years, not just first years.'</p> <p>DG: Yeah to clarify the only people undertaking block learning are level 4 or 7, so that's what I mean about sorting that course for next year.</p> <p>AG: I think they might be a part time student so that's why.</p> <p>BA: They'll get in touch with you outside of this meeting. Another comment, cyber security had block learning?</p> <p>AG: Any additional questions, Dan is on it so message him outside the meeting. Once again approve, reject or abstain. You know the drill</p> <p>Ba: Test sharing results for transparency sake, I'll start doing that.</p>	23 accept

13:25	6. Board of Trustees update	<p>AG: Sarah might be taking this potentially? BA: Mauro and dan MC: Yeah so an update, we've attended a board development day in January on Making Sense of Allyship and personally found it really good. Equality and diversity, I prefer talking about sensitive topics openly. Me as a black man, I'm happy to talk about what I feel, I thought that was a really good discussion. DG: I think everyone involved thought this was needed and useful for giving perspective. Certainty for me as someone with white privilege and male, it's using that privilege in the right way. Second point, approved title adjustment for Sabbs. Removing the implied hierarchy in the sense that two Pres roles rather than Vice and gives clarity about who you can come to with each issues. MC: We received two applications for vacant and new trustee which will be proposed to May's council. DG: Mauro and I have a role in choosing the new trustee. We also discussed and approved monthly manage accounts. MC: Received papers on remuneration of core SU staff and approved the SU Staff onto comparable university pay scales. DG: Debated and promoted amendments to part time officer reforms. Mc: debated and supported su complaints, due approval in may DG: Submitted SU and SUSL's accounts to companies house. These will be published from April. AG: These don't need to be approved do they? BA: Not these, no.</p>	
13:32	7a. Motion: Increase the Number of Gender Neutral Loos at the University of Suffolk	<p>AG: Onto motions we have one from Darragh DB: Hi, so this motion is to increase number of gender neutral bathrooms. *Reads motions* AG: Anyone who wants to speak on this fell free, send questions to chat. We have a comment form someone who couldn't make it today. They said essentially there have been problems with facilities for a long time. This person speaks for disabled toilets in general. They want to know if people with disabilities will come into this motion. DB: Not into this one but they way they've included gender neutral is to introduce them into disabled toilets, estates did this but we know it isn't ideal. AG: Thank you, I'll take any more questions in favour or not.</p>	<p>Amendment: 19 Accept 1 Against 3 Abstain</p> <p>Motion: 16 Accept 7 Abstain</p>

		<p>BA: Chair, just a reminder of the effects on these motions as the past year have been by law changes. This will (if we pass) commit the SU to this position so the office team will try to use resources to get the spirit of this motion. They would use this motion as evidence to Uni and we'll update the policy page on website so this will pass as policy. When deciding for or against, this is what will happen.</p> <p>AG: Someone comments this is very important and a thoughtful motion. As Bradley says, it's a way of bringing the SU to a certain position to propose things to the SU or Uni with evidence.</p> <p>Ba: Comment in chat</p> <p>AG: It's important not to use the disabled toilets for this function.</p> <p>DB: I agree, disabled students shouldn't be disadvantaged because trans students will use it also. It was something discussed last march.</p> <p>AG: Are you able to amendments on poll?</p> <p>BA: Bare with me, I'll add another poll as council have to approve amendment, and I'll see if it will let me.</p> <p>AG: Most high schools have cubicles for all gender, would be a shame if Uni is behind.</p> <p>DB: I agree, my schools had gender neutral toilets. It's important to have some gendered spaces for safety but just some gender-neutral toilets.</p> <p>AG: Great, in an amendment that prevents the Uni slapping gender neutral on disabled toilets.</p> <p>BA: Adding a question now, just trying to steer from wording, if people are happy with that?</p> <p>AG: Would this be the addition of further toilet rooms on each floor of each building or modification?</p> <p>DB: That's up to estates, we can't dictate. Assume at first it would be modification and then if built new buildings, then would be implemented. Harder to add things than modify.</p> <p>AG: A motion to give the Uni a stance, not necessarily, we're going to build toilets here and not, it's just what the students body want to see.</p> <p>BA: If all gender neutral toilets come at the expense of disable toilets, what happens?</p> <p>AG: The amendment is: The approval of this won't be at detriment to disabled toilets. I think that's what it's trying to add. I think that is the conversation. How are polls?</p> <p>BA: Good, to clarify the first poll is to vote on the amendment and then if pass, the motion .</p>	
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13:41	7b. Motion: Introduction of a Part-Time Officer	<p>AG: Moving on, so this one as you can see looks like two motions. This is essentially bringing up one motion and if people prefer it, going for the other.</p> <p>BA: Daniel will come on in a minute but he wanted to give two choices to council. He wants to increase part time representation in some way, so if you think the first motion is the one you want, so if council accepts that, we'll withdraw the other. Vote for the one you want, vote against the other. If you don't agree with either, you can reject both. But have a look and if the first option is accepted, the second will be withdrawn. I hope that makes sense but if you have any questions, let me know.</p> <p>DBetts: Okay, so basically both of these motions, idea is we have over a 100 students, they don't have a dedicated officer, could go to the Mature Students Officer but there is not an officer to understand complications part time students have. *reads motions*.</p> <p>AG: Thank you Daniel, we have a question from Dan.</p> <p>DG: I believe having a dedicated part time officer would be better for students. Whilst I accept many mature students are part time, they are unique and need a dedicated officer. Speaking in favour.</p> <p>AG: Someone has put a question mark on Mature Officer, as there isn't one but come new academic year, Daniel as been elected at the new Mature Students Officer. So, that might clarify, Bradley if you have better feel free to say.</p> <p>BA: Daniel won the election so in July will take over that role.</p> <p>AG: Another comment in chat: Issues by mature might not be accepted by all part time.</p> <p>DBetts: The benefit would be that they have one dedicated person to go for.</p> <p>AG: Bradley, want to speak on what you mentioned in the chat, because I didn't understand?</p> <p>BA: A rep who couldn't make it emailed a comment saying that they don't think mature students should be for any other group and the role should be separate.</p> <p>AG: Comment says feel like combining would lead to too much confusion and too much work for a part time rep. Okay so accept, abstain or reject on the motion to introduce a Part Time Officer.</p>	Part-Time Motion 22 Accept 1 Against
13:49	7c. Motion: Expanding Mature Student Officer Role	<p>AG: The other motion has been withdrawn.</p> <p>BA: Dan are you happy to withdraw?</p> <p>DBetts: Happy to withdraw.</p>	

	to Include Part-Time Students		
13:51	7d. Motion to Support Banning Conversion Therapy	<p>*Sarah took notes* *DB reads motion*</p> <p>DB: Conversion therapy is a process of trying to change a person identity away from being LGBTQ+ like electro-shock therapy or talking therapy where a therapist is very negative and the person associates being LGBTQ+ as negative and doesn't want to associate.</p> <p>DG: Hello, we were talking earlier about allyship and using privilege in a positive way. I'd like to use my privilege to support this.</p> <p>AG: It's hard to stay neutral as chair, I will monitor questions. Ready for a poll, once again, for against and abstain. Bradley are you able to show that?</p>	17 Accept 5 Abstain
13:56	8. Any Other Business	<p>AG: Something from Dan</p> <p>DG: Yes, excuse me whilst I get the announcement up</p> <p>AG: Anyone want to raise, let us know or speak on the mic just ask to do so on the chat.</p> <p>DG: I've been asked by equality team at Uni to find a student panel for reapproval of course for degrees so they're looking for someone who would be interested. *reads info and dates*. Aware this is short notice , I need to know this afternoon.</p> <p>AG: Would you like to let them know the benefits of doing so?</p> <p>DG: Sitting on a panel of the equality board at uni, it's going to look, you know, trying to get words out, put this on your cv. Opportunity that you've been part of assuring high quality education.</p> <p>AG: There's also a payment!</p> <p>DG: Not sure for this one, but I'll check.</p> <p>BA: if not paid, Suffolk plusable.</p> <p>AG: We're all close now. Anything else to raise, sorry if I missed it? Put it in the chat. Emily, any update on Uni on returning? Anyone have anything to say, someone official?</p> <p>DG: No word yet, keep an eye out on official channels. Keep an eye out on gov channels. I know some practical courses are back already. I know it's stressful and one of my key strengths are talking to people. I'm exactly in the same boat as you.</p> <p>ST: I can speak on this – I was in recovery planning group this morning. They are waiting on gov due end of Easter break and then we will get comms out to students. Nearly there, end of Easter and we'll keep people update throughout as well.</p> <p>AG: Axel has asked, regarding part time motion, would it fall under liberation or education,</p>	

		<p>Bradley? And a question about accommodation deadlines?</p> <p>DG: I have a feeling that deadline is today so apply as soon as you can.</p> <p>AG: if you know anyone in accommodation, do it today, do it asap. If you know anyone who is able to apply for the hardship grant, so Athena, AXO and Spring Court Property First. What is it, link please?</p> <p>DG: Look on the Uni website, stay on the call and I'll have it for you.</p> <p>BA: Question on liberation officer, it doesn't specify but naturally falls to this</p> <p>AG: So with accommodation, apply today. It's not a loan, so you don't have to repay. So active tenancy? If you're paying for tenancy, however long contact, you are valid but take that with a pinch of salt as I'm not sure. If in doubt, rose says there should be one on Brightspace. I received mine through email so don't know what to direct you to on your search.</p>	
14:07	<p>9a. Date of Next Meeting: (AGM) April 28th</p>	<p>AG: Next meeting is our AGM and on the 28th April. It's an all members meeting. Bradley speak on differences?</p> <p>BA: Basically, all students are able to attend and vote rather than just reps but any student can. Invite your class mates.</p> <p>AG: Quoracy is higher, so we need more people to vote.</p> <p>BA: Quoracy is 50 and there will be a few bits we don't normally vote on. You'll see Sarah put forward the accounts, so it's not to be missed.</p> <p>*talk about getting accommodation grant link*</p> <p>AG: What time is AGM? 1pm I believe, last Wednesday of the month, 1pm I'm pretty sure. But yeah, tell your friends, tell everyone!</p>	