

Minutes

Meeting of: Scottish Executive Committee

Location: NUS Scotland office, 1 Papermill Wynd, McDonald Road, Edinburgh EH7 4QL

Date and time: 8 May 2018 at 13:30.

Members present: Luke Humberstone (Chair) Diarmuid Cowan (part) Jodie Waite, Shuwanna Aaron, Heather Armstrong, Jeroen van Herk, Liam McCabe, Holly Scrimgeour, Elena Semple, Leo Siebert, Heather Armstrong, Manish Khatri (part), Zeyad Rashad

Apologies: Titi Farukuoye,

Absent: Gemma Jones, Lainey McKinley, Jenna Mitchell

In attendance: Carly Baxter (Clerk), Anne McDonald

1. Introduction and administration

1.1 Welcome and apologies – LH welcomed all to the meeting. TF sent her apologies.

1.2 Minutes of previous meeting – approved.

1.3 Actions and matters arising

LH addressed questions that had been raised at the previous meeting as he had not been in attendance to answer them. He noted that all of the questions raised would be answered further on in the agenda - these were regarding progress on the Student Support review, including further details on the meeting with Scottish Government and the Student Mental Health Charter.

2. Accountability

2.1 President Report

LH gave a verbal report and noted that he had not produced a written report before the meeting because he had been on annual leave but would circulate it after the meeting.

JvH wondered whether the work on the Student Mental Health Charter and the Scottish Student Sport 'Scottish Active Students Survey' were linked. LH noted that they had been produced independently and they should both inform the work of students' associations.

JvH asked whether there was any information LH could share regarding the Scottish Funding Council's funding allocations for colleges and universities for the next year. LH shared that there would be an increase in capital funding for both. Regarding the report on minimum funding for colleges, LH stated that this would be an update on a previous letter to Principals as the guidance before didn't address college sizes and will now be much more specific.

The report was approved.



MK – noted that he found it very difficult to fulfil this role and if he was not President at his students' associations he would not be able to do everything he has done as he would not have the resources. He also felt the role should have a committee.

Action: all to promote sections conference.

Business

3.1 NUS Events

LH had a few points to note:

- Congratulations all who were elected at various NUS Conferences. He requested feedback on NUS Scotland Conference to be emailed across.
- Sections conference is happening on 23 May.
- Lead and change events will be coming up in July.

[DC left]

3.2 Budget for Better

LH explained that NUS had met with Shirley-Anne Somerville to discuss next steps for the Student Support Review. They had expected more from the meeting and were disappointed and as such, LH noted that the Budget for Better Campaign would be stepping up again. The committee agreed that it this was appropriate when considering that the Student Support Review had been submitted in November and nothing had yet been done.

There was going to be a campaigns summit on 16 June at EUSA which would be free to attend. The plan would be that they would do a handover from outgoing officers to new officers to discuss what had been done and what could be done going forward. It was hoped that one of the actions from it might be to ask Principals to sign up to the campaign.

3.3 Student mental health charter

LH updated that it was hoped that this would be launched the following week. It would be a sheet which would have ten recommendations and there would also be an expanded version with case studies of student experiences.

LH noted that it would be broad recommendations of what should be available to students but they couldn't make it too specific since provisions are different across Scotland.

Action: LH to circulate Student Mental Health Charter.

[MK left]

3.4 For our Future's sake campaign

LH briefed the committee on this campaign. It is a student led campaign for a People's Vote on the Brexit deal. They had drafted a letter and asked students' associations and NUS Scotland to sign. LH asked whether the Committee were happy to sign it as SEC and it was agreed that they would.

3.5 The Gathering

LH noted that the date was confirmed as 23 August and put out the first appeal for Workshop and TED talk ideas.

4 AOB

LH thanked all committee members for their support and involvement throughout the year.