

Meeting: COUNCIL/SENATE/STUDENTS' UNION COMMITTEE

Date and Time: Tuesday 15th May 2018 at 10.15am

Venue: 4 West Boardroom

Present:	Professor Dame G Breakwell (Chair)	President & Vice-Chancellor
	Ms A Brady	Student Representative
	Mr M Cigerli	Student Representative
	Mr B Davies	President, Students' Union
	Professor P Lambert	Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Teaching)
	Professor C Mitchell	Elected by Senate
	Miss C Page	Education Officer, Students' Union
	Dr J Troyer	Elected by Senate
In Attendance:	Mr L Emery	Postgraduate Officer, Students' Union
	Mr W Galloway	Sports Officer, Students' Union
	Dr J Harris	Director of Academic Registry
	Mr A McLaughlin	Chief Executive, Students' Union
	Mr A Payne	Director of Student Services
	Mr B Palmer	Community Officer, Students' Union
	Mr M Pender	Secretary
	Ms K Pickett	Activities Officer, Students' Union
Apologies:	Ms A Goodman	Elected by Council
	Mr R Tyrrell	Student Representative

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1157. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2018 (Paper CSSU17/18-019) were approved as a correct record of the proceedings.

1158. STUDENTS' UNION BUSINESS

(1) 2017/18 Top Ten Issues: Overview

The Students' Union President introduced Paper CSSU17/18-020 which provided an update on progress made towards the Students' Union top ten issues for 2017/18. It was reported that a lot of work had been done and significant progress had been made in a number of areas. The following areas were highlighted:

- Study Space: the refurbishment of Level 1 of the Library, with the addition of 115 seats, was welcomed. Further work was now needed to improve the quality of the Learning Commons in 6WS and Norwood House. The suggestion of the creation of a Study Space Group to have oversight of all

study spaces was welcomed, and it was suggested that the incoming Students' Union President should take this suggestion forward.

- **Mandatory printing:** information of the requirements for mandatory printing had been collected and collated by the Education Officer with the intention of informing the creation of a policy on mandatory printing in the new academic year. It was reported that some postgraduates who teach had to pay for the printing associated with this from their bench fees. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Teaching) was asked to look into this issue.
- **Supervision:** A task and finish group had met throughout the year to work on Doctoral Supervision which had resulted in a number of positive outcomes. In respect of Postgraduate Peer Support, the Director of Student Services reported that all available options were being looked at in order to fill the funding gap resulting from the unsuccessful bid to HEFCE's Catalyst Fund to enhance mental health support. Professor Mitchell reported that there was a GW4 project on doctoral student mental health which she was engaging with.
- **Sustainability:** it was reported that following a SU campaign all non-biodegradable straws in University and SU bars / eateries had been withdrawn. The SU had also lobbied for the removal of plastic cups provided at water fountains, replacing these with water fountains which allow students to clean and fill up reusable bottles and cups. It was suggested that a map of drinking fountains would be a useful resource. The University had recently agreed to divest itself of holdings in fossil fuels which was seen as a real step forward towards a more sustainable and environmentally friendly University.
- **3G Pitch:** The Vice-Chancellor was pleased to report that, following discussion at VCG the previous day, a decision had been taken to go ahead with the 3G training strip which had been discussed at a previous meeting. This could be achieved within the existing Masterplan. The provision of the 3G training strip was welcomed by the Committee, and it was noted that the development of full size pitch would be dependent upon the ongoing work on the new Masterplan.
- **Mental Health:** It was clear that the University took mental health extremely seriously and a recent survey of students on this subject resulted in 1500 responses. The relationship between the SU and Student Services was extremely positive which had enabled the embedding of concerns around mental health across the University.
- **Space in Edge:** The SU had met with the managers of the Edge space on a fortnightly basis and had built a strong relationship. There was still an issue around the allocation of lectures to the theatre space, and this would be looked at further in the new academic year.
- **Students with Disabilities:** The Disability Change Working Group had been set up in order to improve the accessibility of University buildings for students with disabilities and change policy and practice to make the University accessible to all. This had been a very positive experience and

the input of the SU Communities Officer had been particularly invaluable in driving this process forward.

- Plagiarism: it was reported that the SU Education Officer has been working closely with the Centre for Learning & Teaching (CLT) to look at ways the Academic Integrity Test could be updated and made fit for purpose. It was suggested that the creation of a plagiarism resources hub would be beneficial as a means of bringing such resources together in one place and raise visibility of this issue amongst students. The Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Learning & Teaching) reported that the Centre for Learning & Teaching was creating a skills hub, and plagiarism would be addressed as part of this.

Following further discussion the Vice-Chancellor congratulated the SU Officers on a fantastic year which had seen very positive cooperation between the University and the SU.

(2) **Panopto and Disabled Action Plans**

The Students' Union President introduced Paper CSSU17/18-021, which highlighted an issue with lectures not being recorded via Panopto despite there being students at these lectures who have a DAP which includes a reasonable adjustment that their lectures should be recorded. A particular issue with a student in Mathematical Science was highlighted, but it was reported that other similar issues had arisen elsewhere.

It was reported that with the introduction of the new version of Panopto there would be automatic recording of lectures with no option for this to be disabled, and this would be introduced in September 2018. It was also reported that work was ongoing on a new reasonable adjustments policy with the aim of introducing this in the Autumn. The need to ensure that the University's procedures in respect of this area was highlighted, and it was felt that a cultural shift was required in order to ensure disabled students were not disadvantaged.

1159. STUDENTS' UNION OFFICERS 2018/19

The Committee noted that the following have been elected as Students' Union Officers for 2018/19:

- Ms Eve Alcock - SU President
- Ms Kimberley Pickett - Activities Officer
- Ms Alisha Lobo - Community Officer
- Mr Jack Kitchen - Education Officer
- Mr Andy Galloway - Sports Officer
- Ms Jiani Zhou - Postgraduate Officer

1160. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(1) Committee Membership

It was reported that a paper would shortly be submitted to ULTQC and Senate asking that the SU Postgraduate Officer be given a seat on ULTQC. It was also suggested that a representative from the Centre for Learning & Teaching should

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attend CSSU on an 'in attendance' basis, and this was agreed by the Committee.

(2) Last meeting of the year

The Chair reminded the Committee that this was the final meeting of 2017/18, and thanked members for their valued contributions.

1161. DATES OF MEETINGS

The programme of meetings for 2018/19 was noted as being as follows:

- Tuesday 6th November 2018 at 2.15pm
- Thursday 6th December 2018 at 2.15pm
- Thursday 28th February 2019 at 10.15am
- Tuesday 9th April 2019 at 2.15pm

The meeting concluded at 11.30am.