



# **LGBTQ+ Forum Executive Committee Minutes**



**Date and time: 05/06/2023 @ 18:00**

**Location: InfoLab21 Cafe**

**Present:** Josh (Co-LCO), Raen (Co-LCO), Willow (General Secretary), Ellie (Graphic Designer), Clio (Trans+), Uyi (BAME), Ebonie (Women+), Maddie (Socials), Sam (Socials), Thomas (Socials)

**Apologies:** Arwen (Intersectionality)

**Absent:** Harry (Men+)

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

## **2. Officer Reports**

### **2.1. LCO (Josh and Raen)**

Due to the length of their report, the LCO officer report is attached at the end of this document.

### **2.2. General Secretary (Willow)**

- Completed a wide range of admin duties including:
  - Room bookings
  - Setting up exec meeting agendas
  - Organising the Lent and Summer General Meetings
  - Minuting meetings and publishing these to the LUSU website and Forum Discord.
  - Handling payment claims and tracking the Forum's finances
  - Managing the exec taskboards
  - Monitoring the Discord Server.
- Organised the Grizedale bar takeovers in Lent Term. Was also on sober duty for some of these.
- Regularly helped set up at weekly coffee evenings and also helped run specific events such as presentation evenings, games night. Also took the

lead on these when LCOs were unavailable on some occasions (e.g. due to Union Assembly).

- Ran a stall at the Fylde College book club event alongside Clio and Ellie in Lent Term.
- Currently working on organising Queerstrav with outreach to Pendle bar. Also working on organising the Pride Month Sports Day & Picnic.

### **2.3. Graphic Design (Ellie)**

Been on the exec since Christmas. Anything you see on the instagram, advertising etc. is made by them. Has made sure everything there is accessible. Made sure people feel included and welcome in the Forum, both in our online spaces and at our events.

### **2.4. Campaigns Officer (George)**

First co-opted at Christmas. Worked on the Flowers campaign and Pride Months campaigns and posterings. Has also helped running socials events such as weekly coffee evenings.

### **2.5. Social Secretaries**

#### **2.5.1. Maddie**

Elected last term. Helped at regular coffee events and helped plan queerstrav and other pride month events and worked on a Queerstrav quiz.

#### **2.5.2. Sam**

Co-opted a few weeks ago. Helping out with Pride Month by working on Queerstrav such as creating a quiz etc. Also working on the upcoming Picnic/BBQ event.

#### **2.5.3. Thomas**

Originally co-opted in first term. Worked on the halloween event and several coffee evenings before stepped down. Was then co-opted again this term and has been working on QueerStrav, the pulse vigil, coffee events and other pride month events.

### **2.6. Trans+ Welfare (Clio)**

"I have been Trans+ Welfare Officer since I was elected in November of this year at the GM. Since then I have run T+ Coffee events at least once a fortnight, these have seen attendance from a small number of regulars. Furthermore I have run welfare hours, and made welfare appointments with a handful of people, signposting them to useful resources and being available to talk with people about trans issues. This term I am organising a clothes swap to take place at this very AGM. Furthermore, I have attended and

helped run a number of the forum's regular events and socials. Going forward I hope to run more welfare hours, particularly over summer, and I hope to advertise T+ Coffee on the main forum discord."

#### **2.7. BAME Welfare (Uyi)**

"This year has revolved around me getting used to the role and doing a lot of stuff behind the scene. A lot of my energy has gone into making sure that the forum is an inclusive place for minorites not only at socials but through our policy making and the way we think about the welfare we provide. I have talked to other forums and the RAEM LCO to essentially set the plan for a lot of stuff I want to set up next year if I'm still officer or handover. It's been a difficult year due to having to start for scratch essentially but a lot of the groundwork has been done. In terms of welfare hours I've spoken to a few of you and done a quite a few hours and it has been nice to help my community."

#### **2.8. Women+ Welfare (Ebonie)**

Elected as Women+ officer in November. Been heavily involved in Pride Month planning for the current Flowers Campaign and in History Month campaigns. Also ran welfare hours for the Women+ community.

### **3. Elections**

#### **3.1. Social Secretary (Two positions)**

- 3.1.1. Candidates were: Sam, Thomas, RON
- 3.1.2. There were 28 votes with a quota of 9.6
- 3.1.3. In the first round: Sam received 14 votes, Thomas received 13 votes, RON received 2 votes
- 3.1.4. Sam and Thomas are both elected to the role of Social Secretary.

- 3.2. The roles for Campaigns Officer (x1), Engagement Officer, Queer+ Officer and Faith Officer received no candidates before the AGM and so were re-opened for nomination. At this time, nobody chose to run. These roles now remain open for co-option/election at a later date.

### **4. Bylaw Review**

LUSU are currently reviewing forum bylaws and working to standardise these across forums. In light of this we won't be doing Bylaw review at this AGM but will do at in Term 1 next year.

### **5. AOB**

## **Key Word Breakdown**

- **LCO – Liberation & Campaigns Officer**
- **AGM – Annual General Meeting**
- **RON – Re-Open Nominations**
- **BAME – Black, Asian & Minority Ethnic Groups**
- **RAEM – Racial and Ethnic Minorities**
- **LUSU – Lancaster University Students Union**

Officer Report	
Meeting and date:	Union Assembly,
Date of last report:	n/a
Purpose of paper:	For Officers to provide updates on their duties and engagements to the Union Assembly
Intended outcome:	For information
Paper submitted by:	Josh Newsham and Raen Nelson
Restricted business:	No
Key contact(s):	
Persons/committees consulted to date including student engagement (where appropriate):	Vic Phillips (VP Welfare)
Date paper produced:	29/06/2023

## Introduction

Our priorities since being elected have been to foster a strong and supportive LGBTQ+ community in Lancaster by increasing the visibility of our forum and providing empowering campaigns. We spent a lot of time rebuilding and establishing relationships within the Student Union and with the University after the dealignment of LCOs and Forums from the Union and the University. We believe through the work we have done we have moved the forum into a positive position with active working relationships with the FTO team, LCOs and other forums, other parts of LUSU, and multiple parts of the University such as the EDI team. Through these relationships we have achieved a lot of what we set out to do.

While we recognise we haven't completed every manifesto pledge, we believe we have done incredible work to deliver a stronger LGBTQ+ community in Lancaster with comprehensive events and campaigns.

## Progress

Area of work	RAG	Commentary
Empowering Campaigns		<p>We have had a range of campaigns throughout the year including the forum's permanent campaigns: They Matter and a Sexual Health Campaign. Our realignment efforts with LUSU have allowed us to have access to more resources and connections to be able to deliver effective campaigns.</p> <p><b>Sexual Health Campaign:</b> The forum has a permanent commitment to providing access to sexual health information and resources. Therefore, we have worked with the sexual</p>

		<p>health clinic in town to provide leaflets around accessing sexual health and have received training so we can distribute free condoms at all our safe space events!</p> <p><b>They Matter:</b> This is a permanent campaign around Trans+ rights and the use of pronouns. This has now been launched!</p> <p>Although, we have responded to recent political developments with a protest around Trans Rights, held on campus in conjunction with the VP Education and pushing the SU to sign the NUS' Letter to the UK Government to support the Scottish Gender Recognition Bill.</p> <p>We have also been involved in the Trans Policy review with the University which will come into effect in October.</p>
<b>Inter-Forum Collaboration</b>		We have worked directly with other forums and attended LCO meetings with VP Welfare. We are grateful that the current VP Welfare has provided a space to foster intersectional collaboration between forums.
<b>College Ambassadors</b>		This manifesto policy committed us to providing LGBTQ+ College ambassadors, especially for welcome week. However, due to the time taken for catch up and hand overs we could not deliver this in full, nor do we believe this is operationally viable after discussions with other officers. Therefore, we will work towards supporting the VP Welfare in ensuring EDI training alongside forums for welcome week reps.
<b>Uni Level Representation</b>		We have attended multiple University level committees, meetings, and events. We have attended the Student Health and Wellbeing Forum, The Integrated Learning Network, LGBTQ+ Ally Network, and worked directly with the EDI team on events like the History Month Allyship and Parenting panel as well as Pride Month Events.
<b>Formal Relationship with Lancaster SH Clinic</b>		We have established a professional working relationship.
<b>Drug Safety and Awareness Campaign</b>		We were planning for this to commence in term 3 however due to operational capacity of our exec and Pride Month this has been cancelled.
<b>Current Projects</b>		
<b>Exec Engagement and Training</b>		We are continuously working to recruit exec members through co-options and through our elections. Unfortunately, we have

		<p>experienced a period of low engagement with our elections, like other parts of our union.</p> <p>Thanks to our VP Welfare we have had the first training sessions for forum execs and supported the delivery of this. We will continue to work with the VP Welfare to secure a long-term training plan for forum execs.</p> <p>We have successfully run a series of elections at our AGM filling our much needed social secretary roles which will significantly increase exec capacity.</p>
<b>Forum Spending</b>		<p>We are reviewing our budget after being warned about the dangers of under spending and have committed more funding towards ongoing/future projects and are projected to spend our budget by the end of the year.</p>
<b>Other</b>		<p><b>LGBTQ+ Pride Month:</b> We have created a varied series of accessible events, some with the University, to deliver an exciting and engaging Pride Month!</p> <p>Picnic + Sports Day</p> <p>Queerstrav</p> <p>Pulse Vigil</p> <p>Lancaster Pride March</p> <p><b>Rainbow Laces Campaign:</b> We are preparing to relaunch rainbow laces with monetary contributions from other officers &lt;3.</p>
<b>Sensitive Projects</b>		<p>We have continued to support the Trans+ community of Lancaster by providing information around Counselling and Mental Health services for those affected by recent events.</p>

## Conclusion

While we have had to drop some manifesto points, we have done what is in the best interest for the forum and have advanced the forums' relationships with others to secure a more collaborative and supported forum. We look forward to our last term and hope to leave the forum in a better place than we found it.

**PS HAPPY PRIDE!!!!**