



Cardiff Students' Union
Undeb Myfyrwyr Caerdydd

Student Senate – Minutes

Monday 5th December 2022, 5pm – Zoom

Attendees:

Committee Members

Rebecca Hardy (Chair)

Gina Dunn (SU President)
Rebecca Deverell (VP Welfare)
Angie Flores Acuna (VP Postgraduate Students)
Penny Dinh (Black & Ethnic Minorities Officer)
Deio Owen (Welsh Language Officer)
Alice Moore (Students with Disabilities Officer)
Aurora Birkeland (Ethical & Environmental Officer)
Emily Carr (Women's Officer)

Maria Pollard (Student Senator)
Alex Meers (Student Senator)
Ella Brooks (Student Senator)
Amanda Godi (Student Senator)
Christopher-Grayson Sage Diamond (Student Senator)
Micaela Panes (Student Senator)
Syed Ali Rizvi (Student Senator)
Akmal Arzeman (Student Senator)
Elle Ladkin (Student Senator)
Rhodri Thomas (Student Senator)
Lottie Atton (Student Senator)
Rowan Hadert (Student Senator)

Staff

Tali Atvars (Head of Student Voice, Info Point)
Hannah Fatkin (Deputy Head of Student Voice)
Julian Green (Campaigns and Insight Coordinator)
Cymen Cyf (Translation Services)

Standard Items



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Welcome	Rebecca Hardy (Chair) explains the process of Student Senate, thanks everyone for their attendance and reminds all members about voting and its process. RH (Chair) continues to explain the format of the meeting and clarify what will be covered.
Apologies	Apologies will be noted in the minutes.
Minutes of the previous meeting	<p>RH (Chair) goes through the minutes page-by-page asking for any amendments.</p> <p>Page 2 of previous meeting minutes: Penny Dinh raises an issue with the misspelling of their name in the minutes. Gina Dunn highlights Charlotte Towlson was VP Welfare and Campaigns at the time of the previous meeting; however, this had not been reflected in the minutes. Penny Dinh follows up on this, indicating other campaign officers at the time should also have their titles included. Rebecca Deverell clarifies Ashly Alava Garcia and Angie Flores Acuna need their names amending.</p> <p>Page 3 of previous meeting minutes: Micaela Panes raises another spelling mistake of Penny Dinh's name. Alex Meers states a grammatical mistake in one of the motions.</p> <p>No other amendments are noted, and attendees are reminded to return their voting card at the end of the meeting.</p>
Students' Union Submitted Items	
Election of Vice-Chair	<p>RH (Chair) invites members of Student Senate to put themselves forward for the position of vice chair. Alex Meers, Jake Enea and Micaela Panes nominate themselves and are given 60 seconds each to explain to Senate why they should be elected Vice-Chair. RH (Chair) informs the members that the elected Vice-Chair will be supporting at the AGM panel the following day with RH.</p>
Questions to Vice-Chair candidates	<p>Penny Dinh asks what would you do to make Senate meeting and its outcomes more accessible and relevant to all students, especially PGR students?</p> <p>Gurpal Sahota asks if any of the candidates have any political party affiliations?</p> <p>Emily Carr asks what is the stance with the National Union of Students and unions in general?</p>



	<p>Deio Owen asks, translated from Welsh, how do you ensure a voice for the Welsh language within the structure of the Union and how does one expand how students are represented in the democratic structures?</p> <p>No other questions. RH (Chair) requests all members to input names of the candidates on the voting cards and rank according to preference, to be handed in within 10 minutes of the meeting ending.</p>
<p>Students' Union Budget</p>	<p>Gina Dunn provided an update on the Students' Union's budget.</p> <p>Gina indicates the Students Union budget has been outlined and attached to the meeting agenda handout. Gina asks if there are any questions regarding the budgeting that has been set out for this academic year.</p> <p>Alex Meers asks about membership services and what the Students Union budget covers for this. Tali Atvars provides a clear breakdown of this.</p> <p>Penny Dinh asks why funding for volunteering was reallocated to society and would campaigns like 'feed your flat' affect this current Students Union Budget. Gina and Tali Atvars responds accordingly to answer the question presented.</p> <p>Micaela Panes asks if there is a figure on how much was paid during the distribution of £5 vouchers for the autumn elections. Tali Atvars clarifies the vouchers were for internal expenditure, thus, brings back money to the organisation.</p> <p>Rhodri Thomas asks if there is a postgraduate lounge similar to what was present in the SU in previous years. Gina and Tali Atvars answer the question.</p> <p>Jake Enea asks what else will be done to help the cost of living crisis and where is that allocated in the budget? Gina explains all the actions/campaigns that are being undertaken to tackle this.</p> <p>Gurpal Sahota asks where the funding came from for feed your flat. Gina states the most recent feed your flat funding was taken from Student Voice budget.</p>



	No other questions.
Report from the Trustees	<p>Gina Dunn provided a verbal update on behalf of the trustees.</p> <p>GD provided an update on the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · New Sabbatical and Campaign Officer team in place. · Position of resigned officer has now been filled in the autumn elections. · Autumn elections had the highest ever voter turnout for an autumn election. · 2nd floor of SU has been redeveloped and remodelled for increased space. · 19,000 attendees engaged at freshers fair and 17,000 students engaged with the SU club nights. · Officer team continued events, such as coffee mornings and bunches for postgraduates. · Rebecca (Vice-President Welfare) ran the Big Unwind, which saw over 300 students to attend. This was brought back recently due to its popularity and interest from students. · Officers gave induction talks to over 5000 students across campus and across different year groups. · Ashley Alava Garcia and Angie Flores Acuna ran a Black History Month campaign throughout campus. · The SU has been working with the university to tackle the cost of living crisis through various incentives. <p>Gina expresses that she would be happy to answer any questions.</p>
Appointment of Student Trustee	<p>RH (Chair) informs members of the Student Senate that a new Student Trustee has been nominated. Student Senators are asked to review the candidate's CV and vote whether to approve this appointment on voting cards.</p> <p>Tali Atvars adds there are other available positions for Student Trustee and that anyone interested should get in contact via email.</p>
Submitted Items	
Lapsing Policy	<p>Student Senate noted that the following policies had lapsed and had not been resubmitted for approval:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Note that the LGBTQ+ Officer titles will remain as passed by Senate in 2021 to 2022.
Tabled Motions	Motion I. Removal of By-Law 13



For Motion:

Rebecca Deverell speaks on behalf of Olivia Evans.

Rebecca outlines the proposal being put forward regarding the IMG network, which is the less competitive sporting activity organisation for students.

Under this law currently Liv is mandated to run an executive, which deals with the IMG games and forums, however, the university has taken ownership of the IMG. Liv feels she is now not suited to run an executive when she is not running IMG.

Therefore, has proposed this bye-law to be removed from the bye-laws so that students can have their say within the university and within the IMG in a specific forum set up by the University. Also, so that Liv does have to run an executive which she has very little involvement with.

Against Motion:

Penny Dinh states removing the bye-law completely is not productive. A motion that suggests rework of the bye-law would better be suited since the SU still holds the responsibility of facilitating student voice in the intramural games.

For Motion:

Gina Dunn clarifies that the IMG representation would not be lost, it would mean Liv does not have to duplicate her time.

No other speakers for or against. Rebecca Deverell provides a summary.

Motion II. By-Law Amendment to Adjourned AGM Quorum

For Motion:

Gina Dunn states that the recent AGM did not go ahead due to quorum not being hit, despite planning and advertising to ensure everything was ready for the event. Thus, a number of mitigations are being reviewed to prevent this in future and improve accessibility of



future AGM events.

Against Motion:

Penny Dinh notes it is important that Cardiff SU is the democratic union that listens to all of its members and reducing the quorum does the opposite of this. Penny defines the accessibility issues of the AGM amongst PhD students and hence, exploring how to increase engagement should be the initial step.

For Motion:

Deio Owen speaks for the motion and emphasises the motion is not to limit how many people turn up to AGM.

Against Motion:

Micaela Panes states lowering the adjourned AGM quorum to 250 members put cost over democracy. The SU highlights that the AGM is one of the biggest democratic events of the year, and its failure to meet Quorum in the first instance should not lead to that democratic process being undermined by a lower quorum. There are over 30,000 students in the university and the motion could set a dangerous precedent.

For Motion:

Jake Enea notes that 250 students at AGM is better than a board of 50 students voting on motions when the targeted quorum figure has not been met.

Procedural Motion put forth:

Alex Meers states the motion would benefit going straight to a vote to avoid argument.

Gurpal Sahota speaks against the procedural motion, noting there is more to be said on this matter and consideration has been taken on the manner and atmosphere of the debate.

Deio Owen speaks for the procedural motion and states most of the



	<p><i>points have been put out. Also, if voting is not done for this and less than 500 people turn up tomorrow it will be very detrimental to the SU.</i></p> <p><i>Micaela Panes speaks against the procedural motion and states the debate should not be closed here as there is far more to say.</i></p> <p>No speakers for or against the procedural motion. Alex Meers provides a summary.</p> <p>Procedural Motion Passes.</p> <p>Debate closed for Motion II.</p>
Any Other Business	
Notice of Elections	RH (Chair) reminded members that the Students' Union spring elections nominations open on 12 th December.
Next Student Senate Meeting	Monday 30 th January.
AGM	RH(Chair) reminds members to attend AGM.
MEETING ENDED	
VOTING RESULTS	
<p>Minutes from the previous meeting: Approved</p> <p>Election of Vice-Chair: Micaela Panes</p> <p>Appointment of Matthew Bird as Student Trustee: Approved</p> <p>Motion 1 - Removal of bye-law 13: Passed</p> <p>Motion 2 - Amendment to the Quorum of an Adjourned AGM: Passed</p>	





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