Societies Executive Committee Meeting 8 Minutes

06/12/23

1. Welcome and Apologies

Jo Fitzpatrick – chair

Jamie Campbell – present

Cameron Pattinson – present

Shania Maritz – present

Karen Low – present

Ollie Page – apologies

Justyna Kardasz (VP Community) – apologies

Erin Ross – clerk

1. Approve Minutes from Societies Exec 7

Members made minor suggestions for changes via email – these are all accepted

A majority of members approved minutes from 7 and 6 as not everyone received copies of 6 last time

1. Matters Arising
* Part-Time and Distance Students in Societies

Staff are working on virtual welcome activities for societies – may reach out to Socs Exec to help promote

Will get working on an Active & Engaged badge to include part-time and distance students

Will revisit how to enshrine opportunities for these student groups in Societies Policy next semester

In terms of development projects for staff/Socs Exec: we have been focusing on improving grant guidance and society awareness of committee process this semester; staff have also worked on finance training. Aim to focus on Societies Policy next semester

* Society Categories – Points of Contact

All are agreed on their society categories; all Socs Exec members’ student emails are on the website for societies to reach them more easily

* Charity Month

There is now a landing page on Strath Union website for Charity Month in February 2024

Next ask for Socs Exec is to be present at the comms call, next meeting (20th December)

Point for staff to consider: whether Socs Exec members’ societies can participate – staff to check policy and come back with reasonable guidance e.g. staying out of application, voting

* Grant Guidance

Staff updated on ongoing improvements to finance and grant webpages, training and guidance

KL comment that it’s very difficult for socs to track what funding they’ve been awarded for what – worth considering when reviewing training/producing resources to help socs understand finances

1. Budget Update

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Arts and Culture** | **General Pot** |
| **Start of year** | £15,000 | £40,000 |
| **After Exec 1** | £14,410 | £38,785.26 |
| **After Exec 2**  | £12,964.82 | £38,135.26 |
| **After Exec 3** | £10,324.82 | £36,328.79 |
| **After Exec 4** | £9780.77 | £35,233.79 |
| **After Exec 5** | £9580.77 | £34,797.26 |
| **After Exec 6** | £6957.08 | £30,723.79 |
| **After Exec 7** | £4930.68 | £28528.88 |

1. New Affiliation Requests
* Palestine Solidarity Society – re-affiliation

Note use of personal email addresses

Happy to approve

* SIPBS Society

Input from members that there is already a biomed society but notes their activities are less course-related

These students say they aren’t aware this society exists – staff to let them know and check what they want to do

Also to check what their society name stands for – this isn’t stated anywhere

Not approved for now

* Strathclyde Post-Graduate Feminist Society – re-affiliation

Again, staff to provide background to Feminist Society and check if they want to reaffiliate it or if they specifically want to set up a new PG one

In either case, committee is happy to approve

Some discussion about how students on one-year course (especially PGs) can elect new committees

1. Silver Active and Engaged Societies (£15) – Total: £15
* Musical Theatre Society (SMTS)
1. Grant Requests. Total: £677.78
* Roboboat Registration Fee – Marine Robotics Society (#1540)
	+ Requested: £677.78 (100%)
	+ Expected Income: £0
	+ Total Budget: £677.78
	+ Members: 9

Good application, great opportunity.

Note on applying for funding for specific parts of a project – we would like to see information about the project overall, so what else you’ll be paying for and how – even ‘we are paying for our own travel’.

Members noted from the handbook the society included that registration should now have closed – can they confirm if they already paid it? If so, this is retrospective and we can’t fund this part of the project.

After meeting edit: Society got in touch to provide evidence that they had been in touch with organisers to register, but have not yet paid.

Approved

1. AOCB

Staff updated that there are a small number of stall spaces left for Refreshers activity in January – discussion of societies to prioritise here – newly affiliated, media and inclusion

Staff note that next year is a university anniversary and there may be extra funding for student opportunities

Members note Strath TV will also be running 10 years next year!

Alumni Fund – staff to check in with VP Community and colleagues about the timeline for applications

Updated Budget:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
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| **After Exec 6** | £6957.08 | £30,723.79 |
| **After Exec 7** | £4930.68 | £28,528.88 |
| **After Exec 8** | £4930.68 | £27,836.10 |