



Student Council Meeting Summary

6pm, Monday 7th November 2011, Students' Union Space, Stafford

Due to an accident on the motorway the Chair of Student Council was slightly late for the meeting, so Kim Hargreaves stepped in to open the meeting, as a Deputy Chair of Council was to be elected during the course of the meeting.

The Chair welcomed three new Student Councillors who had been elected the previous week in the By-Election; Sam Richardson, Louise Crane and Purnachandarrao Eravelli. The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as an accurate record apart from a slight grammatical error and the action points relevant to those present at the meeting had been completed. Student Council accepted the reports from the full time officers.

Election of the Deputy Chair and Students to Attend University Committees

Although not present at the meeting due to illness, Vic Casambros was elected as the Deputy Chair of Student Council, meaning he would chair Student Council if the Chair was delayed or unavailable. There was space for one more student to attend the University committee Academic Board alongside the President Jamie Robertson and the Education and Welfare Officer Kim Hargreaves; and for two students to attend the Student Experience Committee alongside Jamie Robertson and Student Activities Officer Gary Richardson. Many students put themselves forward to attend Academic Board and the Student Experience Committee, with Sam Richardson being elected to attend Academic Board and Purnachandarrao Eravelli and Lawrence Parkes elected to attend the Student Experience Committee.

Suspension of Edward Bauer, Blackboard and Suggestion Cards

There was a discussion about the suspension of Edward Bauer, Vice President Education at the University of Birmingham Guild of Students, but Student Council voted not to involve Staffordshire University Students' Union in these events. There was also a discussion about Blackboard and the difficulties some students have accessing it and not having necessary items available for their course. It was highlighted that this was not an issue for all students and that research should be done to identify departments and students who need help. Rory Wilde will work with Kim Hargreaves on this.

There was a discussion about using existing Suggestion Cards to promote awareness of Student Council. It was agreed that significant suggestions would be brought to Student Council, that a promotion of Student Council would be added to responses to suggestion cards and that posters about Student Council could be placed near the suggestion cards. The officer team will follow this up.

STARs, Gender Neutral Toilets and Union Forums

There was a long discussion about STARs and how they are elected, which was brought by Student Rowan Ashe. The item intended to mandate the full time officer responsible to work with the University to update policy and develop a better system for electing STARs.

Kim Hargreaves accepted the mandate and informed Student Council that the Students' Union were currently working with the University to update the policy regarding representation and were doing all they could to improve the programme, which had only been running for two years. Student Denise Ashe agreed to work with Kim Hargreaves and Rowan Ashe withdrew the item, with the Students' Union agreeing to continue improving the programme.

There were also discussions about Gender Neutral Toilets, strikes, Union forums and Wednesday afternoons; for more details on this or any matter discussed at this meeting please see the minutes which will be available soon at <http://www.staffsunion.com/union/council/resources/>.

Time, Date and Place of the Next Meeting

6pm, Monday 5th December 2011, Cadman Conference Room, Stoke