Societies Executive Committee Meeting 3 Agenda

27/09/2023

1. Welcome and Apologies

* Apologies from Olivia

1. Approve Minutes from Societies Exec 2

* Approved

1. Matters Arising
   1. Jazz Orchestra Sheet Music – Retrospective Application (GAS System Down)

* Habitual funding application
* Will apply for further costs later on
* Socs exec chose to include that they stan music
* Socs exec happy to fund them in full from Arts and Culture
* We thank Erin for having to deal with GAS failure and the finance system and manually having to deal with societies and ensuring that they have all their materials.
  1. USM “
* Exec review of policy – are we able to fund printing flyers? Task for student engagement – review finance training to check what is said about grant funding.
* Grant Guidelines state we do not fund advertising/promotional material so decision is not to fund – can advise to use their Welcome Grant towards it and point out the relevant guidance.
  1. Nigeria Society – additional information for previous request
* Using info from emails between Phil and Rachel, she is heavily involved in communications with Nigerian society.
* Applied for £600 in Socs Exec 2, part funding for their event, £300 already granted for union building to be open on Sunday. Remaining £300 waiting for more information. PA system doesn’t cost extra, they have to provide DJ. Not full information, Erin and Phil meeting with society tomorrow to gain more info. Assuming money is being used on DJ, food and decorations but need clear costings.
* Exec discussed the issue with the lack of evidence provided as to what the money would be spent on, discussion of conditions placed on funding e.g. provision of evidence, receipts/numbers of what money is being spent on. With this information, socs exec would be happy to consent over email to this remaining grant.
* Erin to get information from society via meeting with commercial colleagues about this event

1. Budget Update

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | Arts and Culture | General Pot |
| Start of year | £15,000 | £40,000 |
| Exec 1 | £14,410 | £38,785.26 |
| Exec 2 | £12,964.82 | £38,135.26 |

* Erin gave information of budget journal from finance, and the change in finance pots
* Justyna asked Erin to send budget update for GM slides

1. New Affiliation Requests

* Katwig Kare Foundation Society

**Similar to Mary’s meals in that they use the student group to donate to an external charity.**

**Exec liked the look of it, suggested to mention they can’t use grant money to donate to a charity and get in touch with the volunteer coordinator.**

**APPROVED**

* Strath Yoga Society – reaffiliation

**Guidance suggestion – no cash fees, could be disadvantageous if sign up is per class, suggests a flat fee for the year.**

**Email is Hotmail, suggests the use of student email rather than personal email.**

**Check for professional qualifications of ‘Yoga Instructor’ membership based on safety, and whether the society will be paying them, and is there a precedent for this e.g. music, language café. Ask Tally concerning profit/membership. Suggests connection with strath sports.**

**APPROVED**

* Education Studies Society – reaffiliation

**(course-related)**

**APPROVED**

* Strathclyde Communist Society – reaffiliation

**Reach out and ask for more info e.g. when Is their AGM, concerning members/roles**

**MENTION AT GM the importance of democratic process of committee elections**

**APPROVED**

* Food Society

**Exec raised the fact that there was a food sharing society and it could be similar. Question of membership fee.**

**Suggestion to include surnames of committee members.**

**Suggestion to formalise email address e.g. food@strath.ac.uk**

**APPROVED**

* Strath Speechies – reaffiliation

**APPROVED**

* Strathclyde Podcast Society – reaffiliation

**APPROVED**

* Arts & Crafts Society – reaffiliation

**Issue raised - person who made application is not a committee member, something to include in policy discussion.**

**APPROVED**

* Strathclyde Skateboarding – reaffiliation

**APPROVED**

* Strathclyde Filipino Society – reaffiliation

**Suggestion of category change.**

**APPROVED**

* Strathclyde Rock and Metal Society

**Check if year of email of president is correct, currently 2013.**

**Does this clash with band society?**

**APPROVED**

* Computer & Electronic Systems & People in Technology (CESPiT)

**Checked for other ‘computer’ societies – go-computing, not currently affiliated.**

**APPROVED**

**NOTES**

Socs exec suggested more guidance for requests, especially considering committee members and their lack of existence in application, perhaps stress the need for EGMs.

Issues of categories raised; societies should only be able to pick one category that matches the website, something to talk to intersoc rep/union about. What society goes under which culture, especially faith and culture/community.

1. Welcome Grant Requests (£45) – For Information. Total: £990 (**Double numbers because of GAS failure)**

* Ukrainian Support Society
* African Caribbean Society
* WILN+
* EEE Society
* Law Society
* Jazz Orchestra
* Sci-Fi Society
* Mooting Society
* Musical Theatre
* Malaysian Society
* Travel Society
* Re-Act
* Advanced Composites Group PGR
* TedX
* Nepalese Society
* SUHABS
* Strath Speakers
* Calisthenics Society
* Piano Society
* Esports Society
* Chess Society
* Modern Foreign Languages Social Network

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

* Engineers with Beers

1. Grant Requests. Total: £4738.26

* USM
* Promotion flyers and leaflets for society
* Requested amount: £80.99 (100%)
* 118 members

**\*see matters arising – rejected**

* Fusion
* Wix website
* Requested amount: £100.80
* 13 members

**Application is subpar – not enough detail of difference to last application, no comparison of website builder options, no expected expenditure or outcome. Lack of explanation of reason for exact price with lack of comparative costings (perhaps issue of lack of guidance, opportunity for training).**

**Socs exec looking for more information so that they are not having to dig out for more information.**

**Suggests they consider part funding/other finance opportunities, insert list of societies who do applications well for advice.**

**There was a consideration of consequences of non-funding, e.g can society afford to continue without funding**

**Please approach socs exec media rep Jamie for information/assistance.**

**REJECTED**

* SNAME
* WES Symposium accommodation & transport
* Requested amount: £1125
* 10 members

**Exec questioned whether they had reached out to their department.**

**Missing a detailed budget breakdown, where other potential funding is coming from.**

**Have other societies been funded for their department for conferences, if denied have they been pointed in the correct department.**

**Issue of funding for student benefit – should the university be more involved**

**Do hotel cost comparison but for all please**

**REJECTED – until further evidence is provided.**

* StrathAIS
* Rocketry project expenses
* Requested amount: £791.47
* 131 members

**Tell us where else funding is/isn’t coming from for this – department?**

**Agree to fund**

* Concert Band
* Band camp residential
* Requested amount: £2640
* 23 members

**Happy to fund from Arts and Culture**

1. AOCB
   1. Electing new member of Socs Exec

* Justyna showed graphic for new member/allocations of representative categories, consensus was positive, exec was happy with their roles.
* Justyna carried out a pronoun check and updated the graphic accordingly.
* Exec pointed out that one of the candidates was a fresher and not a committee member, Justyna checked and confirmed that there was no requirement of someone to run for exec to be in a committee. Something to be looked at as a recommendation for changing the policy- to disallow people who are on committees on the basis of knowing how a society works especially concerning grant applications, they appreciate the wanting to get involved but it is a huge undertaking for an inexperienced soc member. They would also not be included in the existing group of GM attendees/ committee members.
* Old policy did require applicants for socs exec to be in a committee in the last two years – this has been lost in the new policy.
* President vs practice – is it fair, should inexperienced candidates be steered to a new role in the interest of appropriate support.
* Erin suggested that it would not be a good idea to let applicants stand who are not on committees. The exec agreed that that precedent should be set.
* On the website this detail is not in the policy, however t should have been included in the transition of policies. This exec has concluded that people who have not been in a committee in the past two years should not be allowed to run for socs exec and this will be resolved and reflected in the policy ASAP.
  1. Societies competition for 2023/24
  2. GM discussion:
* Justyna ran over GM socs exec responsibilities – She placed emphasis on the fact that Socs exec must attend as exec, not just within societies.
* Justyna ran over the PowerPoint for the GM and each question that will be poised on Menti
* Exec suggested to highlight roles of university and union within room bookings and why there may be frustrations and inconsistencies. Justyna will highlight the fact that the union want to hear frustrations and is looking to collate issues with room bookings in order to raise them. There was a discussion of the best way to handle society’s frustrations with the system.
* The exec also suggested some more questions to ask the societies e.g., ‘what do you want from your intersoc rep?’
* Justyna will update budget update ppt before GM
* Justyna and Erin discussed the changes they made with Active and Engaged to make it easier to access
* Jamie raised the fact that there are no silver societies on the union website – Erin explained that it was probably to do with re-affiliations and is something that will be solved.
* Justyna will follow up with rachael for her slides.
* Discussion of where the slide titled: Where does the intersoc project go next? Should go. Decision was to ask the question later on when more people knew what intersoc reps were, e .g. next agm
* Erin will check about bookability of sustainability hub.
* Justyna will check with Alison about Christmas Markets, Erin highlighted that there is not a confirmed date but it is a good idea to highlight to societies.
* Successful grant request slide – the socs exec discussed what elements they would speak about.
  1. Battles of the societies discussion
* Not many signups, push on advertising it individually

**Budget Update:**

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| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **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 |

**Next Meeting:** 11/10/23 @ 2pm