

Governance Zone meeting **2nd February 2011 at 12.00pm in Meeting Room 10**

1) ATTENDANCE

1. Apologies.
Chair Campaigns & Democracy, Jonathan Chambers
Chair Education, Victoria Winterton
Chair Welfare, David Miele
Chair Council, Tom Townend

2. Register
President, Aidan Mersh
Chair Community, Sean Brawley
Chair Sport, Kora-Lee Homes
Chair Environmental & Ethical, Peter Moffitt

Democracy Co-ordinator, Sophie Reid

SUEI

The President talked explained SUEI (Student's Union Evaluation Initiative) and how it works, explaining that HUU currently have a Silver award but are pushing to achieve Gold. We were in the group of 1st Student Union's to take part and now there is 64 Union's that have gone through it. So we are hoping to move to Gold, which only Sheffield and Leeds have been able to do. So far Hull seems to well on track. In the latest Student Satisfaction surveys, 88-89% of students said that HUU had made a positive impact on their University experience, which is on a similar level to Leeds! The area that we are weak in, is responding to students. So we have carried out commissioned research, with a company called Red Brick, who have helped us to discover where members think we need to improve or make changes. I have been in discussion with the Chief Executive over several themes we are going to focus on. For example, one issue that came out of the research was that often members of HUU didn't realise they were actually members.

The assessment process consists of presenting documents and then also a series of interviews with Sabbatical Officers, the Chief executive, Staff of HUU and students.

Asked if there was any Questions. None

STRATEGIC PLAN

The President showed a copy of the strategic plan and explained it. Talked about changes that will be made to improve it. For example, we want to add 'Fun' and 'Supportive' to our values, as they have come out in student surveys as important to members. Instead of Zones, we want the Strategic plan to run a number of themes, e.g. Accommodation and Membership Representation. Once this has been written up it will be brought to Governance Zone to have a look.

UNIVERSITY

The President also explained how the University are changing their vision and mission and showed the draft. The University look at where they stand with other comparable HEIs and have come up with a set of principles that really needs to be refined. Asked members that if they had any ideas that they should bring them forward. So for example, the University have been very academic focused and although this is obviously very important, they also need to look at such things as Sport. Therefore, it would be a good idea if we could bring ideas forward to change this.

Chair Environmental & Ethical asked what was happening with the Campaign to get Wednesday morning free from teaching.

The President talked about being involved in a working group, which was developed to push this idea. The proposal is that Free Elective modules will be pushed to Wednesday Mornings, rather than Thursday afternoons and then Core teaching on a Wednesday morning will be moved to Thursday afternoons. This should hopefully come into place from September 2011.

UNION COUNCIL

The President asked how everyone felt about giving reports at Council. There was concerns expressed by Chair Sport and Chair Community that they have not been to easily meet with their zones to discuss what all has been happening.

Aidan asked if it would help Chair Community if TP where to talk about how things should interlink within the Community Zone. Chair Community thought this was a good idea.

Chair Sport also had concerns that as a Councillor of Scrutiny that sits on the Sport Zone, there wasn't a lot to be able to scrutinise because sport isn't really like that.

Aidan asked on opinions of VP Sport's proposal of expanding the Sport Exec. Chair Sport thought it would be a good idea.

ELECTIONS

The president asked what everyone thought of the elections this year. There was concern that there may not be enough publicity for the procedural meeting. However, they were happy that part-time Chair positions have been given more focus this year. They believed the handbook was a lot better than it has been in previous years, as it has given descriptions of the different roles. Chair Sport also commented that it was a lot easier to understand online, also saying that it is a lot more recognisable that they are actually elections.

Aidan also explained that Hullfire are hoping to do interviews with all candidates, which can be used in the Election edition. He also explained that Hustings will involve questions that are asked by students. After nominations close, the top item on the website will be to get students to send in questions that can be asked to candidates at Hustings. This will be monitored by Sophie to make sure they are inoffensive, appropriate and can be asked to every candidate running for a position. They will all be sent to Sophie so that no-one who is re-running will be able to see them.

Aidan also talked about proposing at UEC that current Officers who are re-running should take the week around Elections off as Holidays and therefore they will not be allowed to send out any message to students regarding their zones. Instead this will be done by HUU as a whole if necessary.

Chair Environmental & Ethical asked when the new Chairs would take over. This happens in July and will involve the current chairs having a role in handover. This was typically done for just the sabbs but this year we want the Part-time Chairs to be involved, so they can be trained and develop good relationships with the sabbs and other part-time Chairs.

The President talked about the MSU and that it will be reviewed at a Trustee meeting before August. So we will review if it has been effective and whether it would be worth keeping it.

Also asked that if anyone wants to bring any motions to the NUS Conference, then they should let him know.

Chair Sport asked if the number of candidates running in the elections is going to be down. The President responded that it could be expected due to it being the first year of sabbs being able to run for a second year. It might also mean that we won't get as many votes. So we are concentrating on trying to get the numbers as high as possible.

Meeting closed at 1.10pm