

Welfare Zone meeting

19th October 2011 at 1pm in University House

1. Present:

Phil Pocknee (VP Welfare), Jonathan Milnes (Chair LINKS), Thom Rawlinson (Councillor of Scrutiny), Daryl Jones (Chair Disabled students), Dominique Richards (Chair Women's Committee), Sean Brawley (Chair Welfare Zone & Councillor of Scrutiny) and Nii Akoto Doodoo-Amoo (Chair Black Students), Charlotte Olley (Chair Nightline).

Sophie Reid (minute taker)

2. Minutes from previous:

Agreed as a true record

3. Reports:

Chair LINKS

- Went to first Union Council, which was good.
- We have a First Aid trainer, so this makes sure everyone is fully qualified.
- 20 new members, which is really good.
- Got the usual week of training that happens at this time of the year.
- Went to Hull Fair and assisted 200 casualties. Most minor with a few major, so it was hard work.
- Have put in 3000 hours altogether.

VP Welfare

- Working on the Mental Health Campaign. Putting together an Action Plan. As mentioned before, this will use superhero characters to represent different Mental Health problems.
- Involved with a University program on empowering students.
- Working on Campus Watch which is a joint project between the University and the Union.
- Meeting Amanda Wilcox to do with a University Access Agreement to do with retention. Working with VP Education on this. There will be a student written submission to do with what reasonable adjustments the University can make.
- There were issues with the Accommodation Office. Basically, students can transfer as of Monday of week 3, if they are unhappy. However, there was no priority of urgent cases and it was under staffed. So planning to address this and get a response on the issue.
- Funk and Soul event for Black History Month went really well.

Questions

- Question asked regarding on Campus Watch would work. It would empower students by using an online reporting tool. This will hopefully give some hard evidence and encourage people to use our support services.

Chair Women's Committee

- Love your Body Campaign went really well. Saw a lot of new faces and we ran out of t-shirts, which is a good sign.
- Have got a meeting tomorrow (Thursday 20th October) regarding the Egyptian Revolution.
- White Ribbon campaign is on the 25th November.
- Have got a society talk happening next week.
- Hope to have a feminist publication soon, which will be online. We don't have a budget to do printed copies.

Chair Disabled Students

- Involved with meetings at day and night to try and engage bar staff. 5 attended the day session and only 2 at night.
- Hopefully going to have a social soon to get everyone involved.
- The assessment guide is now ready and the Disability Services seem really interested in it.
- Working on Hate Crime preparation, involving posters, videos and possible lecture shouts.
- In Scarborough tomorrow (Thursday 20th October) to meet the Facilities Officer there to talk about accessibility in Scarborough.
- Have an Executive meeting happening on Tuesday.
- Have been invited to an open meeting with Marie Muller who is the Disability Minister. This is in January and a Welfare select Committee will sit and listen.
- Meeting Ann Blagg.
- Have managed to increase budget by £200.
- Next social will be in two weeks. This will be a meet and greet with disability services and me. Dates are not confirmed yet.

Chair Black Students

- Black History month going well – Funk and Soul event went well with a profit of £180 so this will go to a good cause. There are four more seminars planned. There is one today (19th October) in Wilberforce.
- Planning the next Committee meeting.
- An issue has risen to do with racial identity so hopefully doing something with that in November.

Chair Nightline

- Unfortunately Nightline has not been able to function due to serious problems with the building they are based in. There are issues with mould and the general state of the building.
- VPW commented that nightline is a big part of the welfare services and this problem needs to be rectified as soon as is possible. He will be working to see what we need to do and how we can do it as soon as possible. Suggested a possible fundraiser to raise the funds necessary to make the building operational.

- VPW and Chair Nightline agreed to meet immediately after the meeting to talk about the situation.
- Training has not been able to take place either as they need the phones to train for observation.
- Chair Welfare asked if there was anywhere possible to do it. Not really any other options.
- VPW is going to arrange a notification of these problems to go on hullstudent.
- Chair Welfare asked for a timeline and VPW responded by saying it will be done as soon as possible.

4. **Any Other Business**

- **Liberation Away Day**

VPW asked about a Liberation Away Day, which is open to everybody from the Welfare Zone. This will hopefully be in late November and will be in Scarborough. We will meet Madonna Masuka who is the Welfare Officer for Scarborough. Suggested working on a collective video campaign.

16th November was informally agreed as the date for the away day. Everyone was told to bring their welfare reports to the day and they will have their welfare meeting while they're there.

- **Zero Tolerance motion**

There was discussion regarding the motion that was brought to Union Council. There were questions asked about definition issues regarding the policy and how it would take affect for student officers and staff. The President was present at the meeting at this point and highlighted that from the Union Council meeting it was clear that everyone wanted definition about punishments. Therefore he suggests that the process for complaints is mapped out. It will be taken away for management and door supervisors to deal with so that people aren't making wild claims.

Chair Welfare suggested that since the next Union Council is on the 12th December, then they should have an extended zone meeting on the 30th November to discuss the motion. This was agreed.

The president clarified that the complaints process will not change too much, but the motion instead mainly aims to publicise the existing policies already in place.

- Advice Centre training is happening today
- Chair Women's Committee asked why there weren't tabs for all liberation groups on the website. VPW is going to look into this and talk to Leigh Nicholson.

Meeting closed 2.10pm