Societies Executive Committee Meeting 12 Minutes

07/02/2024

In attendance: Jo Fitzpatrick JF, Ollie Page OP, Shania Maritz SM, Jamie Campbell JC

Chair: Justyna Kardasz (VP Community) JK

Clerk: Natalie Brayshaw (Activities Coordinator) NB

1. Welcome and Apologies
   * Apologies from Karen Low
   * Apologies from Cameron Pattinson who expects to join the meeting halfway through
2. Approve Minutes from Societies Exec 11
   * Vote: minutes approved (amendment to Jo’s initials)
3. Matters Arising

* Chinese New Year event – Jubilee yes confirmed, they have discussed with University
* AGM food and joint quiz prize with sports – both of these will happen on the same night, potential for joint buffet and Battle of the Societies and Sport; no confirmation as of yet

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** | £6992.08 | £30,723.79 |
| **After Exec 7** | £4962.68 | £28,528.88 |
| **After Exec 8** | £4962.68 | £27,836.10 |
| **After Exec 9** | £4783.02 | £27,592.10 |
| **After Exec 10** | £4783.02 | £27,592.10 |
| **After Exec 11** | £4497.02 | £25,017.10 |

1. New Affiliation Requests

* SUBS – Strathclyde University Bulgarian Society
  + Check area code for Treasurer’s number
  + Approved
* Poetry Society
  + Discussed if this was distinct enough from English Society and Book Club – yes
  + Approved
* Future Teachers Society
  + Good that they have reached out to Education Society; queried whether this was different enough
  + More event-based rather than studying
  + Could be sports leaders / tutoring; any form of teaching
  + So long as this is distinct enough on the website
  + Approved
* Fashion Enthusiasts Society
  + SM – if affiliated, they must hold and EGM to elect members
  + Approved

**Cameron joined the meeting**

* United Kannadigas Society
  + Want to start two societies; reached out to JC
  + Queried whether they have reached out to the Indian Society
  + Not enough distinction between this and Karnataka Connect
  + Reached out to JK re. applying; Treasurer not currently formal student and so cannot affiliate the society.
  + Staff to reach out to both societies to suggest either working together, or defining differences. Reach out to Indian Society. If sorted within two weeks, we can revisit
* Karnataka Connect
  + As above; no vote

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

* SEDS (Students for the Exploration and Development of Space)

1. Grant Requests. Total: £9900.96

* SUSO & SUCB (Symphony Orchestra & Concert Band) – E flat clarinet (#1564)

Requested: £450 (32%)

Expected Income: £0

Total Budget: £1450

Members: 35 + 64 (across both societies)

* + JC – like that it is part funded;
  + OP – good application overall
  + JF – cost comparisons; sustainable
  + Approved from General
* Economics Society – Alumni-Student Networking Event (#1570)

Requested: £244.9 (100%)

Expected Income: £0

Total Budget: £244.9

Members: 4

* + JK– evidence does not include a venue; no part funding; very small number of students
  + Reach out to SM and come back to us
  + OP – No comparative evidence; food is expensive
  + SM – premature application; look at events to grow membership rather than specialised events
  + Not approved
* Bands at Strathclyde – Replacement of stolen guitars (#1573)

Requested: £600 (59%)

Expected Income: £0

Total Budget: £600

Members: 39

* + JK raised that the guitars had been stolen from the cupboard
  + JF was aware of this; was under the impression the Union had been informed.
  + Part of Welcome Desk end of night checks is that the socs cupboard door is shut – often find is propped open.
  + JC – there are a lot of instruments there; potential need for a cage
  + Potential to check Royal College
  + CP – cannot fund this until there is evidence these have been stolen
  + OP – code has not been changed; this should be looked at
  + Staff to ensure that Welcome Desk staff are checking the cupboard is locked
  + Not approved due to lack of information – feed back that this should have been reported; list reporting processes
* Boardgame Society – New Boardgames (#1575)

Requested: £77.44 (70%)

Expected Income: £0

Total Budget: £110.64

Members: 80

* + JC – they said they had savings to buy these games; want to use 30% of savings and keep the rest for events
  + SM – good evidence of research
  + OP – happy that members have been polled
  + Approved from General
* Engineers Without Borders – EGM (#1576)

Requested: £15 (100%)

Expected Income: £0

Total Budget: £15

Members: 39

* + Retrospective funding – not approved.
  + NOTE: this is actually a wrongly categorised AGM grant and as such £25 has been awarded
* LGBTQ+ Society – Gaylidh (#1568)

Requested: £150 (100%)

Expected Income: £0

Total Budget: £150

Members: 127

* + JF – did intend to put in last year’s attendance; 50 attended last year
  + JC – good that they have done cost comparisons and found a ceilidh band who are Strath
  + OP – like the collaboration
  + Use #CharityMonth2024
  + Approved from General
* Aerospace Innovation (StrathAIS) – Spaceport America Cup 2024: Transport Hire and Flight Computer (#1579)

Requested: £1624.25 (100%)

Expected Income: £0

Total Budget: £1624.25

Members: 74

* + Queries whether this project has been funded within this academic year; yes it has.
  + Send policy to the society; check meeting notes from last application.
  + Suggested sitting down with the faculty for funding
  + Not approved – cannot fund for same event twice
* Women+ in Leadership (WILN+) – CelebrateHer Ball (#1585)

Requested: £1269.44 (15%)

Expected Income: £5500

Total Budget: £8438.11

Members: 105

* + JC – NET budget does not match where additional funds are coming from
  + Potential confusion around what is defined as a ball; this is also an awards ceremony
  + SM – potential to fund aspects of it e.g. the awards
  + JK – potential to fund Ceilidh Band at £400; trophies £225; personalised cookies £278; total = £903. Funding awards aspect only. In future, current policy is we don’t fund balls. Can only fund parts which are not ball
  + Part-approved £903 from General
* Fusion Radio – SRA Conferenece (#1580)

Requested: £600 (100%)

Expected Income: £0

Total Budget: £600

Members: 21

* + JF – not fully completed application
  + JC – queried where the £1000 is coming from need full breakdown of costs
  + JC – queried who is driving the cars; clarity around petrol costs
  + Reapply – JC to speak to the society. Potential to take public transport with sustainability in mind
  + Not approved
* Concert Band (SUCB) – National Concert Band Festival: Final (#1565)

Requested: £2515 (52%)

Expected Income: £1045

Total Budget: £5975

Members: 64z

* + Reapplication
  + SM – happy with how points have been addressed both in application and email
  + Approved from General
* Mary’s Meals – Kiltwalk (#1581)

Requested: £100 (50%)

Expected Income: £100

Total Budget: £200

Members: 30

* + Approved from General
* Walking Women Strath (WWS) – Core Equipment for Committee (#1583)

Requested: £74.10 (100%)

Expected Income: £0

Total Budget: £74.10

Members: 32

* + SM – first aid kit is fine but hoodies are not essential, however safety vests would be fine
  + Happy for First Aid however there needs to be more of a justification for the hoodies, as they are personal - potential for it to be on a luminous vest (e.g. if it is for safety). Share policy with them re. ordering hoodies
  + Reach out to Jo if they want help with future applications
  + Part approved - £10.99 for First Aid kit; can come back to us for safety vests
* Motorsport (USM) – Formula Student Germany 2024 Portal Funding (#1582)

Requested: £2000 (12%)

Expected Income: £0

Total Budget: £17868.74

Members: 252

* + SM – shared context; on waiting list for Germany, one team dropped out so they were invited as only UK team. Have paid entry fee, but this is to part-fund student attendance
  + JK – evidence of entry fee already being paid, this has not been requested back
  + JK – great application; can subsidise costs for individuals more as £400 is still a lot of money. Fund an extra £300 per person?
  + OP – don’t want people to miss out due to cost
  + Expected attendance of 15, x £300 = £6000; this lowers the budget a lot
  + Potential to look at participation fund (this has been topped up)
  + Want to subsidise costs per participant, it must go to this
  + Approved £4,000 from General
* Malaysian Society (SUMSOC) – Lunar New Year Gathering and Lunar New Year Dinner (#1584)

Requested: £180.83 (100%)

Expected Income: £0

Total Budget: £180.83

Members: 37

* + Reapplication
  + JF – have added information around other collaborators
  + OP – society never reached out
  + CP – no clarification around
  + 20 – 25 students from
  + OC – queried why Singapore Society have not applied for funding
  + JC – total cost split among 6 collaborating societies, 20 from SUMSOC and SUSS – want to reduce to £22 per head
  + JK – what are they actually requesting; these will not arrive in time for event
  + Can subsidise £6 per person but cannot subsidise decoration as this will not arrive on time
  + £30 for decorations / material costs not funded; already purchased so retrospective
  + Part-approved; £150 subsidiary cost from Arts & Culture

1. AOCB

* Welfare Officer Position
  + This will be advised but not enforced this academic year; it will take time
  + Training and support will be offered
* Concerns re. specific society
  + Faculty approached JK re. concern around how money is spent, they receive finance from faculty each year
  + Used to be an agreement between the society and the faculty; Covid de-railed this and there is not an up-to-date agreement
  + Faculty were looking for advice; this was to communicate with the society
  + JK will share societies policy with faculty
  + Check minutes for this society’s mini-grant application system; and their Instagram
  + JK, Erin and Natalie to discuss
* Gatekeeping of Committee Positions (e.g. requirement of previously being on committee)
  + This should not be allowed
  + This is in current policy, but should be highlighted in comms to societies
* Welcome Grant
  + Can this still be claimed? Yes, but get it in ASAP (subsequently clarified that no, this deadline has passed, unless this is a newly affiliated / recently reaffiliated society)
* Travel Society
  + Did not elect committee democratically, staff to follow up
* Events not hosted on Native
  + Has been spotted on societies social media over the past weeks
  + This is against societies policy; should be flagged immediately and asked to take down
* Grant Application System
  + Potential to provide further info within the portal to students who are applying
  + Staff to follow up