**Societies Executive Committee Meeting 7 Minutes**

**20/11/24**

1. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies from Olivia Page

Jamie Campbell (VP Community) unable to attend

Chep Jackson (CJ) – chair

Shania Maritz (SM)

Cameron Pattinson (CP)

Rachael Baird (RB)

Jo Fitzpatrick (JF)

Erin Ross (Activities Coordinator) – clerk

1. Matters Arising
	* GM next week reminder – 5.30-7.30pm in Mandela
	* Charity Year – reminder that societies can enter their Semester 1 fundraising total up until **18th December**. Entries to be discussed and winner chosen at last meeting of semester on this date
	* Social Media Content – Socs Exec and JC are working on their introductory social media posts, these will be finished and go up soon. Once they are up we will plan what further info societies might need from Socs Exec and when next semester
2. Budget Update: <https://www.strathunion.com/groups/societies-exec/>
* Welcome grant pot balance getting low

Committee wish to set aside an additional £1200 for Welcome Grants – this can always be reclaimed to the general pot if unspent

1. New Affiliation Requests
2. Reaffiliations (for information)
3. Welcome Grant Requests (£45) – For Information. Total: £135
* Postgraduate Psychology Society
* Biomedical Engineering Society
* British Sign Language
1. Grant Requests. Total: £13100.23

**Re-Act Theatre - Treasure Island: The Pantomime #1802**

* Amount: £890 (100% of £890 total) from Arts & Culture
* 67 Memberships.
* Grant request not filled out correctly – only included the income they are requesting from the committee, rather than all the income the project will have e.g. ticket sales
* Society provide good evidence and explanation for the fluctuation in cost and what they will do if expenditure is different from the request
* Happy to fund from Arts & Culture

**Jazz Orchestra - Rehearsal Music for our 2024/25 repertoire #1806**

* Amount: £707.5 (100%)
* 77 Memberships
* Spreadsheet is thorough
* Society explains their method of part-funding this by self-funding the printing of music they already own – can you provide a figure for this and include it in your project expenditure?
* Query – if this figure is provided, happy to fund

**Chemical Engineering - Frank Morton Chemical Engineering Sports Day #1809**

* Amount: £5734 (100%) from Arts & Culture
* 103 Memberships
* Expensive buses – have you compared quotes?
* Based on these numbers, 1 49-seater would be going with only 3 people in it – not efficient
* Do you have evidence that there is interest from this number of students? Take a poll etc.
* Since we only have information about the transport, there are some logistical and health and safety questions missing here – specifically are you planning to not get accommodation and just stay out all night?
* Society needs to complete Trip Authorisation, Student Travel Declaration and Risk Assessment – if the above is the plan, this probably wouldn’t be approved by socs team
* Not much information about the project – committee did some social media sleuthing but you should provide this information
* Not funded at this time – please get in touch with your Socs Exec point of contact (SM) to discuss your application before resubmitting

**Architecture 131 - Attending conference - RIAS Live #1810**

* Amount: £48 (100%)
* 44 Memberships
* Lack of information about the project – the 2 x ticket sales probably aren’t the only expenditure e.g. how are you getting there? Are these the only members wanting to go, or are there more members going and funding themselves?
* Need information about how these two members going to this conference will benefit the whole society – and perhaps how the two members getting to go are chosen
* This is in two days so highly suspect this would be retrospective funding – are you actually waiting to see if you get this funding to purchase these tickets?
* Wouldn’t be against funding this activity if the application were completed better
* Note also that society can afford to pay from their Savings
* Not funding

**THE GIST - Print of GIST magazine issue 17 #1811**

* Amount £163.8 (100%)
* 14 Memberships
* This is a reapplication which would be important for the society to state – and explain how you have addressed the committee’s feedback
* Committee asked for info about why using this provider – you have said ‘because we used them before’ – this isn’t evidence and cost comparison should be provided
* Committee would like to see a plan for funding domain for future issues/years – will this need to be renewed annually and do you intend to apply to this committee each year for funding? This is discouraged
* Is this the costs to print the copies that will be distributed at Strathclyde? Note that this committee only funds activities that benefit Strath students
* Query – if society can clarify what the printings costs will go to and provide cost comparison for printers, committee would be happy to fund

**USM - FSUK 2025 Competition Fee and Race Suits #1814**

* Amount: £4516.93 (41% of £11147.62 total)
* 394 Memberships
* Very thorough application, very well-evidenced, good part-funding
* Minor discussion about cost per student and vehicle hire comparison – resolved within the application
* Happy to fund – good luck!

**Symphony Orchestra - SUSO Trip to Prague #1819**

* Amount: £1040 (21% of £4965.53) from Arts & Culture
* 121 Memberships
* Project is really well-explained, evidenced and part-funded
* Would be good to see some accommodation comparison – even just to evidence why the hotel you have selected is best e.g. ‘X other hotel is further out and more expensive’
* Appreciate the clarity on what they have already bought and why
* Not funding from Arts & Culture as it’s a trip
* Happy to fund from General Pot

**Bands at Strathclyde - Xmas Concert 2024 and general upgrades to accommodate our now larger number of members than before #1818**

* Amount: £500 (56% of £907.55) from Arts & Culture
* 132 Memberships
* JF – some evidence isn’t as strong, going through it they would be happy to fund £500 of this
* Most of committee are happy with sound engineer, ME90 boards and cables
* Society should speak to socs about more boxes for the socs cupboard – staff team can provide these
* Happy to fund from General Pot

**Chinese Students & Scholars Association - Chinese Society Christmas Ceilidh Night**

* Amount: £2000 (99% of £2036.78) from Arts & Culture
* 44 Memberships
* Have had some issues submitting evidence
* Thorough application – cost comparison document is excellent
* Happy to fund from General Pot

Committee funded last two requests from General Pot to protect Arts & Culture as it is getting low

1. AOCB

Action on staff to put together some guidance on the common issues we are still seeing frequently with grant requests – especially around demonstrating the whole project, all the income and expenditure – not just what you are requesting from the committee

Calisthenics got back in touch about the condition of their grant funding – they weren’t funded for Creative Cloud as it was to be explored whether access could be shared among other societies. ER to follow up with JC about Fusion and access

Committee raises recent communications from union about music societies’ Arts & Culture funding –impacted societies are welcome to contact Lisa Brennan (Opportunities Manager) to discuss their individual situation. Societies are keen to understand if they can apply to Socs Exec to supplement funds already budgeted for – ER confirms that they absolutely can

Committee notes ER moving to an Advice role in Strath Union so this will be her last meeting