

London Metropolitan University Students' Union (MetSU)

Meeting: Trustees Board

Date: 26/08/2014

Present:

Trustees: Obie Opara (Chair), Marco Brunone, Amanda Marillier, Nicole Mitchell, Rob Hull, Jim Dickinson, Peter Ptashko

Staff: Mark Crowhurst, Alistair McKay (Minutes)

Item No.	Item title	Comment & Action	By whom	By when
1	Apologies	Bianca Giunta Omer Kocpinar		
2	Minutes, matters arising and actions	Minutes from last meeting approved Actions undertaken		
4.	GM Report	Audit mostly complete with a few small pieces to do round accruals etc Small surplus, nearly 3k Auditors pleased with what we are doing Positive feedback re officers from university NSS score down 1% which is disappointing Grad ball was cancelled, minimum impact on members and finance NM asks about HEAR and what is included MC says extracurricular activities, it is a transcript of information		

		<p>JD asks about NSS and would like to see distribution of NSS Q23 scores by school and by mode of student</p> <p>Also asks for an action plan on how to communicate successes and good things to the students in the new year before NSS goes</p> <p>Action for M.C</p>	<p>M.C</p> <p>M.C</p>	<p>Nov 14</p> <p>Jan 15</p>
5	Housekeeping	<p>Vacancies re alumni trustee</p> <p>OO asks how we can do this</p> <p>RH says through alumni office last year and to look at this again</p> <p>OO says he knows of someone interested</p> <p>MC to dig out recruitment pack and update if necessary</p> <p>Action M.C</p> <p>Company sec services</p> <p>MC says current arrangement has finished</p> <p>Costly service from XXXXXXXXXXXX</p> <p>Xk per year and X per month now</p> <p>XXXXXXXXX have said they could provide this for X per year</p> <p>Would trustees like formal or informal tender?</p> <p>RH ok with XXXXXXXXXXXX</p> <p>Agreed to terminate service from XXXXXXXXXXXX and go with XXXXXXXXXXXX</p> <p>Action M.C</p>	<p>M.C</p> <p>M.C</p>	<p>Sep 14</p> <p>Sep 14</p>

6	Elections	<p>Rescheduled from meeting of June 30th</p> <p>Recommendations from Elections Committee</p> <p>Are Board happy with these?</p> <p>OO asks if we are doing a paper ballot for 2015</p> <p>MC says elections committee think after online problems this may instil more confidence and could be a good marketing tool for Union</p> <p>OO asks if this is still open to abuse?</p> <p>MC says weaknesses and strengths in all systems</p> <p>Having outside company would help to limit this</p> <p>NM asks how it would stop fraud?</p> <p>MC explains procedure</p> <p>PP says he thinks more robust approach</p> <p>Also says elections committee recommend that candidates should be more informed, we need make a break from what has happened before</p> <p>RH says report well considered and he agrees with PP's point about sending a signal</p> <p>JD XXXXXXXX</p> <p>MC XXXXXXXX</p> <p>MC says will be considered by elections committee</p> <p>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</p> <p>Report and Recommendations approved</p> <p>Action M.C XXXXXXXX</p>	M.C	Sept 14
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7	Strategy	<p>MC says moving forward with strategy</p> <p>Lots still to be done</p> <p>We are making progress</p> <p>Quality Student Unions part one should be completed in the next few months</p> <p>By doing this we should be able to achieve a number of our objectives</p> <p>RH interested in what this sab team want to do this year</p> <p>NM says wants to improve status and be well known</p> <p>Wants to be present in things that are taking place</p> <p>Getting students involved in things</p> <p>Actually represent students</p> <p>Be known by students and relate to students</p> <p>OO says rebrand and restructure SU</p> <p>Have meeting with VC and will ask him what his vision is for SU</p> <p>MC says communication is a key area</p> <p>Need to improve effectiveness in how we communicate to students</p> <p>MB agrees with NM. Wants strong presence across all campuses.</p> <p>Increasing elections turnout. Would like to reach 15% this year</p> <p>Has seen other unions and would like to build up over time to be like some of these</p> <p>MC says indication that new VC see things very differently to old VC</p> <p>JD asks about draft KPIs</p> <p>MC says happy to change them and offers them up as a starting point</p>	M.C	Nov 14
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		<p>Asks for feedback and will include them in reports for next meeting</p> <p>RH asks what current position is</p> <p>MC says will update</p> <p>PP asks how paper will evolve</p> <p>MC says would consider it to be annual</p> <p>Says three year plan but will mostly be considered over 18 months</p>		
8.	Review	<p>Outcomes paper has been circulated</p> <p>Moving in to implementation stage</p> <p>Waiting to interview for ring fenced posts</p> <p>Interviews take place on 9th September</p> <p>Following this will look at comms post</p> <p>Plan to implement on 30th September</p> <p>RH XXXXX</p> <p>OO asks who will interview</p> <p>MC says XXXXXXXXXXXX</p> <p>Says if OO wants to be involved to contact XXXXXX</p>		
9.	Credit Union	<p>MB says talked with London Community Credit Union about partnership</p> <p>They can offer workshops, skills sessions, engage students in ethical lending</p> <p>RH asks of main objective is about financial management or about helping students with debt?</p> <p>MB says both</p>		

		<p>RH asks about risk, does this lie with the credit union?</p> <p>Does the credit union have the capacity to take on the business? Are they capable and credible?</p> <p>NM says some staff members are members of this credit union</p> <p>Says allows students to save money as they go</p> <p>MB will circulate paper on this</p> <p>MC nervous about promoting one service without undertaking due diligence</p> <p>Says issue with some students are about borrowing, not about saving</p> <p>Thinks idea is a good idea</p> <p>MB says also about borrowing money at lower rates than the bank</p> <p>Covers wide range of student needs</p> <p>Would like to survey students and pilot with ambassadors</p> <p>OO asks if this project will go on?</p> <p>MB says will carry on with survey</p> <p>NM says still researching before a final decision will be taken</p> <p>JD says lots of unions having similar conversations</p> <p>PP agrees with MC</p> <p>Good to promote but maybe not one particular supplier</p>	M.B	Nov 14
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8	AOB	<p>Camera Item</p> <p>MC gives background on Support Works</p> <p>Would like to be able to work with university on this</p> <p>Wants to make sure everybody comfortable with the idea of this</p> <p>RH asks if we are piggybacking on university system</p> <p>MC confirms this is the case, keeps cost down</p> <p>RH asks about confidentiality when students are in conflict with university</p> <p>MC says this has been fundamental question and has been clear that SU default position is one of confidentiality</p> <p>Some aspects can be shared with other areas if permission is given by the student</p> <p>Agreed</p>		
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