

# **Societies & Sports Student Executive February (Additional Meeting) Minutes**

Smallman Stephen - 01/02/2018

<b>Meeting attended by:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quadri Azzan (Chair)</li> <li>• Kobby Ofori (Sabbatical Officer)</li> <li>• Molly Marshall (Sports Rep.)</li> <li>• Hatty Ruddick (Society Rep.)</li> <li>• Tom Taylor (Society Rep.)</li> <li>• Andy Hargreaves (Head of Opportunities &amp; Wellbeing – not participating).</li> <li>• Stephen Smallman (Student Opportunities Coordinator – not participating).</li> </ul>
<b>Apologies:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nathan Hall (Society Rep.)</li> </ul>
<b>Absences:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Izadora Kervin (Sports Rep.)</li> <li>• Evie Adams (Society Rep.)</li> </ul>
<b>Date and time:</b>	Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> February, 1300-1400hrs.
<b>Location:</b>	Aden Abdullah Boardroom, University House, M5 4RB
<b>Secretary:</b>	N/A – SS taking minutes
<b>Agenda Topic #1:</b>	Online Elections for Societies & Sports Clubs
<b>Notes:</b>	<p>AH &amp; SS explain the reasoning behind implementing online elections, that it was trialled with some groups last year, but that there was clearly not sufficient student consultation this academic year and that communication to students was an issue.</p> <p>SS informed committee of feedback from groups – that the dates were too close, there wasn't enough consultation, that it should be an optional system, but that the system itself wasn't an issue.</p> <p>AH presented three options to the committee – that groups could either opt in to the system, opt out of the system, or to close the system down entirely for this academic year.</p> <p>SS put NH's vote forward in their absence, to have it as an opt in system, and that the dates were too close as people are still finding their feet in the groups.</p> <p>KO raised that they were in favour of the system to ensure groups have a correct handover and election of a new committee.</p> <p>TT agreed that it was necessary to implement to stop groups hand-picking committee year on year, and that there needs to be a degree of Union oversight.</p> <p>HR raised that groups did not want it to detract from their AGMs, and worries that it would limit campaigning and questioning opportunities for candidates and voters.</p>

	<p>AH explained that there was every opportunity to do these things and for it not to detract from them, but that this was evidently not communicated well enough. Also that the online system is flexible enough to accommodate videos, extended manifestos etc...</p> <p>QA, KO, HR, MM, &amp; TT agreed unanimously on an opt out option for groups.</p> <p>SS proposes dates as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groups must opt out by 8<sup>th</sup> February</li> <li>• Nominations open 12<sup>th</sup> February and close 28<sup>th</sup> February</li> <li>• Voting runs from 12<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March.</li> </ul> <p>This allows groups the chance to convey Q&amp;A sessions, and/or have an AGM and include online voting as part of the meeting.</p> <p>QA, KO, HR, MM, &amp; TT agree unanimously.</p> <p>KO explains the importance to emphasise why the process to moving to online elections is key and how it will help students.</p>
<b>Actions:</b>	<p>AH &amp; SS to draft statement to publish explaining result.</p> <p>SS to email all groups explaining the result and to implement the elections.</p> <p>AH &amp; SS to construct a plan of getting more student consultation over the next 8-12 months regarding online elections.</p>