

# SOC Minutes

Subject:	Student Officer Committee
Location:	Bookable Room 2
Time & Date:	28 <sup>th</sup> September 2022 at 4pm
Status:	For publication
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**Attending:** Taylor Sounes (TS), Elise Page (EP), Serene-Shibli Sexton (SS), Aaron Campbell (AC), Evie Drennan (ED), Sophie Ciurlik-Rittenbaum (SCR), Liz Bigalke (LB), Miriam Hussein (MH), Holly Summers (HS), Georgia Hubbard (GH), Brandon Thomas (BT), Nathan Wyatt (NW), Alice Goldsney (AG)

**Present:** Claire Boothby-Barnbrook (CBB), Abbie Mulcairn (AM)

**Apologies:** Ameer Al-Magidi (AA)

## SOC 001 Apologies

None received

## SOC 002 Minutes of the previous meeting and matters arising

There were no minutes to approve and no matters arising.

## SOC 003 SOC Training

To receive a short training on what SOC is and what SOC funding can be used for

## SOC 004 Action Log

Item number	Action	Assigned to	Date
SOC 002	AM to follow up on PTO name badges	AM	By next SOC
SOC 007	SS and AM to send round nomination forms and information about being a student trustee	AM and SS	ASAP
SOC 009	SOC to meet to discuss UCU and vote in a poll on whether to invite a guest speaker from UCU to the first Union Council	All student officers	13 <sup>th</sup> October
SOC 009	To send funding application form and guidance documents to SOC	AM and OA	By next SOC

## SOC 005 Officer Update

SS – Working on welcome week, cost of living crisis and working on democracy review

SCR – Barclays campaign work,

EP – PG welcome week, attending university meetings about teaching and learning, working on cost of living campaign and planning black history month

NW – NW presented a project plan for tackling the Cost of Living which can be [viewed here](#)

GH – meeting with venues and bar staff on accessibility in venues especially blue bar and the LCR, planning disability history month, looking into status of quiet space/nap nook and what needs work

HS – tour around venues locations, met with security about making process of moving between venues safer and easier for students, meeting with library staff and estates about a room in the library branded 'headspace' as a place of pause, LB – meeting international students, planning a cultural society meet-up

BT – helping with welcome week events, speaking to members of Pride about student issues, working on getting pronouns added to uni system, working on beyond the binary campaign,

TS – EC self-certification has been extended from 3 to 7 days, supporting on academic advisor training, working on NSS and TEF

AG – working on getting university to fund the provision of period hygienic products in all bathrooms across campus, working on starting a women in academia podcast,

MH – preparing for international students day, working on a teach-in event with cultural and international societies

AC – working on welcome week events, working on sustainability angle of cost of living crisis for students. AG suggested handing out recipe cards to students.

ED – derby day planning, working with exec's, planning for DHM in november, getting clubs and socs more involved in black history month

### **SOC 006 Election of a Chair**

Nominations were submitted for candidates for Chair of SOC and Deputy Chair of SOC:

- Alice Goldsney – Deputy Chair of SOC
- Liz Bigalke – Chair of SOC

No other nominations were submitted. The meeting voted unanimously to elect Liz and Alice as Chair and Deputy Chair respectively.

## **SOC 007 Election of PTOs to positions**

- To elect two part-time officers to the Trustee Board:

SS explained what was involved in being a Student Trustee. The meeting resolved to take nominations via email after the meeting to be voted on at the next meeting of SOC.

**AP** – SS and AM to send round nomination forms and information about being a student trustee. Deadline to submit nomination form will be 20<sup>th</sup> October.

- To elect one part-time officer to the Postgraduate Committee.

The meeting voted to delay the vote to the following Postgraduate Committee.

## **SOC 008 Discussion Topics for Union Council**

SS proposed choosing the UCU strike as the first discussion topic. TS argued that this should be delayed until the outcome of the strike ballot. SS suggested inviting a member of the UCU to speak about what is happening currently with the ballot and why the Union is balloting. ED asked whether this could be in a different section of the agenda that isn't the discussion topic. TS noted that it would be better to have a discussion once more information was public and expressed concern about the length of the agenda for the first Union Council. EP noted that a UCU speaker is invited to the PG committee and that UCU members are already members of the SU as student tutors. SCR noted that it is worth inviting a speaker from UCU as teaching staff aren't striking for no reason and teaching conditions impact on students too.

SCR also put forward the idea of having a discussion around the divest barclay's campaign. SOC suggested this would be better included in the SOC update.

ED proposed a discussion on the Cost of Living at union council.

SOC discussed the following options proposed by officers:

- Replacing discussion topic with UCU guest speaker
- Cost of Living crisis

TS objected to inviting a guest speaker from UCU to the first Union Council and expressed dissatisfaction with the decision made by SOC.

SOC agreed to postpone the decision about whether to invite a member of UCU to address Union Council at the first meeting of the year.

**AP** – SOC to meet to discuss UCU and vote in a poll on whether to invite a guest speaker from UCU to the first Union Council

## **SOC 009 Funding requests**

AG noted that there is no formal funding request for period products but noted that procurement should take allergies and sensitives into account when purchasing next. SOC discussed how this motion could be progressed on as the motion passed through UC and the Trustee Board but included no costings.

**AP** – AM to send funding request and guidance forms to SOC

The group discussed whether they were happy to cast votes for SOC via email/Teams rather than in person meetings in future. SOC agreed that it should be at the Chair's discretion based on the urgency of the matter.

AG requested that SOC set a limit on the amount of money requested that can be approved online. SS suggested that SOC should vote to delay to a scheduled SOC meeting in this instance. LB suggested not setting a limit if SOC is already aware of the campaign/project, but maybe having a limit for new ideas. MH was in favour of having no monetary limit for online approvals. ED suggested not having a monetary limit but having a delay/abstain option for all online funding requests. SOC agreed to take this approach forward.

**SOC 010 AOB**

No other business was raised

**SOC 011 Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for 27<sup>th</sup> October 2022