

## Welfare & Liberation Committee Meeting 2

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January. 12pm – 1:15pm. Online – Zoom.

Trigger Warnings: Anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, History months and Campaigns, Cost of Living, Officer Elections, decolonisation, Black students experience, Trans and non-binary student experience, Transphobia, Gender recognition Bill.

## **Present**

Committee members: Reeve Isaacs-Smith (RIS, Welfare and Community Officer, Chair), Amira Campbell (AC, Black Voices), Robin Haywood (RH, Trans and Non-Binary Students' Officer), Anastasis Mauriac (AS, International Rep), Jo Birch (JB, Student Member)

Guild Staff: Rozena Nadeem (RN, Democracy Coordinator), Dayna Hopkins (DH, International and Postgraduate Coordinator, Minute taker), Adam Dorey (AD, Policy and Campaigns Coordinator), Scott Dawson (SD, Student Voice and Representation Manager)

## Apologies N/A

## **Absence Without Apologies**

Committee members: Aleiah Johnson (AJ, Student Member), Hannah Wilson (HW, Disabled Students' Officer), Madupavitra Palani (MP, Women's' Officer), Chinaza Nwankwo (CN., Ethnic Minority Students' Officer), Nandini Sharma (NS, Postgraduate Rep), Chirag Sejpal (CS, LGBTQ+ Students' Officer) Lauren Spooner (LS, Student Member).

Item No.	Item Title	Meeting Notes	Actions
Start			
1	Welcome & Introductions 12:11pm – 12:15pm	RIS starts the meeting and asks everyone to introduce themselves.  The meeting at this time is not quorate.	



2	Black Voices Campaign 12:15pm – 12:18pm	RIS asks AC to discuss any updates within Black Voices. AC discussed the My name is campaign which will be introduced at Volunteering week. It will provide people's names to be phonetically spelt so that they can be pronounced correctly. RIS brought this up at EDI committee and it was taken well about staff having this under their signatures. JB raises point of raising awareness of the BV Campaign.	RIS to bring up a poster campaign with AC to raise awareness for Black Voices.
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3	Officer Updates 12:18pm – 12:22pm	AC leaves the meeting. RH also discusses their updates. Trans and NB meal went ahead in December and had good feedback. For LGBTQ+ history month, RH will be posting on their social media on trans and non-binary ally ship. This will include information on using gender neutral language, myths and misunderstandings surrounding trans and NB people and Trans and NB figures from the past and present. RIS discusses their updates. SHAG week (Sexual health awareness and guidance week), this will be happening in March with workshops on safe sex and health relationships.	
4	Minutes & Actions from the Previous Meeting 12:22pm – 12:24pm	RIS introduces Item 4.  The meeting is not quorate so both minutes and funding proposals will be circulated via email to all committee members for approval.	Minutes from previous and current meeting to be circulate for approval. All fund proposals to be circulated for approval. DH to do this.



RIS discusses any plans for LGBTQ+ month. RH is working mainly on the information on their Social media. RIS brings up the Reclaim the night event which date it TBC. It will be a Rally in Chamberlain Square in Birmingham City Centre. RIS asks the committee if they have any ideas or campaigns they would like to bring up. RH suggests doing a one-off Fab night event around Reclaim the night, with the emphasis on safety. **History Months** RIS, RH and the AEO and Campaigns Officer to discuss the 5 AD asks about Reclaim the night date 12:24pm potential of a reclaim and RH about ally ship. the night Fab event. 12:34pm RIS gives a date, but is to confirm with AD the date and RH explains the ally ship monthly posts. AD and RH to arrange a meeting to discuss potential campaigns that may be of interest. JB puts in the group chat that they would like a statement and poster campaign to highlight trans rights and how trans people are valued and are not dangerous.



		RIS asks RH if they would like to meet with JB to discuss the poster campaign.  They both agree. The statement is talked about in Item 8.	
6	NUS report 12:34pm – 12:40pm.	RIS discusses the investigation done on the NUS and provides via screen share the actions of the investigation.  RIS asks everyone if they have any questions or concerns. All full time Officers were offered Anti-Semitism training which RIS attended.  RIS asked SV if they any beliefs of commitments regarding the report.  SD confirm it is apart of the Zero tolerance policy.	



7	Cost of Living Campaign 12:40pm – 12:43pm	RIS gives an update on the Cost of living campaign and what the guild offers to support those who need support.  This includes, the community pantry, the guild hardship fund and free period products outside the Officer office.  Guild advice offers food vouchers.  RIS asks the committee if they have any questions or any ideas they would like to bring up.  JB queries about setting up posters or speaking to tutors about promoting the community pantry.  RIS confirms that emails have been sent around to all students advertising the community pantry.  AD asks if anyone has any thoughts on the COL campaign and RIS offers to committee members to reach out if they have any questions.  Break (10 mins)	RIS to speak to Wellbeing officers in colleges to be aware of the community pantry and to advertise.
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RIS introduces the idea submission and passes over to JB to discuss. The idea submission was regarding the guild to publicly condemn the UK Government's blocking of the pro trans legalisation and but also to ensure that trans rights at UOB are respected and protected. RIS reads out to the committee the idea JB to write up a draft submission. statement (RIS also JB calls for the guild to stand against offered to support). the UK government. Also, to make sure Once this has been that student groups protect and affirm wrote, it will be trans rights. passed to Student **Idea Submission** RIS discusses what the guild already voice to be checked, 8 12:56pm has in place to protect trans students: then passed to the 13:04pm As a charity the guild uphold freedom of guild's legal team and speech, Guild advice is a confidential then JB and RIS will place to report any hate crimes. On the discuss the next guild website there is an option of you actions to bring it to report, we support. All student meeting or If you want to complain about a society, to the Full-time RIS provided an email. officers' group. RIS proposes to JB to write a draft statement and is happy to help if needed. This will then be looked at by different sectors of the guild to ensure checks have been done. Once full approval, RIS and JB to take next action of where they would like the



		statement to go such as All student meeting or to the Full-Time Officer's group.  JB confirmed they are happy to do this.	
		RIS brings forward the item.	
		No NUS delegates were in the meeting at this time.	
9	NUS Delegates Policy Submission.	RN mentions they are still working on their policies.	
	13:04pm – 13:06pm	RN also advertises the NUS delegates roles; Black students place and Trans students place are up for election. RIS encourages people to run for the elections and offers out support and directs to Student Voice also if any questions.	



10	Leadership Development & Community Organising 13:06pm – 13:10pm	RN discusses students' groups to promote democracy and elections at the guild.  RN and RIS offer support to anyone in the committee who may be running in the election, if they want to discuss how to promote themselves.  RN discusses recommend a friend scheme for officer elections.  RN is also working with AD on campaigning with student groups.	
11	Officer Election Update 13:10 – 13:13pm	RIS gives an overview of the officer elections, and dates of when they are occurring.  RIS offers support and advise if anyone is particularly interested in their role.  RN brings up the election drop in sessions and when they are occurring.  The elections email address is also provided if anyone has any further questions.	



12	AOB 13:13pm – 13:15pm	RIS discusses the Black Voices Tell it like it is campaign which will be circulated via email for approval. The meeting was not quorate, the previous minutes and funding proposal, and any proposals and minutes that are taken at this meeting will be circulated via email to get approval from committee members.	
End	Meeting Ended 13:15pm		

Date & Time of next meeting: