

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: 23rd November 2020, 15pm BST

Apologies: Faiso, Sabir

In attendance: David Gordon, Bali Birch-Lee, Thiago Ellie Cottrell, Alice Saitta, Laura Godard, Ellie Duplock, Cerelie Doyle, Emily Kilby, Jit Patel, Isra Saker, Sarah Gerwens & Jay Crosbie

The meeting was **quorate**, so all decisions are binding.

1) RAG Conference

Alice introduces the RAG conference, there is a gap in the market in conference around charity - or organisations making conscious change. With the lockdown and the current situation there's a rise in Zoom talks too. Alice combined these two things to create a unite student effort on three big issues: sustainability, homelessness, women in power.

8th til the 12th February is the date. A week of skill based interactive workshops for people. It'll be either a paid weekly package or donation encouraged. All sessions to be lead by people in the sector and hopefully by students and staff alike.

One of the workshops will seek to train women in leadership and advocacy skills, St mungo will be leading sessions. Alice wants to ask if any of the PTO/Sabbs wants to lead a session.

David thinks this sounds like a great initiative. Alice says she's still assessing the pros and cons of this clashing with RAG week.

Alice: Send over all information in an email and ask PTOs/Sabbs to Respond.

Everyone: Agree to reply to Alice's email.

2) Officer Updates

David opens the floor to discuss any Officer updates.

Ellie Cottrell updates Green Weeks, there's a discussion surrounding SU support for future engagement on this issue. David thanks Ellie for the feedback and says he will be updating the committee on future capacity for engagement regarding the SU soon.

Isra talks about the work she has coming up with the social mobility town hall.

Isra talks about how there's a lack of help regarding to promoting it.. Discusses about running her Origins week. Isra going to start working on the survey next week.

Thiago discusses planning his Pride week and talks about the need to work collaboratively to ensure no classes. He's been talking with the student groups and working with mental health services. There's feedback from their side that hasn't been communicated to students — Thiago asks for people to think about ways we could advertize and promote mental health issues at LSE.

David discusses the support map that he created last year that collated the support available at LSE.

David updates the bigger piece of work that he's undertaking. Together for Students is a communications exercise that will demonstrate all the good work the SU goes. Including Social mental health work and how we're reactively representing students regarding covid, as there's issues in halls is how the SU is contributes to the school to work with students. Together for Students piece creates a narrative that the SU exist and here are the opportunities on how we can support you. It's quite conceptual work right now but looking to be launched in January 2020.

Action: For members of Exe to promote Isra's event.

Action: For David to organise a meeting with relevant members of staff to discuss Comms.

3) Black Lives Matter Update

Thiago takes the floor. As part of our initiative to issue all black students may face we created this motion, with our intentions to establish the work that we do over the next four years. This would to encourage the BLM work to not loose momentum. The motion didn't pass. The motion title was a contested issue, going viral on Twitter and causing issues. Thiago discusses that it was quite distressing overall because it played out in such a manner.

David asks for the committee to acknowledge what happened and that there was a space for this to discuss it. Thiago speaks about his experience here and his frustration. David and the rest of the committee thanks him for opening up for his experience. Exe Committee endorsed this motion for the rest of the academic year.

Alice asks what happens now that it wasn't passed as a motion. David says it can be resubmitted next year, and now that exe committee has been passed we can work on it this year.

Alice asks if they'll be a statement being made in response to that. David confirms that there was a statement created. Ellie Cottrell says there's some work to do outreach to do some UGM and explain what they are to students so this issue doesn't arise again.

Action: Jay to organise BLM Meeting.

Action: To find ways to actively communicate with the student body what UGMs are.

4) AOB

Ellie Cottrell asks what the SU is doing in terms of students who are isolating. How will this work over Christmas for students.

David says that a lot of students are not going home for Christmas, David is working with the school currently on what we can do to support these students. If you're personally interested in working on that David ask Ellie to get involved, which she is keen to do.

Laura has weekly meetings with the residence team, they've introduced a tailored form of the buddy system. Someone to check in with them, bring them things from the pharmacy and give them shopping lists to collect items. In terms of the mental health aspect, the peer support scheme rings students every week and someone from the warden team calls or rings an isolating student every day. However, we cannot ensure this is happening.

We have a new SU feedback form about residence halls so we can pick up on things quicker. Ellie is happy to support on this.

Ellie also talks about the idea of providing accessible sanitary products around LSE, that are sustainable. Ensuring products such as moon cups are in freshers packs. Ellie Duplock suggests going to speak to Women's Rugby as they had products such as that. Ellie, Bali and Laura offer their help too.

Thiago brings up that students seems to be having parties on the roof top. David suggests emailing him or the Sabbatical Officers about what happened so he can bring it up with LSE.

Jit says there's a meeting next week

Sarah says she's been working with some students and wondering if she could get some SU representation to help promote the SU work to PHD students.

David says he believes some number of SU representatives would be happy to help.

Ellie Duplock says that police are now involved with The White Horse incidence, they can't sell alcohol so this should stop students congregating around the tunns drinking.