

**University of Nottingham Students' Union
Full-Time Officer Committee**

31st January 2020 Meeting Minutes



Members Present:

James Pheasey	(JP)	President
Georgina Pittman	(GP)	Activities Officer
Jacob Collier	(JC)	Community Officer
Cassie Ulrich	(CU)	Education Officer
Myles Smith	(MS)	Equal Opportunities and Welfare Officer
Abdi Ahmed	(AA)	Postgraduate Officer
Millie Doherty	(MD)	Sports Officer

(Chair)

In Attendance:

Chloe Durack-Robinson	(CDR)	Officer Receptionist
Denis Lelin	(DL)	International Officer

(Secretary)

19.25.

1 Welcome, Apologies, & Quoracy

- .1 JP welcomed everyone to the meeting, noted apologies, and noted that the meeting was quorate.

2 Referendum

- .1 JP explained the process of taking the new proposed Democratic Model to a referendum, and walked the committee through the relevant paperwork. This would involve electing seven sabbatical officers and six non-sabbatical officers at the earliest opportunity, with a further set of sabbatical and non-sabbatical roles to be investigated.
- .2 The Committee discussed concerns regarding potential overlap between the Socio-Environmental Officer and Liberation Officer. The Committee agreed to change the name of the Socio-Environmental Officer to Sustainability Officer.
- .3 The Committee discussed concerns regarding the accessibility of the name of the Union Opportunities and Engagement Officer. The Committee agreed to change the name to Union Engagement Officer.
- .4 The Committee noted concerns regarding the asterisk in the name of the Women*'s officer. The Committee agreed to consult the current Women*'s Officer about this should the referendum pass.
- .5 The Committee discussed concerns regarding the name of the International and Culturally Diverse Students Officer and problems with homogenising the two groups. DL explained that a focus groups of International Students and Culturally Diverse students who highlighted a preference for a single officer. The Committee noted how much engagement the current International Officer gets from culturally diverse home students and the importance of a clear point of contact for those

seeking support and representation. The Committee decided to change the name to the Culturally Diverse and International Officer.

- .6 The Committee discussed the possibility of the International and Culturally Diverse Officer role becoming sabbatical. The Committee noted that agreeing to this would be an uninformed decision at this time given the lack of specific information, consultation, and time for discussion. The Committee agreed to conduct further investigation and make a decision regarding if the officer should be sabbatical in time for Election Period 4. The Committee noted the importance of reassuring students that there will be International representation within the new model.
- .7 JC highlighted his concerns with the consultation process and lack of transparency regarding this. The Committee noted the turnaround time for the incorporation of feedback and agreed that the consultations were clearly reflected in the redrafted model.
- .8 The Committee agreed that the new 'Senate' body should be included in the paperwork, though the name ought to change and be less formal to reflect the lack of decision making authority of the body.
- .9 The Committee noted concerns regarding the ongoing academic representation review not being reflected in the paperwork, specifically regarding the PGR and PGT Officer roles. The Committee agreed to note this in the paperwork and run the relevant elections for these roles to later in the year, once the review has completed.
- .10 The Committee voted to bring the proposed model to referendum, with the suggested question of 'Do you wish to adopt the proposed Democratic Model?' accompanied with the relevant paperwork.
- .11 ACTION: JP to circulate the updated paperwork for email ratification.

3 Coronavirus

- .1 JP updated the Committee on the fact that there are now confirmed cases of Coronavirus in the UK and on the University's Guidance.
- .2 The Committee agreed to follow developments closely.

Date of Next Meeting: 14 February 2020

Chair of Next Meeting: Millie Doherty