

**EDI Sub-Committee**

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| **Meeting details** | | | |
| **Meeting name** | **EDI Sub-Committee** | | |
| **Date** | 15th May 2023 | **Time** | 17:00 |
| **Location** | The Hive, Students’ Union, Plymouth Campus | | |

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| **Minutes** | |
| **1.**  **Welcome** | Josh welcomed everyone to the meeting |
| **2.**  **Attendance / Apologies** | In attendance;   * Josh Borokinni – VP Wellbeing and Diversity * Mya Symister – SECaM Rep * Olly Moody – PT Students with Disabilities Officer * Charlie Carson – Student * Daniella Marley – President * Tracy Priestman – Representation and Democracy Manager   Apologies;   * Tafadzwa Nyambuya – PT BAME Officer |
| **3.**  **Minutes of last meeting** | Approved |
| **4. Notification of any other business** | No items raised |
| **5 Matters to discuss** | Pride Update  Friday 5th May, stalls in the SU, careers, external organisations and charities. Performances from Pole dance, Acapella and MTG, PLUGS face painting. Drag show from local artists and the LGBT+ club night.  Collaboration between relevant student groups and PT officers. Whilst it was a successful event Daniella noted that the timing will be reviewed next year.  University Mentoring Programme  In discussion with the Careers service. Josh asked for feedback about mentoring.  Mya – felt that from previous experience of this, getting a good match was important, whist they were knowledgeable there was some disconnect due to differing disciplines.  Olly – no experience of this  Charles – an idea to involve societies as have more in common, agreed that need to align interests  Daniella – need to look at better signposting and knowledge of options. Feel it’s important to match to cultural aspects, disability etc as much as academic discipline.  Josh asked if background was important when it comes to a mentor.  Mya – maybe it could be part of form to express if that is relevant to that individual.  Olly though it would be valuable to have a mentor that has faced the same barriers - international students, disability etc.  Charles agreed that the shared experience was important to have a useful and meaningful experience  Access and Participation Plan  Uni asking how to improve  Mya – miscommunication/cultural difference on course taken as inappropriate behaviour. If there were opportunities for staff and students to learn about different cultures, that situation could have been avoided.  Charles – Geography e.g., all signpost students to Geog Soc, good for all students to get to know each other and engage with others. Helpful to build community in lectures.  Olly – during lockdown it was really helpful for online getting to know each other and lecturers. |
| **6. Priority work/Campaigns** | Josh noted that the Diversity Festival was cancelled due to lack of engagement from societies.  Josh then gave an update on recent activities  Men’s Health meet up – Monday 24th April, good reviews. Speakers from Togetherall, The Zone – feedback that there was focus on heterosexual relationships and the SU Gym.  Games night – partner with Switch Up for games night. Good feedback good but that once it had started it was hard for new people to join as they had to wait for a seat to become available.  Afrobeats party on Friday 12th May - again, good feedback  Mindful May/Stressless  Daniella noted that during exam periods the sabbs run a campaign giving out fruit and info in the library. This year proving a relaxed space in the lounge, tea and toast, information, fruit etc.  Give it a Go – yoga, free gym entry etc. Then mediation and pottery painting. Olly suggested doing another event with Switch Up at the end of exams.  **Action: Josh to look at Switch Up/Games night**  Community Larder  Looking at moving to a more sustainable system next year where students can purchase food at reduced price. Also, a referral scheme through the hub for those in immediate need  SU awards  This evening, to celebrate the achievement of students  Mya – has spoken about stressless to the reps and they would really like more support and greater visibility. |
| **7. Actions** | **Action: Josh to look at Switch Up/Games night** |
| **8. AOB** | None |
| **9. Dates for the diary** | None |
|  | **End of meeting** |