

OVERALL EXECUTIVE

Minutes of a meeting of the Overall Executive held on 31st July on the Jordanstown Campus.

PRESENT:

Mark Bell (Overall President), Declan Shiels (Sports President), Sarah Curran (VP Campaigns and Communications), Colum Mackey (VP Academic & Student Affairs, Jordanstown), Micky Quigg, (VP Academic & Student Affairs, Magee), Sarah Gordon (VP Academic & Student Affairs, Belfast), Robbie Banham (VP Academic & Student Affairs Coleraine),

IN ATTENDANCE:

Avril Honan (Student Engagement Manager), Ciara Cunningham (Communications and Marketing Officer)

APOLOGIES:

Emmett Mullally (General Manager),

14.34 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on July 21st 2014 were accepted.

14.35 PRESIDENTS COMMUNICATIONS

14.36 MATTERS ARISING

Facebook Protocols (Min 14.29 refers)

The Marketing and Communication Officer noted that a recent student survey carried out by UUSU found that students were confused about the communication channels used by UUSU. It was noted that streamlining the number of facebook pages and having one central 'like' page would assist with this.

Campus Officers stated that they felt the campus connection was necessary for student engagement and provided immediate access for small queries. It was stressed however that student issues should NOT be dealt with over facebook – these should be moved to email and dealt with professionally.

Following discussion it was AGREED:

- The current VP 'Friend' pages would be closed
- New campus 'like' pages would be developed, the Marketing and Communication Officer would be super admin, with the VPs as admins
- The central UUSU page will be the official page and will be publicised on print media etc

The Marketing & Campaigns Officer noted that one page would still be the ideal way forward, it was agreed that the campus pages, and their usage, would be reviewed at the end of Semester 1.

14.37 PRESIDENTS COMMUNICATIONS

The Overall President drew the Executive's attention to the potential of student fees being increased in NI following the next General Election. This issue should be monitored and developments communicated to the student body.

14.38 OFFICER REPORTS

The Overall President noted that all reports were received in advance of the meeting and would be taken as read.

The Sports President noted that the new Sports Union website would be ready before the beginning of term.

The Vice President Campaigns & Communications noted that she had been holding ongoing meetings with the rest of the team and hoped to finalise her campaign timetable soon.

The Vice President Belfast added that she has met with the NUS USI Womens Officer to discuss a national campaign to raise awareness of 'Lad' Culture on campuses. The campaign is being run on a small scale to begin with and Sarah will be working with NUS USI to roll it out on the Belfast campus.

The Overall President noted that these reports would be available online once the new section of the website was finished. He asked that the reports were full account of work undertaken, and did not contain any confidential information which could identify students.

14.39 SABBATICAL CLOTHING/UNIFORMS

The style and colour of the sabbatical team clothing was decided.

14.40 UUSU SNAPCHAT ACCOUNT

It was agreed that the VP Campaigns & Communications should manage a UUSU account for competitions.

Claire McLoughlin, Volunteer Coordinator, joined the meeting for the next four items.

14.41 VOLUNTEER POLICY

The Volunteer Coordinator noted that this document is aimed not only at our volunteers, but also at partner organisations to ensure they meet these standards if they wish to recruit our students.

It was noted that the rates paid for expenses would be referred to the UUSU Staffing, Finance and General Purposes Committee for ratification.

The policy was APPROVED subject to expenses ratification.

14.42 OVERSEAS VOLUNTEERING POLICY

The Volunteering Coordinator explained to the committee that this had become necessary due to a large increase in companies offering overseas volunteering to students, in many cases these companies are profit making and the opportunities were not always to volunteer. Due to the

number of companies, it is difficult for UUSU to verify all opportunities and this policy aims to provide guidelines for students. The policy has been discussed with the Head of the International Department to ensure it does not discourage students from taking part in international opportunities.

This policy was APPROVED by the committee.

14.43 VOLUNTEER HANDBOOK

The handbook was APPROVED by the committee – subject to ratification of expenses policy.

14.44 FUNDRAISING GUIDELINES

It was noted that there was some confusion in the past year in regards to individual students asking the SU to book space for their fundraising activities.

It was AGREED through this policy that, following due process, space would be booked for Societies and official RAG events; all other events would need to be arranged by the organiser directly with the Provost for their campus/Physical Resources.

The Chair noted his thanks to Claire for her work on these documents.

14.45 FRESHERS FAYRE WORKING GROUPS

It was agreed that these should meet to plan a timetable for freshers. The first meeting would be organised via email.

14.46 GREEN IMPACT AWARD – SILVER

It was AGREED to apply for this award

14.47 REBRAND OF THURSDAY NIGHTS AT MAGEE

The committee noted that the concept was a success at a recent training event attended at a Dublin Students' Union. The committee agreed with the concept and advised the VP Magee to liaise with his bar manager.

14.48 UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

The membership of the central University committees was agreed.

14.49 UUSU CALENDAR DATES

The schedule of UUSU meetings was agreed.

A discussion took place on the timing of RAG Week – whether to have it in Week 4 or Week 6. The decision was deferred pending further consultation with the RAG Officers on each campus.

The date for the Sabbatical elections has provisionally been agreed for Week 9 of semester 2. This is the week prior to the Easter holidays in 2015.

14.50 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

29th August 2014