

Committee Name: Guild Officer Group Date & Time: 7th December 2023, 2-3pm

Present:

In attendance	Apologies	Absent without apologies
Amira Campbell – Guild President (Chair) Dean Turner - Welfare and Community Officer Cat Hardiman - Sports Officer Harry Brooks – A&E Officer Joe Hill – Education Officer Tianjie Liu (Alice) - International Officer Aoife O'Driscoll-Paton - Disabled Students; Officer Semmer Preet Singh - Ethnic Minority Students' Officer Ismael Rodriguez Foronda - Ethical and Environmental Officer Robin Hayward - Trans and Non Binary Officer Also in attendance: Jo Thomas, Chief Executive Officer (or nominee) Jane Baston, Senior Voice Coordinator and GOG Secretary Scott Dawson, Voice and Representation Manager	Ben Lockley - Postgraduate Officer Safina Amira - Women's Officer Trinity Barson - LGBTQ+ Students' Officer	Chetna Rajendra Khandare - Campaigns Officer

	Item for discussion	Questions/Comments/Voting Decision From Discussion	Action
1	Welcome	 AC welcomed everyone to the meeting. AC noted that CRK and SA would be finishing their roles as Officers this week as they are graduating. AC thanked Chetna and Safina for their work as Officers. 	
2	Minutes from the last meeting	 Minutes approved. AC noted that all need to send event info to JB when they happen. SD/JB to send out democratic calendar. AC to send list of buddies to JB. JB noted that GOG meetings are on the agenda. 	

			Statement on solidarity with trans students has not been shared. It is being worked on by a couple of Officers. IRF asked for a round-up of what's happening. RH summarised that there was a statement being worked on to show	
		•	solidarity with trans students. It has been delayed due to waiting to the internal resolution on a process that is ongoing. HB updated that they are awaiting an update before this can be progressed forward.	
3	NUS Reform Consultation		AC summarised what the four-nation policy means. AC noted that the current NUS structures reflect how the current Governmental Structures work. AC noted that they are considering how the Officer Executive works within NUS and what those roles are. AC started with questions for clarification. IRF asked what the liberation convenor mean. AC clarified DT asked if there would be both. AC clarified that there would likely be just one role and not both. TL asked what the current liberation structures are. AC clarified that there is one VP Liberation. TL asked where international students are usually considered and discussed. AC clarified that international student policy tends to be discussed between each of the RH asked where the decisions lie for four nation policy. JB clarified AC noted that there is a lot of devolved policy and therefore the nations can sometimes make decision based on devolved policy.	

- AC asked how the group wanted to see four nation policy made
- Agreement that we don't see a need to change how it's currently done.
- AC moved on to the different NUS UK roles and how they could be structured.
- HB asked what work NUS does for FE at the moment.
- AC spoke to the work that NUS does with supporting FE colleges
- CH expressed a preference for Constituent based + UK President
- SS Portolfio no UK
- RH Portfolio + UK
- IRF Portfolio no UK
- HB Combination between 3&4 Portfolio based + UK pres
- JH Constituent + UK Pres
- AOD Agreed with HB
- TL Constituent + UK Pres
- DT Portfolio + UK
- AC Constituent no UK
- TL expressed a desire for an international student role but that there would be a need for more roles within that.
- AC asked if there was a desire in the room for an FE role.
- General agreement on the need for an FE role.
- AC asked if there was a desire to have an England President.
- TL noted that the name doesn't full express the role.
- AC express a view that having an England President would allow for a flat structure within the team.
- AC noted that having a UK President would allow for them to represent students in Government.
- AC asked if there was value in the VP HE role.
- AC summarised that GOG was happy with the current structure with a preference for an international student role.

- AC summarised the proposals.
- Agreement in the room for an assembly based model.
- AC asked for views on single or multiple purpose spaces.
- Strong support for single purpose spaces.
- IRF asked how many people will be in the room.
- AC noted that there will likely be more people with assembly based.
- RH noted that not everyone who wants to be part of a campaign may have the ime to be involved in campaign delivery.
- AC asked if there was a preference for different types of spaces.
- AC asked if we could move to the Liberation Collective and how international students should be represented within the NUS structures.
- TL asked why it wouldn't be called international student group.
- AC suggested that it would be including them and was just a different name for it.
- JH noted that international students pay more and this could be a confusing way for students to view this group.
- TL noted that they could have 2 separate student groups.
- AC noted that the group would prefer to be separated out.
- AC asked about student involvement in NUS representative.
- IRF Yes
- JH noted that they should still get to elected Reps and have them make policy. National Reps should be encouraged to campaign nationally.
- IRF noted the importance of getting students involved and empowered in campaigning.
- AC noted that 1 student 1 vote may excluded some people who may not typically be elected in to those role – eg from marginalised backgrounds or from small SUs.

		 JH noted that perhaps FE should have a separate organisation to represent them. AC noted that Conference allows for the difference in sizes between institutions to be evened out. AC agreed that current NUS Representatives don't get involved with SUs across the country and often don't campaign in that way. JH noted that the NUS needs to encourage students to get involved and give them ways to do it. DT mentioned that the polls need to have weight in order for them to be impactful. IRF noted that people may not care about every issue and may not engage with every issue if they don't care about them. 	
3	Officer Projects	Standing Item for updates from Officers on projects they're working on • AC asked Officers to send any updates that they have to JB	All to send JB project updates.
4	Comms	 Standing Item for communication updates AC noted that there were no urgent updates. 	
	Democracy Review	 SD noted that some of the PTOs wanted to share some thoughts on the Democracy Review. SD noted that they can share the slides with some outcomes from the review meetings. RH asked about what the next steps will be. SD noted that the survey and the workshops in combination create a number of recommendations that need to go to the Guild Trustee Board. SD noted that the FTOs have already seen the slides. The two pieces of consultations mirror each other. AC asked if it would be useful for a space for PTOs to be talked through some of the outcomes. 	SD to share slides with Democracy Review Outcomes. SD to arrange a time for the PTOs to share feedback.

		SD to send around the slides and arrange a meeting to discuss with the Part-Time Officers.	
7	Intro to Dubai	 TL noted that she has asked the Dubai student leaders to the next GOG meeting. TL talked through a brief introduction to the Dubai student leaders and their role. TL is in regular contact with them via the Dubai Student Forum. TL noted that the priorities of the Dubai Student Leader team are to enhance the connections between Dubai and Edgbaston campus. TL noted that they also want to work on the gap in experience between the two campus. TL noted that they also want to look at creating media groups and enhancing the activities provided. TL noted that there are differences in the way that the Dubai SA is run. They are supported by University staff in Dubai. TL also noted that there are some legal differences with Dubai. JT talked through the campus in Dubai and the spaces provided for students. JT noted that TL and JL are likely visiting Dubai in the new year. JT mentioned that the building is built in a sustainable way to keep the building cool. JT noted that the Association has some space of it's own within the building JB to circulate slides to the group. TL noted that within the Bye-Laws there is a regular student forum that she attends. The student leaders give an update on their work and TL updates on the work that is being done in Edgbaston. TL noted that they want to strengthen the connections with Dubai. TL noted that the way the student leaders work on and talk on their campaigns is different than how we work in Edgbaston. 	JB to circulate slides.

		 SS noted that there can be cultural differences between the two institutions. AC noted that the student leaders will be at the next meeting. 	
8	Next Semester Meeting Dates	 JB noted that GOG dates for the next Semester are in the agenda and are in everyone's calendars. JB asked if Officers would find it valuable to extend GOG meetings by half an hour. Agreement to extend GOG meetings by half an hour. AC asked if we can extend the next meeting to be 2 hours. 	JB to extend GOG meetings by half an hour. JB to extend the January GOG to 2 hours.
	AOB	N/A	

The Chair closed the meeting at: TIME

Date of next meeting: xxx