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**Union Council**

**25/02/20**

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| **Present, Apologies and Quoracy** | |
| Chair of UC,  no voting rights | Union Council Chair - Bran Carr-Malloch |
| Part-time Officers, full voting rights | Postgraduate Officer - Martins Akhemigbeze  International Students Officer - Oluwatimilehin Ajibode (Timmy)  Welfare Officer – Alex Butters  Academic Officer - Sandra Chiamaka Ikeh  Environment & Sustainability Officer - Jannike Smye  **Vacant Roles**  Faith & Belief Officer  Partner Institutions Officer  Disabled Students Officer  Transgender and Non-Binary Officer |
| School Reps, full voting rights | Institute of Education Deputy – Will Robinson  School of Humanities & Performing Arts – Paige O Williams  School of Art, Design & Architecture - Will Styles  Plymouth Business School – Perran Johnson  School of Law, Criminology & Government Representative – Jessica Ubani  School of Health Professions – Luke McRoy-Jones  School of Nursing and Midwifery – Emma Collins  School of Psychology – Tafadzwa Nyambuya  Peninsula Dental School - Tej Morjaria  School of Biomedical Science Deputy - Hannah Campbell  School of Engineering, Computing, & Mathematics – Sam Duffield  School of Geography, Earth & Environmental Sciences – Paris Song (late) |
| Sabbatical Officers, full voting rights | VP Education – Millie Green  VP Sport – Verity Lemm  VP Wellbeing and Diversity – Bitty Inyang (Walter)  UPSU President – Matilda Fraser |
| Other attendees, without voting rights | UPSU Chief Executive – Gina Connelly  Representation and Democracy Manager – Tracy Priestman (Minute Taker)  Plymouth Business School Deputy – Alex Mullally  There were a number of student observers  **Vacant Roles**  Chair of Accountability Board  Accountability Board Member |
| Apologies | Institute of Education – Emma Quinn  School of Biomedical Sciences – Janson Yuen  School of Biological & Marine Sciences – Willow Moody  Mature Students Officer – Louise Crichton  Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) Officer - Simran Tak  Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender + (LGBT+) Officer - Molly Austin-Knight  Women’s Officer – Joyita Ashton-Smith  VP Activities and Development – Chukwudi Ezenyi (KC) |
| Not present at the meeting and did not send apologies | Peninsula Medical School – Sophie Schenk |
| Quoracy | In order for a motion to be passed 75% of the elected voting members need to be present, quoracy was 21 |

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| **Minutes** | |
| Welcome | The Chair welcomed everyone in attendance. |
| Matters from the Last meeting | There were no matters arising.  Members voted to ratify the minutes  For: 17  Against: 0  Abstentions: 2  The minutes were accepted as an accurate record of the meeting. |
| Notice of Any Other Business | Millie Green, VP Education gave notice of one item - student senate |
| Matters to Discuss | Creation of a Men’s Part-time Officer |
| The Chair explained the debating rules and requested that all speakers are respectful of each other.  Statement read by Will Styles;  ‘In line with the safe space policy I must issue the following trigger warnings;  This discussion will cover topics of male vulnerability and victimhood as well as more broadly gender issues at large.  This will include topics such as;  Violent crime  Mental Health  Sexual violence  Domestic abuse  Social neglect  Sexism  Gender based discourse  And other uncomfortable topics.  Allow anyone that would like to remove themselves from this discussion for any reason to do so.  Points of clarification  The proposed Men’s Officer role would be of standard Part-Time Officer format and not liberation. A benefit of this is that anyone from any group could occupy the role and deliver campaigns including transgender, non-binary and cis-women students.  It is intended that this role will service the welfare needs of all self-defined male students and while I hold this open format to heart, I must clarify that any statistical discussion that follows will have come from cis-based data sets. Despite this the sociocultural patterns and trends, they represent effect all varieties of male students.  I’ve brought this motion forward to create a permanent and SU supported role through which students can launch targeted campaigns to help with male student welfare, an area which has not seen a targeted role before.  My personal experience with these issues began 5 years ago with my involvement in the Plymouth Feminist Society which I would go on to chair, where I was awakened to the disgusting reality that we still have a long way to go in helping one another achieve equality and in insuring all those in need, get the help they need. While supporting the work of my fellow members I specialised in campus male issues going on to set up the Men’s Group with the counselling department.  This is where the first barrier presented itself, because it was not part of an SU campaign, It couldn’t be advertised through the SU, rooms could not be booked though the SU and we we’re ultimately only able to engage 11 students each year including one self-identified transgender male.  All these students came away with an emotional literacy whereby many began the meeting with discussions of depression and self-harm, all ended with a sense of a freeing ability to communicate their thoughts and feelings in a healthy way. I am happy to say that all of those students are still alive and doing well. I thing I unfortunately have to say given student suicide statistics.  This group, was a gem, and I am saddened to see it hasn’t continued. This is a further reason a permanent post should be provided. But my passion to help struggling male students hasn’t subsided. I’ve since presented talks at two of the last International Men’s Day conferences in London on male student issues calling for targeted action.  So I’ve began actioning this with the student survey you saw a few months ago and linked at the bottom of the motion, and I’d like to close by going through the findings of this’  Q1. Do you feel that, as a male, that your wellbeing on campus is valued?  It was pretty much a fifty fifty split so what I take away from that is that most students are unsure if their wellbeing is valued. I see this as a real failing and we need to ensure that students feel that their worth is valued.  Q2. Do you feel that men’s mental health is overlooked?  A majority of 75% said yes it was.  Q3. Which of these groups are you most likely to attend?  Men’s Group  Order of Man  Men’s Mental Health Society  Men’s Society  Men’s Forum for the Development of Men  Men’s Growth Group  Men’s Wellbeing Society  Results were 30% for Order of Man followed by Men’s Forum and Men’s Group.  Q4. Have you ever recognised poor mental Health & Wellbeing in a fellow male student?  87% said yes with 5 expressing suicidal thoughts, they were all signposted to the Advice Centre.  A follow up question was, if so, were they able to recognise it within themselves.  62 said yes, 36 said no but of those who were able to identify it within themselves 26 said they didn’t know what to do about it or how to combat it. Some normalised the behaviour saying they did recognise it but they felt that it was normal behaviour.  Q5. Have you ever been struck by a romantic partner in a non-romantic way?  20 % said yes which may shock people but those are in line with national statistics and actually lower than Plymouth statistics which is 23%. Six people said they had been struck by multiple partners. Again these were signposted to relevant support.  The speech against was waived and the floor was opened for discussion.  Verity Lemm, VP Sport – It’s clear that you have put a lot of work into this and I can’t fault your passion on this topic but I would like to question if this doesn’t sit under the Welfare remits slightly? You are asking for a Men’s Officer but this is regarding men’s wellbeing and in my head, that is different. All you have really talked about is men’s mental wellbeing. If we were then to say that men needed a separate mental wellbeing officer then we would also need to look a creating a separate mental wellbeing officer role for other groups.  Tilda Fraser, President – Yes, I agree that we have both full-time and part-time Wellbeing Officers who signpost, run campaigns and collect feedback around wellbeing, including men’s wellbeing. You could bring something forward to say that they need to specifically run something for men’s wellbeing; that is a possibility. I find it hard to see what unique remit a whole entire other role has once you remove the welfare aspect which is already in place.  That is not to downplay that there are some specific issues than men face and I can completely understand that there are cultural barriers in place that prevent men accessing the help and support available. There is a place to run campaigns and raise this at university meetings. They now have a full time male mental health worker, they are setting up the men’s talking group again and they are also collaborating with Andy’s Man Club going forward. So the university are doing their bit and are keen to get more feedback do better. But I do think that in terms of welfare it is already covered by two positions.  Will Styles - I have alluded to some other social aspects as well as welfare and as mentioned, other groups do benefit from specific support which they do have, it is unfortunate that the Part-time Women’s Officer role has not been filled. There are also issues of equality, for example in teaching and nursing where men are a minority both on courses and in the professions themselves.  There was a situation with a male student experiencing sexism whilst on a care placement who had repeatedly reported an incident and wasn’t taken seriously and it was not until a female student reported it that it was taken forward and investigated. There is an aspect of this social inequality that goes hand in hand with welfare issues, if you are not taken seriously that can have an impact on mental health and wellbeing.  Regarding the barriers to accessing help and support, there is only one male counsellor at the University of Plymouth to support men and two are needed for the group, so unless a passionate student comes along to help facilitate, it cannot happen. The university have been advertising for male staff for a very long time but the profession is lacking in male representation, there is still a lot of work to do.  Jannike Smye, Part-time Environment and Sustainability Officer– You mentioned that there are multiple officers who are welfare related that give support to different groups, I would like to argue that there is one full-time welfare and one part-time welfare officer, both of whom are male. The other officers that deal with other groups and individuals, their remit isn’t welfare, it’s around liberation, or social issues whereas the role you are suggesting is completely welfare based.  Will Styles - This is looking at the point of view that all issues become welfare based when not dealt with. Taking it a few steps back, through feedback and campaigns social issues, issues of equality need to be addressed and welfare is an outlet of that. Looking at the first question of the survey ‘Do you feel your welfare is valued?’ Students aren’t sure. Wouldn’t it be great to say that men are valued and that their place is valued.  Jannike Smye, Part-time Environment and Sustainability Officer – why not signpost and say that we have a welfare officer, that we have two welfare officers?  Will Styles - There is the concept that specificity breeds greater attention. There is a group for everyone, on Facebook for example, there are many groups for a very specific interest that have many participants.  Alex Butters, Part-time Welfare Officer - I get that you are really passionate about mental health and as part-time Welfare officer I would be happy to help with a campaign. We have a specific roles for other groups as they are underrepresented in society, they have set needs that we men don’t have.  Will Styles - I have engaged with several welfare officers in the past and again the issue was that when men see the word welfare they don’t necessarily see it as being for them, you need to engage with the male psyche. Looking again at some of those groups names, ‘Order of Man’ does that scream welfare and vulnerability? No, it’s quite the opposite. We need to appeal to and engage men in a way that is going to work for them. To say that they don’t have specific needs, well of course they do, for example child custody battles faced by mature students and institutional sexism. Men do have set needs.  Hannah Campbell, Deputy School of Biomedical Sciences Rep - You raised the point of needing two people to do the men’s talk groups, why can’t the current full-time or part-time welfare officers fill in for that role? It may be the case that they may not be male but when it is they could help support as part of their additional duties.  Will Styles - It would not directly be in the remit of a Part-time Men’s Officer but that role would seek out the men who would be assisted by the groups. It would be great if everyone in the welfare roles had the passion and initiative to engage with wellbeing services to facilitate the men’s group, however, that cannot be relied upon and a person with direct remit to proactively address men’s issues is needed to ensure that it will happen.  Taffy Nyambuya, School of Psychology Rep – what support will be in place for the holder of this post which may be seen as problematic. As mentioned previously, there is a Women’s Part-time Officer role as women still need additional representation structures in place. Some people may not feel that men warrant the same representational structures.  Tilda Fraser, President – I understand what you are saying. In Bristol UWE they introduced this role and there was so much backlash that the person who stood for the role actually has to quit due to stress and it was very problematic. It was seen as offensive to liberation roles and there was a lot of fear that it may eventually develop into a men’s right activist role. I think that you are trying to say that there may be the same fears as happened at UWE? Taffy – yes.  Will Styles - I actually have met the person in question that was the Men’s Officer at UWE. Men’s issues are dramatically lacking in resources for example the domestic abuse service male helpline is only open Monday to Wednesday 11:00-17:00 and there are no shelters in Devon. Services are lacking and there is a need for support.  So I did meet the UWE person. UWE has just experienced the biggest wave of male suicides nationally. They decided to create a trans and non-binary role and create a men’s role alongside. This student, who has lost friends to suicide, decided to run a campaign regarding mental health and suicide prevention. There was a small vocal group that lead a ‘in RON we trust’ campaign. He did win the election and got in but received death threats, other threats, many forms of harassment. He was going to drop out of his course and is still in counselling to this day. It is a real shame that men are prevented from assisting their peers.  Millie Green, VP Education – You still didn’t really explain how you would stop that happening here.  Will Styles – How you would stop backlash? There was backlash against the suffragette movement, against every civil rights movement or every movement for progress that has ever existed.  Tilda Fraser, President – I don’t think you can compare this to the civil rights movement and to the suffragette movement and we are not having this conversation and comparing to liberation groups.  Will Styles– I apologise  Jannike Smye, Part-time Environment and Sustainability Officer - We have Welfare Officers. You have described lots of issues men face, I am not denying that there are issues but you have described them at a national level. How do those issues that you describe affect Plymouth Students?  Will Styles – I hope it’s not a surprise that our students exist within the nation. I undertook the survey and I have already evidenced that 20% of the students surveyed had been the victims of domestic abuse.  Jannike Smye, Part-time Environment and Sustainability Officer – domestic abuse comes under a welfare role.  Will Styles – those are our students and they could approach the Welfare Officer but I would argue that they would be more likely to approach a men’s officer.  Chair – We have already covered this issue, can we move on to another point please.  Verity Lemm, VP Sport – if you envision a remit for the position of a Men’s Officer, what would be the key points under the remit, what would you be looking to provide?  Will Styles – a signpost for all the issues that men face, a platform for these issues to be dealt with at a campaign level and at Union Council level and a role that can be filled each year for a student wishing to run campaigns.  Student Observer – if someone’s personal safety is at risk for representing a group then it is surely evidence that the group needs representation, like every other group should and it’s the responsibility of the union and university to protect those individuals.  Millie Green, VP Education - I do appreciate your point and it does make sense and I have been thinking that it could be Men’s Welfare Officer or we could mandate the Welfare Officer to have at least one point on men. I think that the issues you are raising are important and I am not denying that at all but by creating a men’s officer it implies that it’s a liberation position, as already mentioned, when it relates to men’s welfare predominately.  Will requested to amend the motion resolves from;  ‘An addition of the role “Part-time Men’s Officer” to 2.1.3 of the UPSU Governing Documents Union Council Bye Law to read;  ‘An addition of the role “Part-time Men’s Welfare Officer” to 2.1.3 of the UPSU Governing Documents Union Council Bye Law’  The Chair noted that the motion is amended and offered the floor to the proposer of the motion to give a summation.  Will – I have been canvassing students and have asked 230 students, would you support the creation of a Men’s Officer and so far only one has said no.  For: 10  Against: 8  Abstentions: 2  The Chair clarified that the vote will be opened to absent members following the meeting and writing up of the minutes.  Vote via email following the meeting  For: 0  Against: 3  Abstentions: 0  **Total number of votes;**  **For: 10**  **Against: 11**  **Abstentions: 2**  **Quoracy was met. The Policy Proposal to Create a Men’s Part-time Officer did not pass** |
| Postgrad Policy |
| Millie Green, VP Education gave an overview of the motion and explained that Postgraduate students do not necessarily feel engaged in the students’ union unless they did their undergrad at Plymouth. The university plan to increase the number of postgrads and the union needs to adapt to meet the needs of this changing demographic. The Sabbatical Officers need to ensure that postgrads are included in future democratic processes and activities. The union has been guilty of excluding postgrad students in the past. The proposal is to have a Postgrad Research Officer on Union Council.  Millie noted that a survey of postgrads has recently been undertaken and she will circulate the responses after the meeting. Of 49 respondents only 50% knew that there were Part-time Officer positions. When asked if they thought there should be a specific representation role for Postgrad Research students, 32 said yes, 5 said no and 8 didn’t know. Millie concluded by pointing out that other students’ unions invest in Postgrads by having Full-time Officer representation and this was suggested by a respondent in the survey.  Tilda Fraser, President added that academic representation is the core purpose of students’ union representation, in future more and more of the student body will be postgrads. Millie clarified that this motion seeks to have a specific Postgrad Research post, separate from a Postgrad taught position.  Will Styles, School of Art, Design and Architecture Rep asked if this would include MRes and. Millie clarified that she has thought that MRes was part of research but it’s not.    Tej Morjaria, Dental School Rep thought that a Full-time Postgrad role sounds beneficial and questioned what the barriers were to such a role.  Millie Green, VP Education noted that she will bring this up during future discussions to review roles, even if this role is temporary and does get replaced by something else at a later date, we need to reach out to postgrads now more than ever.  Tilda Fraser, President added that it’s not been highlighted as an issue previously as the university has not been seen as a hugely Postgrad university but the new university strategy seeks to change that to increase Postgrad numbers by 30% in the next ten years. So Plymouth would then have comparative numbers to those universities that do have a full-time Postgrad Officer.  Millie Green, VP Education explained that the students’ union doesn’t really reach out to Postgrads, for example regarding clubs and societies. They do not know they can get involved, do not know how to get involved or do not see these opportunities as relevant to them. Lots of the feedback necessitates an improvement in communication to Postgrads.  Martins Akhemigbeze, Part-time Postgrad Officer said that he finds it difficult to contact a diverse range of Postgrads, they are spread out across all faculties in all areas of interest. Martins explained that within the Faculty of Arts and Humanities there are PGCert students that are not classed as either Undergrad or Postgrad. It’s almost impossible for one person to cover the wide range of Postgrad options.  Sander Ikeh, Part-time Academic Officer, commented that the timings of interactions needed to be considered, Sandra suggested a newsletter to Postgrads could cover all information and it would be best to come from the Faculty.  Tilda Fraser, President commented that a Part-time Research Officer could help map all this out, when to contact people and how they would like to received information.  Paige O’ Williams, School of Humanities and Performing Arts Rep liked the idea of the additional role and agreed that the Postgraduate experience is varied. Paige also suggested that the current representative could be promoted further as some students are unaware that there is currently a Post grad role on Union Council.  Millie Green, VP Education noted that in conjunction with improving communication, links with key staff members also needed to be developed to help promote the roles and to ensure that the representatives get the opportunity to attend all the relevant meetings such as; University Teaching and Learning Quality Committee and Doctoral College Board meetings and discussions.  Jannike Smye, Part-time Environment and Sustainability Officer commented that postgrads are included in the current Sabbatical Officer role descriptions.  Millie Green, VP Education acknowledged that the role descriptors do include it and each year a Postgrad Lead is agreed within the team, KC does have it as part of his role but it’s not always a top priority and is not always included as a manifesto point. This makes it harder to hold the Sabbatical Officers to account for not progressing Postgrad representation. The VP Education can support the Part-time Officers which should mean they can progress more effectively within the academic representative framework.  Tilda Fraser, President added that although the team do choose a Postgrad Lead each year, they may not necessarily be anyone with that experience. Millie Green, VP Education clarified that all Sabbatical Officers will still be involved but should have more direction from the Part-time Officers.  Jannike Smye, Part-time Environment and Sustainability Officer also commented that many students undertaking Postgrad study do not have the time or possibly the inclination to get involved with the Students’ Union. What is the role expected to achieve if this is the case with a majority of Postgrads?  Will Styles, School of Art, Design and Architecture Rep replied that as a Postgrad, he would argue that there is a need for a Full-time Postgrad role to focus on this more and have a section of the SU dedicated to Postgrad support.  Verity Lemm, VP Sport pointed out that the SU have just cut one of the Sabbatical Officer roles and combined full-time two roles which represent a combined number of students greater than the current number of Postgrads. Consideration would need to be given to other areas, as well as Postgrads, should another full-time role be added back in future.  Tilda Fraser, President replied that the Sports, Societies and Volunteering departments have full-time dedicated staff members to support these areas where as many Postgrads do not have a university lead and lack any support. The university strategy is to increase Postgrad numbers, they pay more fees and get less representation than may Undergrads.  Martins Akhemigbeze, Part-time Postgrad Officer has been asking Postgrads what they want from the SU and their main complaint was that they want to feel involved but that it doesn’t feel welcoming to them.  Millie Green, VP Education expressed hope that the role could help stop people being isolated in their own areas and at least the option of having a representative is open to these students for them to improve their student experience in the same way as is open to Undergrads.  Martins Akhemigbeze, Part-time Postgrad Officer agreed and added that as well as the wider student experience this role would also include academic representation, something which is hugely important to Postgrads.  Emma Collins, School of Nursing and Midwifery Rep noted that Plymatures Society has a proportion of Undergrads but is also open to Postgrad Taught and Postgrad Research students. Not all mature students feel able to interact with the SU.  Millie Green, VP Education concluded by saying that this is an opportunity to give a space and representation to Postgrad students and to let Postgrads have a voice on issue affecting them.  **The Chair asked Union Council to vote on the Post Grad Policy Proposal**  **For: 18**  **Against: 1**  **Abstentions:1**  **As the outcome of the vote will not differ even if all members not present vote against, the proposal relating to Postgrad Policy passed.** |
| Chief Executive Officer Update – Gina Connelly |
| * Sarah Gibson has been appointed as new CEO and will start on the 16th April. * The Advice Centre have been busy with a 13% increase in students seeking help from last year. * The Sabbatical Officer team for 2020/21 have been elected * SSTAR and UPSU Awards nominations are open * The updated student recognition scheme has launched – please do log hours. * The Volunteering Dept. has been reaccredited for the Investors in Volunteering scheme * There has been a 5% increase in society’s participation with just under 4,000 members across 93 societies. * There has been a small decline in club members but the VP Sport is looking at addressing this. * The Sports Strategy has finally been approved. * Following a predicted income of £35K less than budget, the reforecast is looking on target for a £20K surplus. * A good year so far commercially for the bar due to lots of events. * The kitchen has been delayed and will now open next year but do look out for taster sessions soon. * The shop has been affected by the bad weather but it is hoped that trading will increase once boots closes. * Looking at diversifying the food offer in Costa and a student is looking at designs to update the space. * As agreed by the Board of Trustees the number of Sabbatical Officer roles has decreased to four but they have agreed to have another Student Trustee position on the Board but this necessitates a change to the M&A’s   Tilda Fraser, President thanked Gina for her years of dedicated service to the students’ union. |
| Part-Time Officers Updates |
| Jannike Smye - Environment & Sustainability Officer   * Collecting signatures for a referendum regarding a more sustainable coffee option in the current Costa * Hosting a sustainable panel debate with uni staff who will update on their departments and then answer questions – 16th March, 18:00 in the Main Hall   Alex Butters – Welfare Officer   * Hosting forum regarding Mental Health Awareness * Looking at safety around alcohol   Oluwatimilehin Ajibode - International Students Officer   * Looking at opening the global buddy scheme to EU students. This is support and integration group which has also spoken about the inclusion of home students * Still trying to meet the Careers and Employability Service to discuss opportunities for international students such as placements * Met with BI to discuss an international students forum   Martins Akhemigbeze - Postgraduate Officer   * Met with Verity Lemm, VP Sport to discuss how to engage postgrads with Sports and Societies * Met the Raft team and discussed communications with postgrads |
| School Representatives Updates |
| Hannah Campbell- Deputy Biomedical Sciences   * Not everyone has access to the Your Voice app and the delay is related to needing a dedicated staff member to run it   Luke McRoy- Jones – Health Professions   * Involved in updates regarding Intercity Place * School meeting with Course Reps * Demonstration of Your Voice app which is hoped to be rolled out in September   Sam Duffield – Engineering, Computing and Maths   * Issues regarding course reps not being able to voice their concerns at SSLC/PCM for fear of personal grades being penalised * Issues around coursework and exam marking schemes not being clear   Perran Johnson - Plymouth Business School   * Attended TLQC where lecture recording was discussed, most staff don’t want to record lectures or don’t know how to. MG noted that she is still collecting feedback from both staff and students but that if students request that their lecturer use it staff should provide a valid reason why they cannot. There is inconsistent practice across the university but it should be happening. * S4 has been implemented but the app is not working consistently * Elected Alix Mullally as Deputy School Rep   Taffy Nyambuya –Psychology   * Issue that students don’t complete set reading ahead of lectures, considering how to address. * Discussed volunteering opportunities within the school * Looking at introducing a peer mentoring scheme   Emma Collins – Nursing and Midwifery   * Finalised a list of course rep names, 100 names across three sites * Co-opted two deputies for the two satellite campuses but still need to recruit one from Plymouth * Issues with deadlines during placements * Ongoing housing issue with students needing to move or extend halls contracts due to when term finishes * Changes to regulation mean that pathways need to be taught as a mixed cohort rather than individually by specialism eg adult/child/mental health nursing   Tej Morjaria - Peninsula Dental School   * Collecting student feedback – forthcoming SSLC * Issues with timetabling and long days, looking at spreading things out more   Paige O Williams   * Created a survey account as an alternative way to engage students * All rep names on SU list, looking to update information   Paris Zixuan Song   * Attended training with Student Voice last week * Issue with online payment system not showing balance so concerns students are overpaying. Further issues with statement saying they have paid Leeds University * Issues with feedback and assessment with generic feedback being used   Jessica Ubani – Law, Criminology and Government   * Trying to meet with reps within the school * Drafting survey for students |
| Sabbatical Officer Update |
| Bitty Walter – VP Wellbeing & Diversity   * Mental Health Day, 5th March – tennis club will be holding sessions * The Access and Participation team are looking for students to participate in their committee -contact Bitty if interested * Men’s Mental Health Week 23-27 March and will look at physical and mental health * Working on the best way to promote mental health services on campus   Verity Lemm – VP Sport   * Apologies no written report this time * Women in Sport activities with women only classes and gym time * Reaching out to students for nominations of inspiring women on campus to celebrate international women’s day * Varsity ticket sales are now live * Sports Strategy has been approved which will help with accountability   Tilda Fraser – President   * Online hate and harm reporting tool video is now on the web * Need to choose reps for Student Life Committee on 21st April 10:00-12:00, look out for the email about this.     Millie Green – VP Education   * SSTAR Awards nominations are now open, please promote. * Looking at guidance around staying safe of social media, just waiting for the uni to sign this off before it’s published. * Climate Advisory Group is progressing and key action points from these meetings will inform the Climate Action plan – the next meeting will be on the 24th March and discuss food and lifestyle. * Coffee, Cakes and Course Reps events for reps to raise academic issues will be taking place, all are invited. * Let’s Talk About Disability Forum set up by Millie and Bitty, all invited |
| **Board Of Trustees Update** |
| New CEO and new trustee roles as mentioned by Gina Connelly, CEO |
| AOB | Mille Green noted that Senate are meeting on 26 Feb, 14:00-17:00. Please let Millie know if able to attend. Jannike Smye, Part-time Environment and Sustainability Officer expressed an interest  Bran Carr- Malloch noted that they will stepping down from Chairing the meeting. |
| Dates for the Diary | SSTAR awards nomination open until 28th Feb  UPSU Awards open soon |
| Next Meeting | Thursday 30th April, 17:30 –Deadline for Papers = Thursday 16th April |

## Actions from this meeting

There were no actions from this meeting.