

WSU Student Activities Council

Thursday 28/11/2024 at 15:30 (CC004)

Attendance

Staff in attendance: Jack Lambert (JL), Sophie Smith (SS), and Barney Blake (BB).

Sports Clubs in attendance: Paddlesport & Surf and Social Running Club.

Sports Clubs not in attendance: Athletics, Climbing and Mountaineering, Fencing, Men's Basketball, Men's Football, Men's Rugby, Ultimate Frisbee, Women's Football, Women's Futsal, and Yoga.

Sports Clubs sending apologies: Aerial Fitness, American Football, Archery, Badminton, Baseball & Softball, Boxing, Cheerleading, Dance, Equestrian, Handball, Men's Cricket, Men's Futsal, Men's Hockey, Netball, Social Sports, Swimming, Tennis, Trampolining, Volleyball, Wheelchair Basketball, Women's Basketball, Women's Cricket, Women's Hockey, and Women's Rugby.

Societies in attendance: Allotment & Gardening, Business, Gaming, Geography, Nursing, and The RAG Team.

Societies not in attendance: Law, MedSoc, Midwifery, Nigerian, SSAGO, and Surgical Society.

Societies sending apologies: Anime & Manga, Book Club, British Sign Language, Christian Union, Creative Writing, Debate, Dungeons & Dragons, Education Enhancement, LOCO Show Co, Music, Nature, Occupational Therapy, Oriental, Paramedics, PENSA, Physician Associate, Physiotherapy, Poetry Society, Spotlight, and Uni Boob Team.

Quoracy: 8/24 Student Groups who did not send apologies (33.3%) - quoracy reached.

Agenda Items

1. Welcome and Introductions

- JL welcomed all members to the second Student Activities Council of 2024-25 and introduced the agenda.
- Attendance and apologies are listed above.

Approval Items

2. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- Student Activities Committee Meeting minutes from 10th October 2024 were unanimously approved.

3. Actions from Previous Meeting

- No actions raised in previous meeting.

4. Policy Proposal - Students' Union Website

- Proposer and seconder sent apologies for the meeting, so BB presented the policy proposal in their absence.
- Policy proposal was unanimously approved to progress to Student Council for discussion.

Reporting Item

5. Student Activities Council Reps

- JL explained the rationale behind the Council Rep positions, the different groupings & categories, and advised that two applications had been received for Academic Societies Rep.
- SS provided guidance on the change in Students' Union Bye Laws for the 2024-25 academic year, where Student Council Rep positions are not restricted to one rep per Sports Club/Society category, just that Student Activities Council can elect up to four Sports Club Reps and up to four Society Reps.
 - Applications heard from Jasleen Ghara Lubana (Geography Chair) and from Jake Shaw (Nursing Chair).
 - Jasleen Ghara Lubana voted in unanimously as Academic Societies Rep by secret ballot.
 - Jake Shaw voted in as Academic Societies Rep by secret ballot, with 7 votes to approve and 1 vote to abstain.
- JL discussed the open positions with no prior applications, but no additional applications were raised from the floor.

Discussion Items

6. Ice Breaker Discussion

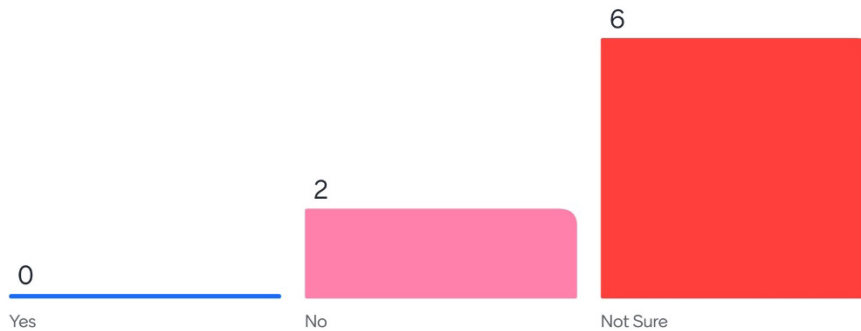
- JL facilitated an ice breaker discussion - "Christmas decorations up before or after the 1st of December?"
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7. Enrichment Fund Scheme

- JL facilitated a discussion about the plans for a new Enrichment Fund Scheme, gathering written feedback via Mentimeter:

Mentimeter

Has your recruitment or your members been impacted by no Enrichment Fund this year?



Mentimeter

Do you have any comments around the impact of a lack of Enrichment Fund? (e.g. conversations with members, GIAG/Interest List conversion)

None	No comment	I think people have been fine for lower costing memberships because of "value for money"	I don't know anything about the enrichment fund or if it affected someone or not. It would be nice to know what it is!
not enough funds, need more charity events to raise money	People are more reluctant to join because of costs	With the support it seems like more people were financially able to join the clubs.	I feel like some of the students are not aware of the Enrichment Fund (previous Get Involved) for societies and clubs from my personal experience. There could be someone affected by this, not sure.
I have spread the Get Involved to a few students but not sure whether they used that.	Available to all		

Mentimeter

Do you think an Enrichment Fund should be means-tested or available to all?

No comment	Available to all	Yes it should available to everyone as there should not be any discrimination. If the student been accused or proved guilty on something, this should be taken out.	Available to all
Available to all but more focused on things like study materials or sport and societies so that the uni feels more comfortable providing it knowing it will be used towards student experience things	Based fund Available for all. Addition funding can be requested for those who need it.	If you do £50 can it last over the 3 years. For my year it vanished after the first year when actually people are more likely to join societies in the second and third when they are more relaxed	Available to all
available to all, so it is more just. If certain pupils need more money they could ask for extra help			

Mentimeter

Other than Club & Soc Memberships, what would you like to see included in an Enrichment Fund? (e.g. books, equipment, railcard, bus pass, etc)

parking passes!	Courses, Beryl bikes gift card	Bus pass, gym card	transport help, especially with commuters as it costs a lot
Free railcard for students	Anything that goes towards help at univeristy.	Books, transport, parking	Railcard, journals, maybe some vouchers for made and costa on campus?
Gym memberships, parking passes	Rail card, bus pass, discounts at shops	Books from the resource list	uniform for students on those courses?
Lockers around campuses	Gym (in and outside university)		

- Additional feedback was gathered via discussion with attendees:
 - CF (Gaming) noted that students receive £10 per year on printing account but cannot use these funds on anything else.
 - JS (Nursing) was unsure if he had been able to access and use his allocated Get Involved funds last academic year.
 - LF (Gaming) noticed the lack of Enrichment Fund more as the cost-of-living crisis continues, was in first year when the Reach platform could be used to purchase Christmas presents (headphones, etc).

8. Varsity 2025 - Spectator Experience

- JL gathered feedback regarding spectator experience ahead of Varsity 2025 via flipchart paper, split into topics relating to if attendees had or had not been to a Varsity event before.
- Had not attended:
 - Why haven't you been attended Varsity before?
 - Didn't know about it
 - Unaware
 - It is only weekends, which I cannot attend, and none of the people I know go to it
 - I feel it isn't inclusively promoted to non-sporty people or people who are not involved in any sports clubs.
 - Not promoted well enough, so wasn't aware, also matches take place during lecture times
 - What would encourage you to attend Varsity?
 - Being on weekdays at a good time for commuters (17:00-20:00) and to go together with other people
 - Refreshments & food offered, so it is more fun
 - Have e-Sports and something related to Business
- Had attended:
 - What did you enjoy? (spectator perspective)
 - Atmosphere on Worcester Wednesday!
 - Range of events
 - Everything!
 - What do you want us to keep doing? (for spectators)
 - Having/setting up stalls
 - Booze
 - What do you want us to stop doing? (for spectators)
 - Having limited seating / view (example: Football & Rugby)

- What could we do to improve the spectator experience?
 - Food trucks
 - For outdoor events to have proper seating/stands
 - Let me drink while I watch
 - Collab with socs/clubs/charities to set up stalls (food, games, other entertainment)
 - More entertainment between games, i.e. performances
 - Merchandise
- How does attending Varsity make you feel?
 - It's exciting
 - Lots of energy
 - Feels like a big family
 - Excited - love the school spirit
 - Feels good

9. Open Day Involvement

- JL gathered feedback regarding "What would make you get involved in an open day?" via paper submissions:
 - Gaming Society could run games etc for tour breaks, and the Students' Union could offer the Society a gaming-related gift (or exposure).
 - One representative (at least) could be present and have a chat with the students (home & international, not specifically Open Day) to make it really clear for them to understand and get involved!
 - Running the Nursing Society for the Open Day, including the prospective students.
 - Using the simulation lab with other health societies - Paramedics, MedSoc, Midwifery.
 - Getting paid.
 - Have the Academic Society in the subject room - you can find out more info as well as feel better knowing you have support.
 - Fun semi-themed games - you can win prizes such as vouchers, discounts, sweets, freebie items, e.g. basketball mini hoop, you win a sweet.
 - Hours volunteered mentioned at the end of your degree, aka achievement for # of hours volunteered.
 - Area for all clubs & societies to promote themselves and make newcomers aware of events that will happen.
 - Do a small fair where societies can present their club/society (a bit like Welcome Fair but a smaller scale).
 - Like courses have ambassadors, can clubs/societies have them as well?
 - Free stuff
 - Mini Society Fair (not only during Freshers Week)
 - Money!
 - Free food
 - Little performances
 - Feels too much like an interview.

Reporting Items

10. TeamWorc Points

- JL reminded of the TeamWorc Points accreditation scheme and associated Gold, Silver & Bronze targets.
- JL shared the current TeamWorc Points leaderboards.
 - Societies led by Gaming (115 points), noted not far off achieving Bronze status.
 - Sports Clubs led by Dance (190 points) and Cheerleading (130 points), who have both now achieved Bronze status.

11. Club & Society of the Month

- JL shared the nominations and winners of Club & Society of the Month for October 2024.
 - Society of the Month nominees: Christian Union, Surgical Society, and Uni Boob Team.
 - Society of the Month winner: Christian Union
 - Club of the Month nominees: Aerial Fitness and Dance.
 - Club of the Month nominees: Dance

12. Officer Updates

- JL shared updates on his VPSA objectives & recent activity:
 - Worked with the Students' Union and the University International Team to host both a daytime and night-time Diwali event.
 - Supported The RAG team during RAG Week and hosted RAG Bungalow alongside Elliot and Ruttuja.
 - Delivered Breakfast with the SU at Dudley Campus.
 - Met with the University Communications team to discuss a "What's On" events page.
 - Met Gloucestershire Students' Union alongside Sophie and Barney to discuss Varsity plans and scheduling.
 - Have attended a number of Student Group events and BUCS fixtures.
 - Met with lots of new Societies and Sports Clubs.

13. RAG Week / Movember Recap

- JL shared a recap on RAG Week and Movember fundraising activities:
 - RAG Week Total - £781.03
 - Movember Fundraising Events:
 - Men's Football vs Men's Cricket football match
 - Cheerleading "Bring a Boy" session
 - Netball "Bring a Boy" session
 - Gaming Society Mario movie night
 - Men's & Women's Hockey Mixed charity match
 - MedSoc Quiz Night

14. SU Activities Updates

- SS delivered an update on SU Student Activities:
 - Semester 2 Give it a Go fortnight to be held 20th-31st January
 - Refreshers Sports & Societies Fairs to be held 20th & 21st January
 - Club & Society Photo Day taking place on Mon 9th Dec
 - RAG Update: £3349.41 raised for charity
 - Upcoming charity fundraisers:
 - Thu 28th Nov - MedSoc Movember Quiz Takeover
 - Fri 29th Nov - Netball vs American Football Charity Netball Game
 - Tues 3rd Dec - ParaSoc Hollie Gazzard Trust CPD Event
 - Tues 3rd Dec - Education Enhancement Quiz Takeover
 - Fri 6th Dec - Saints Dance Christmas Show
 - Tues 10th Dec - Uni Boob Team Quiz Takeover
 - TeamWorc Action - reminder for Committee Members to be logging their hours on their V-Record
 - Volunteer call-out for St Peters Friends of Worcester Foodbank doorstep collection event on Saturday 7th December

Any Other Business

15. AOB

- AMG (The RAG Team) raised that some volunteering opportunities might not be showing correctly when searching on the Students' Union website - advised to send screenshots to SS so this can be investigated.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday 11th February 2025 - 14:30-16:00 - CC004

JL thanked all attendees and closed the meeting.