Observers

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE | Minutes of the meeting held [via Teams] Tuesday 16 June 2020

Ex-officio members present

Lewis Marriott | VP Campaigns & Communications | he/him

Victoria Hatch | Interim SU President | she/her

Members presentFabiha Askari | Faculty Rep for Taught | Chair | she/herGigi Bruschi | Students with Disabilities Officer | she/her

Atree Ghosh as VP Union Development-elect | he/him

In attendance Chris Cottam | Education & Support Unit Manager and Chair's Aide | he/him

Veronica Longmire | Executive Administrator | Minutes Jesse Phillips | LGBTQ+ Part-time Officer | they/them Shannon McCaul | VP Societies & Media-elect | she/her Paul McCarthy | VP Sport-elect

Amy Merchant | VP Welfare-elect Amy Stanning |

The meeting was recorded and the Chair welcomed attendees. Quorum was not reached and items requiring approval could only be discussed. Such items would need digital resolution. A comment was made that the digital approval process did not appear to be working.

Agenda Item 1 | Apologies | Bee Morgan, Vice President Education | Misbah Ashraf, Interim Chief Executive. **Agenda Item 2 | Minutes of previous meetings**

- **2.1** Amended minutes of 21 April [Exec-2020-04-21]. No comments made.
- 2.2 Minutes of 21 May [Exec-2020-05-21]. Request for name change to be actioned.

Agenda Item 3 | Matters arising from the minutes [not elsewhere on the agenda] | None raised.

Agenda Item 4 | Items for Approval

4.1 Ratification of Appointment of Student Trustee and recently appointed External Trustees

The meeting was informed that this committee's ratification was required on the appointment of two external trustees and a person with financial expertise to sit on the Trustee Board Finance & Risk Sub-Committee and that digital ratification had not yielded sufficient votes.

It was noted that the recruitment process had been dealt with via an external company / the interview panel had consisted of two acting full-time officers, an external trustee and a student trustee / a two-thirds majority vote was necessary for the matter to pass.

Concerns raised included: the appointments running for a four year term which did not allow students to have a say during that term / currently more remunerated trustees on the Board [in breach of the Articles of Association and Charity Commission guidance] / the possibility of speaking directly to individuals / frustration that discussion was taking place at this point in time.

It was further noted that a method within the Articles of Association for the removal of trustees remained / further points of clarification could be requested to enable members to reach an informed decision / in terms of information available these had been shared with the committee.

In terms of Action from here questions from committee members to be raised with the Appointments Panel who would obtain such information as soon as possible.

ACTION | Members to email the Chair with questions for the Appointments Panel to raise with the individuals in question

4.2 Pendle JCR By-Law changes - ACTION | Chair to obtain Digital Resolution

Agenda Item 5 | Items for Discussion

5.1 Motion to Campaign for an Increase in our Block Grant from Lancaster University | noted that the item have been raised at previous meetings / there was a question mark as to whether the motion was contentious thereby needing to be opened up to the wider student body / the aim was for it to be a Students' Union campaign to not complete the 2020/21 NSS survey / was it possible to highlight contentious elements.

ACTION | Motion to be re-drafted for submission to the next meeting

5.2 Housing Rights Campaign | the proposal highlighted the need for the Union to establish a housing rights campaign / informing students of their rights / working with Trade Unions to get young workers to unionise / contact the government and local Councillors outlining concerns / drawing up template letters for students to send to their landlords. Concern was expressed around not having any influence over private landlords and not breaking the law.

It was noted that the Union/Executive had the powers to undertake political activity and campaigns relevant to students and that the VP Welfare was part of the LU Accreditation Working Group, which gave a direct route and opportunity.

- The retiring VP Campaigns & Communications Officer was thanked for the proposal and the incoming VP Welfare would establish a campaign for the coming year.
- **5.3** Proposal to create a Carers Part-time Officer | general discussion included the creation of a Carers Part-time Officer going forward / these student groups not receiving any representation / how to make it reality and supported / the possibility of waiting for the governance review consultation / in principle support shown as good crossover with mature students / wider review of PTO roles.
 - It was agreed it was an excellent idea, was supported generally by the committee, and should be given focus over the coming months. Gigi Bruschi was thanked for the work put into the proposal.
 - The committee was asked to note that there was a process and mechanism of appointment of new roles requiring an amendment to by-laws / it was within the powers of the Executive Committee to create new PTO positions / the need to determine where the role would sit on this committee / could be looked at as part of the wider democracy and governance review.
- **5.4** Proposal to create an Accessibility Framework for our SU | discussion included that a framework would be the best way to ensure the Union was committed to being fully accessible to the whole student body / required commitment from the Executive Committee to implement / that the framework could cover more.
 - Members present agreed it was a good idea, supported its implementation, were hopeful that the incoming officers would prioritise as much as possible, and that implementation be as soon as possible.

ACTION | VP Welfare-elect and Students with Disabilities Officer-elect to work on the framework

Trans Representation in our SU | the proposal to commence discussion with a view to include a trans person within the Union was, in general, supported. However, concern was expressed that there could potentially be a divide.

ACTION | The LGBTQ+ Officer-elect indicated their willingness to take the matter to forums for further discussion

The outgoing Students with Disabilities Officer [Gigi Bruschi] thanked everyone for being supportive and welcoming of the items she had submitted.

Agenda Item 6 | Items for Information

- **6.1** Update from Interim Chief Executive | as apologies had been submitted there was no information.
- 6.2 Update from Full-Time Officers
 - The Interim President and VP Campaigns & Communications highlighted their activities / meetings attendances / other work undertaken since the previous meeting.
- **7.3 Update from Part-time Officers** | the minutes-taker left at this point as the meeting was running over time and they had a prior commitment.

Agenda Item 7 | Any Other Business

Conversation took place regarding the recent Presidential by-election.

The Interim President thanked the Chair and others for their hard work during some very challenging times.

The VP Welfare-elect thanked the Committee for having officers-elect as Observers.

The Chair thanked retiring officers for all the work they had undertaken over the year.