Societies Executive Committee Meeting 10 Agenda

26th January 2023

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

* Tally Kerr – clerk
* Lisa Brennan – observing, online
* Justyna Kardasz
* Shreya Sachdeva
* Benn Rapson
* Emma Reavey
* Jaimie Campbell
* Sheik Malik

1. **Approve Minutes from Societies Exec 9**

BR – suggested to add into the minutes that they had said that any sports societies trying to affiliate should first be run by sports union

**Vote**: Approved pending that change

1. **Matters Arising**

LB suggests that Socs Exec should put their feedback on the societies policy proposal into the feedback form so it doesn’t get missed

Clarifies that all the proposal is suggestions from staff but staff don’t make the final decision and are open to feedback from all societies, including Societies Exec

**Action**: All Socs Exec to fill out the feedback form

LB left the meeting

1. **Budget Update**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Arts and Culture** | **General Pot** |
| **Total Budget** | £15,000.00 | £40,000.00 |
| **Exec 1 Spend** | £375.00 | £315.00 |
| **Exec 2 Spend** | £801.91 | £1540.00 |
| **Exec 3 Spend** | £690.00 | £1540.00 |
| **Exec 4 Spend** | £3566.27 | £435.00 |
| **Exec 5 Spend** | £1178.39 | £350.00 |
| **Exec 6 Spend** | £346.00 | £1691.83 |
| **Exec 7 Spend** | £227.50 | £1094.70 |
| **Exec 8 Spend** | £731.00 | £3122.80 |
| **Exec 9 Spend** | £700 | £495 |
| **Enhancing Engagement comp** |  | £500 |
| **Remaining Budget** | **£6383.93** | **£28,915.67** |

1. **New Affiliation Requests**

* Scenography Society

JK – suggests that this might clash with photo club

BR – clarifies that this society is not specifically photos, about spaces & scenery

JC – adds that they do painting & drawing too and wonders if it might clash with arts & crafts society

SS – suggests that staff should check with the soc whether there would be a clash

**Vote:** unanimously not approved

**Action:** Staff to make them aware of arts & craft and photo club and suggest they bring this request to the next meeting, specifying how they’re different to the existing societies

* Advanced Composites Group - ACG PGR

SM leaves the meeting

BR – notes that it’s good to get PGRs involved, and this is a very well put together application

**Vote**: unanimously approved

* Mature Students Networking Society (2022-23)

SM – notes that this would clash with the Mature Students Association (MSA)

TK – clarifies that she caught up about this with Sofia Khan the staff member who supports the MSA and that she has made the committee of this new society aware of the existing MSA

**Vote:** unanimously not approved

**Action:** Staff let them know about MSA

* Connecting Armed Forces Students (CAFS)

BR – raised that this might clash with existing policy from parliament that bans advertising the armed forces

TK – Clarifies that she spoke with Sofia Khan about this society as well, and Sofia clarified that family members of people in the armed forces is a widening access group, and this society is about peer support within that group. She also made them aware of the policy.

JK – adds that the aims aren’t clear that it’s about support for this WA group

SS – suggests they use a different name to avoid confusion

**Vote**: unanimously not approved

**Action**: staff get back to them with comments and ask them to resubmit for the next meeting

* Men Supporting Men

SM – suggests that it must be made clear that they must to sign post to appropriate services rather than giving advice

JK - notes that groups like hear to listen are trained in sign posting, but this society would not be

ER – notes that other societies signpost to support services without training

SS – highlights that there are lots of specific societies for women but not for men

JK – suggests there could be training for all soc committees on support services to sign post to

**Vote**: unanimously approved

**Action**: Staff send info about services they can signpost to

* Strathclyde Vegan Society

Late re-affiliation

**Vote**: unanimously approved

* Engineers With Beers Strathclyde

JK – suggested that there is already a society for all engineering students – Engineers Without Borders

SM – notes that that’s an external organisation they are affiliated with

BR – adds that all existing engineering societies are for specific courses. He also adds that it needs to be inclusive to non-drinkers, and notes that they specify that name does not have baring on activities by the society.

**Vote:** unanimously approved

1. **AGM Grant Requests (£25) – For Information. Total: £25**

* TedX

1. **Grant Requests. Total: £6867**

* Travel Society
* Grant Name: Newcastle Trip
* Grant Number #1217
* Request Amount: £16 (3%)
* Total Amount: £536

TK – noted that socs exec can grant societies more than they asked for at their discretion

JC – notes that the application is not as well thought out as last one

BR – proposed £146 so the tickets are reduced to £30 per person. They have already sold the tickets.

TK - notes that it would be a bit of a pain to refund the tickets but doable

BR – suggests that they could spend the extra on food or something else for the trip

SM – adds that it’s good how much they’re willing to fund

**Vote**: granted £146 from Arts & culture, approved unanimously

* Skateboarding society
* Grant Name: 2023 StrathSkate x Barcelona Trip
* Grant Number #1218
* Request Amount: £6851 (84%)
* Total Amount: £8111

SM – notes that at the last meeting Socs Exec gave lots of feedback and doesn’t look like it’s been actioned

BR – adds that they’re now suggesting a fundraiser

JC – adds that the fundraiser hasn’t happened yet, and that they don’t know they’ll raise that much

BR – notes that only 24 people going on the trip

ER – suggests that the grant rules for conferences could apply

SM – suggests that it would be ok if it was equipment for an event or competition & it benefits future years, but this is just 24 people getting a heavily subsidised trip and there is little evidence of member or club development. He also wonders why the attendees haven’t been asked to contribute to the costs

ER – Adds that they’re creating links with university of Barcelona

BR – Adds that Barcelona is skateboarding capital of the world

SM – Suggests that it’s different to eg. Travel society who’s whole purpose is to travel. They need to clarify the nature of the trip & how it will develop the society

BR – Notes that it would help recruit more members if people know they’ve run this trip before, especially if it becomes a recurring trip. Socs Exec have funded trips all over the world for more than 2 people. This isn’t a conference so can’t apply the conference rule, and they have suggested part funding

SM – Notes that alumni applications will be open then

BR – Replies that they can’t rely on this and it might be too late for booking travel and accommodation

ER – Suggests funding half - £3425, this would leave around £145 pp + fundraising would mean individuals would pay around £50 each. She also adds to they could signpost to the participation fund for anyone struggling to meet the costs

BR – Highlights that students are paying for the flights & travel, this is just not listed as part funding

JC – Also adds that they will need to get their own travel insurance too

SM – Suggests that the society could seek sponsorships eg. Skateboard brands

JK – Notes that they’re a new society, and so they would need more help to find sponsorships for June, and the prices will likely go up.

JC – Wonders where they got the food costs from

BR – Notes that it’s all cultural food, and that Socs Exec has a lot of money left

SM – Proposes part fund for cost of accommodation & that members take on food & drink cost

ER – Notes that the board bag luggage fee is essential

SM – Suggests funding half from arts & culture and half from general pot

BR – Suggests giving them more money, we went back to them about part funding, they have come back with a way to raise over £1k. They need to get it booked soon to give assurance that it’s happening & before prices go up, so they won’t have long to do more fundraising. It supports the society & is cultural, and will give memorable experience to those students that they associate with Strathclyde.

ER – Suggests giving them full accommodation & bag fee £6456 – (£3228 from each pot)

BR – Notes that this would clear most of the art & culture pot

ER – Notes that arts & culture projects can come from either pot, arts & culture funding can only be used for art & cultural events

BR – Suggests splitting it so more comes from general pot

**Vote**: Granted £4228 from general pot and £2228 from arts & culture for accommodation & board bags, unanimously approved

* SUSO
* Grant Name: Semester 2 Music
* Grant Number #1222
* Request Amount: £200.89 (68%)
* Total Amount: £297.99

ER – notes that this is core equipment

**Vote**: £200.89 funded fully from arts & culture, unanimously approved

* Video game society
* Grant Name: New Core Equipment
* Grant Number #1219
* Request Amount: £75.46 (67%)
* Total Amount: £113.46

BR – Likes that they consulted with members to find out what they want

SM – Notes that they have part funded, and they’re not asking for much

**Vote**: £75.46 funded fully from general pot, unanimously approved

* Strath Speakers
* Grant Name: Presentation Delivery Workshop: What your degree course doesn't teach you!
* Grant Number #1221
* Request Amount: £800 (67%)
* Total Amount: £1200

ER – Notes that they’ve run this before as a pilot, this seems to be to run it again. Have alumni fund money already

BR – Notes that they are part funding by selling tickets

**Vote**: £800 funded fully from general pot, unanimously approved

* LGBT+ Society
* Grant Name: Gayilidh
* Grant Number #1216
* Request Amount: £300 (-75%)
* Total Amount: £-400

ER – Notes that this is a fundraising event so profit is going to charity

**Vote**: £300 fully funded from general pot

1. **AOB**

* Charity month

JK – Suggests that since Socs Exec are running the Enhancing Engagement competition there is no need for charity month this year

ER – Agrees and suggests they focus on star awards after the competition

ER – Also notes that previously Charity Month has not had that huge engagement, and that some categories only had 1 application

SM – Adds that the few that applied did great projects

JK – Notes that Enhancing Engagement competition also rewards that

**Vote**: no charity month this year

* Enhancing Engagement

JK – Updates Socs Exec after she met with the communications team. This is being added to the society committee newsletter and all student email, there will be graphics on union website, Socs Exec can tag the Union in stories to promote, and Socs Exec can film a video explaining what the competition is about to make it personal.

ER – Notes that society committees don’t always read emails

**Action**: Comms will come to film the video at the end of the next meeting

* Discord

JK – Notes that there has been feedback from societies that they would like an easier way to get in touch with their rep. JK has set up a discord, with voice chats disabled. Societies can contact their reps directly, with a channel for each group. Socs Exec members can also add their emails on there too if preferred.

ER – Suggests they encourage everyone to join at the GM next week. She also suggests setting up a pinned message setting days and times you will reply to messages. Also suggests setting up a discord channel to share things for Instagram

BR – Raises concerns around content moderation and ensuring the space remains constructive & positive, and about discord being used as part of the Union

TK – suggests having community guidelines to clarify what is expected, and what the group is and is not for. As volunteers if there is any bullying or abuse in the group everyone is protected by the disciplinary policy, there will be zero tolerance.

JK – clarifies that the discord will not be an official union channel, just peer to peer support, and that societies have asked Socs Exec to communicate better

ER – suggests adding communicating with individuals into the intersoc rep role description, and that the discord can just be used to highlight the intersoc rep’s email if the preferred way to communicate

JK – adds that it will be optional for societies to join

**Action**: JK to write community guidelines with staff support

* GM

JK – new socs exec member will be elected

JK – Asked for suggestions for questions for GM menti-meter

BR – notes that it can be intimidating for people to speak up at the GM so menti-meter is a good way for them to ask any questions

JK – At GM Socs exec talk about experience to encourage people to run for next year

Allocated who will speak on certain parts at the GM

**Action**: JK & staff set deadline for applications for Socs Exec next year

* SM – notes that Socs Exec don’t usually have this much money left this time of year, and suggests to encourage applications for core equipment

**Action**: staff claim back unused welcome grants for semester 1

* ER – Highlights that Nominate HER is open
* ER – Highlights the FAQ doc for grant applications

**Action**: All socs exec to contribute to this

Meeting ends

**Total grants awarded:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Arts and Culture | General Pot |
| **Exec 10 Spend** | £2,574.89 | £5,428.46 |
| **Remaining Budget** | **£4,184.04** | **£23,487.21** |