

LGBTQ+ Forum Executive Committee Meeting

2023-04-19

Present: Raen, Josh, Arwen, Ebonie, Clio, George

Apologies: Ellie, Harry, Willow, Claudia

Absent: Maddie

1. Welcome from the Chair

The meeting was opened by Raen, the Chair.

2. Trans Inclusion and Some Good News

The forum has been pushing for encouraging pronoun use in Teams for a while and this has now been included as an option for students' accounts. We thank ISS for making this change. Furthermore, Josh is confident that the university will do what it can to stay as a trans inclusive campus. There are plans to create an announcement informing members how they can add their pronouns to their teams account.

3. Elections and Co-options

Co-options will be run next week. Josh is happy to make a Discord announcement about it and an Instagram story post. LCO by-elections are happening in a few weeks. The forum will be running hustings for any LGBTQ+ Officer candidates who wish to attend.

4. Updates

4.1. Canal Street Updates

We are still working on securing transport, funding may prove an issue for this. College collaboration may be the way to go, to reduce the cost.

4.2. They Matter Plans

We hope to launch They Matter this term, George is taking the lead with this.

4.3. NUS LibCon

The two exec members who attended were Uyi and Raen, who both participated in a number of meetings regarding policies to be implemented. In the trans policy part of the conference, staff members were encouraged to proactively support trans people. They also discussed how to encourage departments how to more broadly support trans people. Uyi took some notes, which will be shared as needed.

Raen and Uyi attended a meeting on inclusive sexual health policy, broadly they thought this was good, and Uyi is looking into running a campaign based on what was learned here.

Other policies looked at were the accessibility policy, regarding students with disabilities, and the borderless policy, regarding international students.

4.4. Hoodies

No noteworthy updates, Ebonie and Uyi are working on this.

5. Team Check-ins

5.1. Welfare Officers

T+ Coffee will be starting up soon given timely room bookings.

5.2. Others

Arwen is now involved in They Matter and has a nice drawing of a trans flag. She will continue working with NUS.

6. Coffee Evening Plans

The plan for next week's coffee evening is that it will be held outside, weather permitting.

7. Pride Month

Pride month is this term. We hope to make the theme more activism focused than previous years, with more politically focused events. Also, the LCOs wish to include more events planned by the rest of the exec members. To this end, a short brainstorming session was held, and the events suggested by the exec are detailed below, note that these are preliminary.

- Ebonie suggests that Womens+ could do something about inclusion of trans women.
- Ebonie suggests doing something flower related, in particular lavender was discussed as a symbol for queer women and other groups. Flowers could be included at pride events, The exec agreed that themeing events around flowers would be a nice idea.
- Clio suggests running a clothes swap and tieing it in with pride month, in particular with distributing guidancec on binding safely. Uyi suggests, campaigning for people to donate clothes to trans people who are currently changing their wardrobe.
- Thomas, a forum member suggests a barbecue. Josh suggests a sports day, similar to what was done last year. The exec decided that holding the sports day and barbecue at the same time would be a good idea. The barbecue could be held at the barbecues near the sports centre, as there is a decent amount of flat ground nearby.
- Rainbow laces could be tied into pride month.
- Last year the forum did a Queerstrav event. We could do this again this year, but it could also incorporate a trip to Sugarhouse.
- Uyi suggests some kind of memorial event or vigil, there are already some vigils in the surrounding months, notably the Pulse Vigil.
- Arwen suggests a queer walk through campus, to tie in with the protesting

theme, perhaps people could do posterering/campaigning as they do this.

- We could collaborate with Queer by Gum or a similar organisation to organise a protest event in town, this might be preferable to protest events on campus since there are exam-time quiet hours happening throughout this term.

8. AOB