

Committee Name: Guild Officer Group

Date & Time: 11.11.2025 12:00-13:00

Present:

In attendance	Apologies	Absent without apologies
In Attendance: Antonia Listrat – Guild President Abby Kendrick – Welfare & Community Officer Aliasgar Gandhi – Postgraduate Officer Abhijeet Patel – Sports Officer Emeline Brown – Activities & Employability Officer Simrah Inamdar – International Officer Max Williams – Sustainability Officer Lucy McCabe – Women's Officer Sabrina Ahmad – Trans & Non-Binary Students' Officer Ronak – Ethnic Minority Students' Officer Also in attendance: Molly Purcell, Senior Voice Coordinator (Secretary) Jane Baston, Voice and Representation Manager Chloe Batten, Student Voice Coordinator (Democratic Engagement) - observing James Lindsay, Director of Community & Representation	Olivia Bonner - Disabled Students' Officer Jo Thomas - CEO	

	Item for discussion	Questions/Comments/Voting Decision From Discussion	Action
1	Welcome	The Group introduced themselves and welcomed Chloe to the Guild.	AL
2	Minutes from the last meeting	Happy to approve minutes form last meeting.	AL
3	Officer Projects	Standing Item for updates from Officers on projects they're working on. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lucy is working on reclaim the night, with external speakers coming this year. Also planning on a banner making session. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Autumn crafternoon WOC social is this week. ▪ Meeting with community safety team. ▪ Women's self defence classes. ▪ Planning a menstruation event/workshop around period poverty. <p>Abby</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working on SHaG Week plans, a good mixture of different charities and workshops. ▪ Safezone collaboration with Aston <p>Max</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attended Sustainability 'Un'conference ▪ Attended Parliament for COP30 Policy Launch, has fed into the University contribution ▪ Panel event for COP30 ▪ Planning Green Week, asked GOG for any ideas/contributions for this by mid-Dec ▪ Working with Emeline on sustainability award <p>Jacob</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Collaborated with University for Remembrance Day ▪ Working with Sandam ▪ Project around study spaces and making it more bookable ▪ National campaign around paid nursing placements ▪ Attended professional development advisory board ▪ Approved CAL pilot for student reps ▪ First elected rep forum <p>Emeline</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Revising Chair's network ▪ Bridged gap between reslife and worklink – relationship building ▪ Meeting with Careers Network for careers help for underrepresented groups. Work with Ronak during Race Equality Week 	
--	--	--	--

		<p>during February and Women in Leadership during March</p> <p>Simrah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working on orientation programme with Jon, work in progress ▪ Working on communications/signposting for student VISAs ▪ Working to have comms in Mandarin to increase engagement with Chinese students ▪ Supporting Chinese Society with Chinese New Year ▪ Met with a project manager from Student Living to introduce a comparison tool for accommodation choices ▪ Working on International student visa campaign with Student Voice Team ▪ Working on a winter social collab with Ronak ▪ May be travelling to Dubai next week to visit UoB Dubai <p>Abhijeet</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working on Sports Access Fund (170 applications), applications have now closed ▪ Launching second charity sports night <p>Ronak</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ T&NB POC Social in first week of December with Sabrina ▪ Winter social collab with Simrah ▪ EM Society feedback session with Sam Beddows ▪ Working with business society ▪ Representing the Guild as NUS England Rep in a couple of weeks ▪ Thanks to Abby for support with Lib groups <p>Sabrina</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Trans Day of Remembrance Vigil planning ▪ Collab with Ronak for social ▪ Movie night planning 	
--	--	--	--

		<p>Ali</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working with PG academic lead with various working groups and working with different PG leads across different colleges ▪ Working with careers network on how to expand part time jobs for PGs and working to get more employers on campus ▪ Working on VISAs/PG opportunities for students ▪ Working with comms teams for social media engagement for PGs ▪ 50 students for PG&I student forum with very good engagement <p>Antonia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Working with Jo on setting up forum for divestment, following QM's practise ▪ Working around events such as right to protest, hoping for a national campaign with support from Amnesty, hoping to bring to RGSUs ▪ Working with Kassie, Abby & James for community breakfasts to minimise food waste ▪ Finalising student staff decolonisation forum 	
4	Post-16 Education & Skills Paper Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Jane summarised the paper circulated. ▪ Noted that none of it is policy yet, this is the direction that the Government want to go in. Currently is not a consultation so nothing to respond to currently, but good to be aware and potential positions the Officers may want to take. ▪ Tuition fees/maintenance loans are going to be raised in line with inflation. Grants to be brought back for specific students. ▪ Access & participation changes to be regional ▪ Student experience – small changes ▪ NUS are pushing back on quality/tuition fees which is being reconsidered 	JB

		<p>Jacob noted that the PG parts are quite good. Care leaver parts are not big updates. Asked question around specialist subject decisions. Jane summarised that they want Universities to specialise in different areas, eg Nottingham and Lancaster are going through big cuts in some departments, type of thing we may expect to see at Birmingham. Sector generally is not very supportive of this. This is the direction of travel and may not create the outcome desired. Antonia asked whether the cuts may be made to arts subjects. Jane outlined the contradiction of this and the decisions made. Reintroduction of grants are looking to be in STEM subjects</p>	
5	Officer Buddies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Asked whether PTOs wanted FTO Buddies ▪ FTOs are supportive of this and if this something that we want to continue. ▪ Does not have to have the same workstreams, more about information sharing and team building. 	JB
6	AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Abby: discussion with Lucy about violence against women and the incident in Birmingham. Looking to draft statement to pair with darker nights/reclaim the night campaigns. ▪ Antonia suggested connecting this to violence against women and especially women of colour. ▪ Abby with circulate a draft and asked group for general feedback. ▪ Emeline suggested making the statement from a support point of view. 	

The Chair closed the meeting at: 13:04
Date of next meeting: 10.12.2025