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# **Societies Council**

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| **Date:** | 05.12.23 |
| **Time:** | 5.00pm |
| **Location:** | S3.01 and Online |

## **Minutes**

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| 1.0 | 1.1 | **Present:** Dan Lawrence, Jess Bradbury, Nikola Milkiewicz (Psychology), Renato Martins (Esports), Oliwia Milkiewicz (Psychology), Tricia Glassborrow (BTaG), Tasha Noble (Climbing), Peter Ashiagbor (Business and Law/Chess), Rita Ekokotu-Odigie (Nursing), Clare Stock (Rollerskating), Randeep Kaur Puri (International), Rishab Jindal (International),  Preeti Kumari (International), Vytautas Kravcenka (Jaffa Cake), Jacob Hosanee (BLW BNU),  Emily Thomas (Anime and Cosplay), Tania Little (Anime and Cosplay), Syd Shaw (LGBTQ+/Music), Finn Beaumont (BTaG), Ellie Lynn (LGBTQ+/Rollerskating), Vlad Suruceano (Aviation), Chloe Hayes (MT/LQBTQ+), Dee Whyte (MT), Bethany Jackson (MT/Psychology), Alfie Vince (Blades), Issy Waugh (Blades/Boxing), Marissa Leyden (MT),  Grace Paisley (MT), Wren Sell (BTaG) |  |
|  | 1.2 | **In attendance:** Sarah Nawaz |  |
|  | 1.3 | **Apologies for Absence:** Catherine Lymer |  |
|  | 1.4 | **Absent without apologies:** |  |
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| 2.0 |  | **Society of the Month** |  |
|  |  | * Musical Theatre |  |
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| 3.0 |  | **KPI Update** |  |
|  |  | * Currently have 27 active societies which is 5 short of the set target * If anyone knows of any students who may want to set one up, please get them to speak to staff * 670 students have engaged in societies since the beginning of the academic year, still 35 short of target. * Keep expanding your membership and encourage online members to attend an in-person session * Volunteering: currently have 3,040 hours logged, the target is 7500 * A lot of societies have not logged their hours so please do this. Hours can be logged in bulk rather than each individual activity. * Ensure all members are volunteering, not just committee members, this will be checked. * Committee meetings: only 2 societies have had their meetings with him, please book them in. * Uxbridge membership target has been beaten, mostly thanks to the nursing. | **DL** |
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| 4.0 |  | **Accreditation** |  |
|  |  | * If you have done any activities, please let DL know so it can be ticked off for accreditations * Reminder that societies can get £750 plus money into their fundraising pot. * Also make sure you nominate yourself for society of the month, this counts towards accreditation. |  |
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| 5.0 |  | **Elections** |  |
|  |  | * Will be held in March 2024 * All roles are up for election including student ambassador, sabbs. * Societies need to find out who wants to run for each role. * If a member wants to rerun, they still need to share with others that their role is up for nomination – they cannot hog the role * Hustings will need to be held for each society. Staff can attend to help ensure they run smoothly * Student leader and Sabb Officer roles are also available – Sabbs will be holding a session after Christmas for anyone interested where more information about the role will be given. |  |
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| 6.0 |  | **Key Dates for next term** |  |
|  |  | * 10th Jan: Refreshers Fair – there will be new students joining the university so this is a good opportunity to recruit more members. It is optional if a society wants to have a stall and forms to sign up will be coming out this week. * 29th Jan: RAG week – please get involved, hold an event * 12th Feb: Student Volunteer Week – this will also be the week of Feb graduations so there will numerous opportunities to volunteer. * 10th and 13th March: Varsity – would be great to see society members come along to games and lend their support. Tickets are £15 and with this you also get a tshirt, transport to games, food and more. * Next Wednesday (13th Dec) is bowling, if tickets have been bought, they will be emailed. * Next term, 17th Jan-21st Feb the union will be taking part in BUCS Challenge. There will be various activities including rowing, walking etc ending with a 24 hour Sportathon. This will be raising money for the RAG and the union’s chosen charities. * 27th-28th Jan: Boycott your bed- this is a twist on the sleepout that is held for Wycombe Homeless Connection (this year’s sleepout clashes with varsity). It will be held in the sports hall, is a sponsored event and counts towards 12 hours of community volunteering. Those taking part will need to bring sleeping bags and there will be security so it will be a safe space. Sign up on the What’s on page, currently 150 tickets. If required more tickets can be made available. * Justgiving pages for the SU charities will now be available on the website, please share. |  |
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| 7.0 |  | **Society Termly Recap-highlight and 1 improvement** |  |
|  |  | * Each society was asked to give 1 highlight from the first half of year and 1 improvement for next year * Nursing: Drag for Rag went well. Lunch also went well, and drug calculations sessions were great. Need to improve on activities for members and get them more involved * MT: have been able to organise a lot of performance opportunities. Would like to have more events where different talents can be showcased * Boxing: highlight has been the energy of the group and respectfulness between members. Need to improve how members are managing their workouts. * Blades: the community has developed a lot more compared to last year, improvements needed are volunteering and consistent communication. * BTaG: Secret Santa as it was the first time every member attended, hosting first creative session. Need to improve maintaining numbers for Wednesday sessions and better organisation to give members more time to get involved * LGBTQ: Improve committee communication, highlight was the Drag for Rag takeover * International: Highlight was spreading information on resources available for students, in future would like to plan events * BLW BNU: Highlight has been seeing new faces, more interest and unity of members. Need to improve administration and being more organised * Anime and cosplay: Highlight has been seeing members get out of their shell and becoming more confident. Need to improve getting members involved in volunteering * Rollerskating: Skating session went well and need to improve members attending socials * Psychology: Highlight has been getting the society back up and running so can support students, first session went well. Need to improve volunteering hours and number of members coming regularly to sessions. * Everyone was thanked for their feedback and honesty. If they are having issues with communication, please speak to staff who can help and chairs also need to ensure they are delegating tasks to other members and not doing everything themselves. |  |
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| 8.0 |  | **Any Other Business** |  |
|  |  | * Please read society group chat for updates and respond if required * JB: on Thursday at 1pm, will be holding a mental health session, do come along and reminder that each society needs a trained welfare member. Will put room in societies group chat. * MT: will be holding a takeover on 17th January, please get involved and support * On Monday an eshot will be sent out with support services over holidays and SU opening times. |  |
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| 9.0 |  | **Date and time of subsequent meetings:**  16th January 2024 at 5.00pm, Room N4.06 and Online |  |