



# **LGBTQ+ Forum Executive Committee Minutes**



**Date and time: 22/03/2023 @ 16:00**

**Location: BLN SR2**

**Present:** Josh (Co-LCO), Raen (Co-LCO), Willow (General Secretary), Clio (Trans+), Maddie (Socials), George (Campaigns), Harry (Men+), Uyi (BAME), Arwen (Intersectionality)

**Apologies:** Ebonie (Women+), Claudia (Social Media), Ellie (Graphic Designer)

## **1. Welcome from the Chair**

## **2. LCO Officer Report to Union Assembly**

The LCOs have submitted their officer report to the Union Assembly, discussing what both they and the forum have done this year. They're now looking for feedback from the forum exec to see what has worked and what could be improved.

### **2.1. LCO-Forum Relationship Feedback and Accountability Discussion**

Uyi believes having two LCOs is good. If we only have one LCO in future, having someone who can directly support the LCO would be very beneficial. They also believe the LCOs should delegate more tasks to the exec so we can ultimately work together more effectively.

Maddie generally feels comfortable with Josh's leadership style during meetings.

The LCOs have proposed modifying the "updates" section of our meetings to focus on team updates instead of individual points from individual members. Arwen agrees this would be a good idea and believes it would help them stay more focused and accountable in their role.

The LCOs feel the past term we have had a somewhat top-down exec structure and want to facilitate more forum exec control in future. We'll dedicate some time in our exec workshops towards brainstorming campaigns, events, etc. when appropriate.

Clio needs more clarity on what things she can run independently in the Trans+ Forum and what she needs to do to facilitate this (e.g. risk assessments). The exec are collectively available to support all other exec member's projects (such as the Trans+ forum) and so exec should reach out to get support on their own projects.

Willow has had issues with setting the agenda at times and would like more support on this. Nominatively it is set by the LCOs, but in practice we have a collaborative agenda and in general the LCOs have stressed exec should feel free to add points to our agendas.

### **3. Terms of Reference Review: Exec Feedback**

VP Welfare and the Bylaw Review Committee have sat down together to work on our bylaws and help standardise them between forums where appropriate. They're putting together a skeleton "terms of reference" document which will be used between all the forums. They're keen to hear feedback from our exec (especially our Intersectionality Officer) relating to our specific exec roles to help draft this document.

Uyi believes other forums would benefit from having dedicated RAEM officers and so it would be good to have this included in that document.

### **4. Easter Plans**

#### **4.1. Exec Meetings**

We'll run non-mandatory, online exec meetings in the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> week of the Easter Break to check in with exec members.

#### **4.2. Forum Business/Welfare Hours**

T+ Coffee will still run this weekend. We'll also run online welfare hours each week:

- **Week 1: Clio**
- **Week 2: Josh**
- **Week 3: Raen**
- **Week 4 : Uyi**

We'll put together a rough schedule of the specific dates and times of these by Monday so we can advertise them on the Instagram and Discord.

We'll also try to run a board game event over Easter with Senet, which Arwen will take the lead on.

### **5. Updates**

#### **5.1. Projects**

##### **5.1.1. Canal Street**

We've had a few quotes back for coaches, all in the range of **£800-900**. The rough ticket price (assuming 35 people) would have to be £22-26. If we contribute £200 of our budget we can reduce this to £15-20 per person. We will also be setting aside 10 tickets for sober-duty exec and members struggling with cost of living.

The LCOs will have a conversation with the SU on how to handle the purchase order, recouping costs via tickets and potentially collaborating with colleges.

## **5.2. Team Updates**

### **5.2.1. Campaigns Team**

We currently aren't running any campaigns. Uyi had some ideas regarding a campaign on outing and thinks it would be a good idea to put out educational resources on the history of drag. Uyi and George will collaborate on these with Ellie if possible.

### **5.2.2. Welfare Team**

Uyi has had some engagement with their welfare hours, but Clio hasn't. We need to advertise them more as a drop-in session and need to work more on organising them earlier in advance. The welfare officers have had a few welfare-related conversations with forum members at our weekly coffee and these have generally gone well.

### **5.2.3. Other officers**

Arwen has been working with other forums and student groups to help promote the forum. Maddie has been working on Canal Street and has generally been helping with events where possible. Willow has been on a break the past week and a half but is now back.

### **5.2.4. LCO Student Union Update**

Forum storage remains an ongoing issue and despite conversations with LUSU we will have to continue using the SU cupboard next term.

Forums don't presently have a dedicated LUSU operational staff member, but the LUSU are reviewing this and we may have one dedicated to supporting us next year.

The pronoun policy was not passed at Union Assembly as it was believed the policy didn't have any actual changes in it and so did not have the operational value it would need. Pronoun policy changes will be included in the reworked safe space policy, which Josh is directly working on.

Josh attended the student health and wellbeing forum. There are ongoing conversations regarding the Uni providing sanitary products. Josh has pushed for these to be provided in all spaces, not just gendered spaces. Josh has also pushed for sanitary bins in the Men's and Gender-Neutral toilets. The LCOs will be holding LUSU to account on this.

## **6. AOB**

- A student has approached Maddie regarding their dissertation on the topic of "celebrity queerbaiting." They're looking for people to interview and were wondering if they could interact with the forum on this. They've already advertised this on the discord. We don't tend to advertise people's dissertation projects

ourselves but they're welcome to come to our weekly coffee and talk about their project.

- Harry has had a conversation with some forum members and apparently there isn't much awareness about our weekly coffee events. We'll try to promote these online more widely and may start putting up posters around campus. We could also try to run some publicity events in Alex Square at the start of next term.
- At the start of pride month Uyi is planning on reaching out to the different RAEM student groups and help promote the forum to them.
- SWD ran an event with LUGES which went well, so we might reach out to them and see if we can collab with them next term.

#### **Key Word Breakdown**

- **LCO – Liberation and Campaigns Officer**
- **LUSU/SU – Lancaster University Students Union**
- **RAEM – Racial And Ethnic Minorities**
- **LUGES – Lancaster University Gaming and Esports Society**
- **SWD – Students with Disabilities Forum**