

Date: 05/11/2019

Time: 16:00-18:30

Venue: Kevin Gately Room (*Formerly MR2, SUHQ*)

Present:

- Harry Weaver (Chair) (HW) Voting Card 008
- Samuel Baldwin (Societies Exec Chair) (SB) Voting Card 020
- Alex Fugariu (Part Time & Mature Students' Officer) (AF) Voting Card 015
- Nathan Boroda (Democracy Exec Chair) (NB) Voting Card 024
- Rebecca Brown (Environment & Ethics Officer) (RB) Voting Card 025
- Prisco (Trans Students' Officer) (P) Voting Card 012
- Megan Clarke, Peter Barlev (Faculty of Art/Social Sciences Exec Chair) (MC, PB) Voting Card 018 (as Education Exec)
- Fraser Amos (Development Exec Chair) (FA) Voting Card 022
- Amin Lmoh (Welfare Exec Chair) (AL) Voting Card 021
- Nathan Parsons (Disabled Students' Officer) (NP) Voting Card 014
- Scott Dwyer (Postgraduate Exec Chair) (SD) Voting Card 019
- Alice Churm (Postgraduate Officer) (AC) Voting Card 003
- Charlotte Lloyd (Sports Officer) (CL) Voting Card 006
- Araan Dass (Sports Exec Chair) (AD) Voting Card 023
- Luke Mephram (Societies Officer) (LM) Voting Card 007
- Ben Newsham (President) (BN) Voting Card 001
- Milly Last (Development & Democracy Officer) (ML) Voting Card 004
- Taj Ali (Ethnic Minorities Officer) (TA) Voting Card 010
- Harry Weaver (Chair of Council) (HW) Voting Card 008
- Zishi Zhang (International Officer, Non-EU) (ZZ) Voting Card 017
- Talip Yaldaz (International Officer, EU) (TY) Voting Card 016
- Tiana Holgate (Welfare & Campaigns Officer) (TH) Voting Card 005

Apologies:

- Lucy Morris (Deputy Chair of Council) (LM) Voting Card 009
- Chloe Battan (Education Officer) (CB) Voting Card 002
- Tara Kosky and Bede Lunn (Women's Officer) (TK and BL) Voting Card 013
- Valentin Mancas (Faculty of Sciences Exec Chair) (VM) Voting Card 018
- Connie Gordon (LGBTUA+ Officer) (CG) Voting Card 011

1 Welcome and Apologies

Chair of Council Harry Weaver (HW) (008) welcomes all council members to the first Student Council meeting.

Apologies have been received from the following; Lucy Morris, LM (Deputy Chair of Council) (009), Chloe Battan, CB (Education Officer) (002) , Tara Kosky and Bede Lunn, TK and BL (Women's Officer) (013) and Valentin Mancas, VM (Faculty of Sciences Exec Chair) (018)

2 Announcements

N/A

3 Minutes from last meeting

Chair asks for any comments, none received.

Chair then asks to vote for the minutes to be approved. **Unanimously approved.**

4 Co-option

- Sports Exec

1 co-option Candidate: Jonathan Wilkie, a staff member read out the 100-word statement

- Postgraduate Experience Exec (1 PGR Vacancy)

0 Co-option Candidates

- Faculty of Arts Exec (1 PGR Vacancy, 1 PGT Vacancy)

1 co-option Candidate: Izzy Gatward (for PGT), a staff member read out the 100-word statement

- Faculty of Social Science Exec (1 PGR Vacancy)
- Faculty of Science Exec (1 Open Space Vacancy)

2 co-option Candidates: Dale Harding (DH) and Rahul Budhan (RB). Rahul Budhan enters. RB provides a 100-word statement about why they should be elected in the role. A staff member reads out the 100-word statement sent by DH

The Chair notifies members of council that these results will be done by Proxy and for them to cast their vote for all co-options now. The results will be announced via email circulation once the votes have been counted up

Action: Democracy Team to announce votes electronically via email for co-options of Sports Exec, Faculty of Arts Exec and Faculty of Science Exec.

5 Sabbatical Officer Reports

The Chair invites the Sabbatical Officers to present verbal reports to Council as written reports were not submitted.

Ben Newsham (President, University of Warwick Students' Union) (001)

Circuit Laundry was taken to the cleaners and be on the way out. On transport BN is working with the University at offering short term solutions in the coming weeks. Disciplinary reform on outcomes from the group chat incident and holding them to account and to ensure they relay all 32 recommendations from the report. Implemented a new sexual misconduct policy at senate. The IHRA definition of anti-Semitism was likened by the University and an idea but has not been implemented. BN will carry on discussions and work to have it implemented. BN has scrapped the University card replacement fee after halving it last year. Lobbying with ML to expand study space and also expand teaching space and to use it as learning space in term 3. Working with the University wellbeing team to become sector leading, and more sexual health

clinics. University has now declared a climate emergency which BN was a part of and has setup a climate emergency taskforce.

Questions from the floor;

Taj Ali, TA (Ethnic Minorities Officer) queried about the definition being adopted. Fraser Amos FA (Development Exec Chair) asked for clarification that BN is using all the examples of that definition, BN stated that they were using all of the examples from the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism. TA raised the point that 300 BAME organizations have raised concerns about this definition and would be appreciated if they had a discussion with the officer before this was passed as policy. BN stated that the policy was renewed last year and so was acting on mandate from policy passed in previous years.

Tiana Holgate (TH) (005) enters in Agenda 5.

Chloe Batten (Education Officer, University of Warwick Students' Union) (002)

Luke Mepham, LM (Societies Officer) (007) spoke for Chloe Batten, CB (Education Officer) (002) who could not attend. CB has been focusing on the decolonize project and been working on it throughout the year. CB has also looked at how to support students in degree pathways which are non-traditional pathways by the University and worked with the University at looking to closing the Black attainment gap.

LM has been focusing on internal issues with societies and has recently introduced a stop to mark recognition scheme. This scheme is to be released this Friday (07/11/2019) and is a chance for societies to apply for an award in different areas of the union. LM also noted that this year was the biggest society fair (with 1000 more students join compared to this time last year) and has also looked at simplifying the Guest speaker policy to make it easier to process. LM also spoke about giving more executive power to societies through allowing them to spend money more freely. Whilst also organizing an inter-faith week with the various faith groups on campus and the chaplaincy. Lastly, LM mentions that he has had to deal with individual society issues ranging from storage to exec issues and others throughout his first term.

The chair asks for questions from the floor, Megan Clarke, MC (Faculty of Arts Exec Chair) stated that the queue on societies fair was excessively long as societies fair was on one day, instead of two. LM agreed and said that the plan forward is for it to be done over two days and that the SU are looking in to that process.

Milly Last (Development & Democracy Officer, University of Warwick Students' Union) (004)

ML successfully pushed for the vegan lunch range in Rootes Grocery Store to be expanded, with more to come in January. Has been lobbying the university to sign onto the NUS 'Responsible Futures' scheme, designed to embed sustainability and social responsibility in the curriculum. BorrowCup scheme to be launched in January in Curiositea. Rejigging the environmental section of the SU website to be launched as 'The Green Hub' in Term 2. ML acknowledges we had record-breaking turnout for Autumn 2019 elections. Working on accountability of the sabbatical officers and will have a policy tracker up online soon. Secured money from University to refurbish upstairs copper rooms (CR2). Agreed with the University to work towards a more sustainable investment policy and believes the university should have completely divested from fossil fuels this academic year.

The chair asks for questions and none were received.

Luke Mepham (Societies Officer, University of Warwick Students' Union) (007)

See above, CB's statement

Tiana Holgate (Welfare & Campaigns Officer, University of Warwick Students' Union) (005)

Tiana Holgate, TG (Welfare and Campaigns Officer) has been looking at the disciplinary reform with the University to hold them to account with the changes proposed. TG is also looking at the University strategy on wellbeing and have it embedded in everything that we do. TG is looking at launching a body positivity campaign in term 2. Relaunching 'Ask for Angela' scheme and doing a briefing for all staff on it so people are aware. Working with LM on the inter-faith week (mentioned above). Created an internal Hate-crime SU working group, on how to tackle the issue and went to a conference last week to see what best practice was and on how to respond. Lastly, TG was looking in to housing and how to deal with the issues and issues with house-mates.

The chair asks for questions and none were received.

Charlotte Lloyd (Sports Officer, University of Warwick Students' Union) (006)

Charlotte Lloyd, CL (Sports Officer) informed everyone that this year had the biggest sports fair on record. She is currently reviewing BUCS trans-policy and on disability sport with the relevant officers. Looking at reshaping sports external speakers and looked to working with CRASAC and sports clubs on consent workshops. Currently organizing the annual varsity with Coventry University Students' Union. CL is also working with LM on university employability plan and generally dealing with individual issues on membership and spaces.

The chair asks for questions and none were received.

Alice Churm (Postgraduate Officer, University of Warwick Students' Union) (003)

Alice Churm, AC (Postgraduate Officer) has spoken about how she is reshaping PG Connections focusing now on wellbeing as opposed to just simply academic work. This also includes having other PG connections, AC has also mentioned how she has visually rebranded PG connections. AC has also stated the University has also funded the refurb to the graduate and to make it more useable for PG students. AC has been working with the university on creating employment contracts for PG students that teach and has been trying to get the university to update their framework for marketing and preparation time. AC has also stated that an online suggestion form has been created so that there is a stronger PG voice in the SU. AC has met with UCU to discuss areas for collaboration and work on strengthening the relationship following last year's MOU agreed with UCU. Lastly, AC has been having conversations with the University around staff-student sexual misconduct and is hoping this will now be in phase two of University sexual misconduct work. The SU and UCU MOU has been looked at and how it works out for PG students.

The chair asks for questions and none were received.

6 Chair of Execs and Part-Time Officer Reports (optional)

The Chair asks for any verbal reports by Part-time officers or Chairs of Exec.

Nathan Parsons, NP (Disabled Students' Officer) (014) and Taj Ali, TA (Ethnic Minorities Officer) (010) are the only officers to provide a report.

NP states that they have been focusing on the accessibility of the SU website, they have done a lot of work with the SU as previously they have not been using plain text but now they have added it on and will also include subtitles on videos from now. They have also been lobbying for more blue badge parking and have sent an email off to arrange a meeting so more holders can park anywhere on campus and to make it clear on the website.

The Chair asks for questions, none were received.

TA mentions that they had supported societies during Black History Month (BHM) and was able to acquire funding from departments this year round. However, TA is looking to other funding alternatives in order to allow BHM to have funding continuously each year round. TA also looking to deliver 3 events during Islamophobia Awareness Month about the Prevent Agenda, Gendered Islamophobia and the recent report in racial harassment in British Universities findings by the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC). Importantly, Warwick was the only university that did not submit any evidence on race and is liaising with CB (Education Officer) about drafting an email to the University about this, holding them to account. TA has also stated that there is a survey going round on mental health of Muslims on campus at Warwick.

The Chair asks for questions, none were received.

7 Motions

7.1 – Give Students Returning from a Compulsory Year Abroad their On-Campus Accommodation Back!

The Chair asks for speakers for the motion; Alan Siu (Proposer) gives a speech in favour of the motion

The Chair asks for speakers against the motion; none received.

The Chair asks for comments about the motion; none received.

The Chair asks for amendments about the motion; none received.

The Chair now moves to voting procedure; this is a vote to take the motion to ASV in the first instant;

Voting for Motion 7.1 to go to ASV;

For: 012, 020, 010, 016, 004, 001, 007, 006, 023, 019, 003, 025, 005, 018, 021, 022, 024, 017, 015

Against: None

Abstains: None

Result: 7.1 Motion goes to ASV

7.2 – Warwick SU for Fair Pay & Pensions

The Chair asks for speakers for the motion; Fraser Amos, FA (022) (Proposer) gives a speech in favour of the motion

The Chair asks for speakers against the motion; none received

The Chair asks for comments about the motion;

BN (001) states that they are in support of the motion but is concerned about resolve 5 to mandate the SU as he is unsure if it is what is the best for our members? FA states that there is an obligation of solidarity to our staff and the SU doesn't exist to only think of its members but as a Union should stand in solidarity with other unions of any industrial dispute.

AC (003) also mentions that there were two-ballots done, one for pensions and the other relating to workload which will directly affect our Post-graduate students so this will have a direct impact on members.

ZZ (017) asks it's important to recognise that these strikes and solidarity shouldn't come at the cost of international students as they don't get refund if members do go on strike in classes. Especially for those that study here for only one year and international students are a high percentage of students on campus. AC responds that this was going to happen regardless, but it is important that we extend solidarity and think of the bigger picture and that's the face of higher education.

The Chair asks for summarising remarks,
No summaries received for or against.

The Chair now moves to voting procedure; this is a vote to take the motion to ASV in the first instant;

Voting for Motion 7.2 to go to ASV;

For: 012, 014, 020, 010, 016, 004, 001, 007, 006, 023, 019, 003, 005,

Against: None

Abstains: None

Result: 7.2 Motion goes to ASV

(There was a procedural motion later on in the minutes that resulted in this being debated again, see pg 10/11 for further details)

7.3 – Switch to Ecosia as the default search engine on all campus computers

The Chair asks for speakers for the motion; none received as the proposer could not attend.

The Chair asks for speakers against the motion; none received.

The Chair asks for comments about the motion; Prisco (Trans' Students' Officer) (012) stated that google does use fully renewable energy so if the argument is that Ecosia is eco-friendlier, it is not compared to google

The Chair now moves to voting procedure; this is a vote to take the motion to ASV in the first instant;

Voting for Motion 7.3 to go to ASV;

For: 014, 010, 004, 001, 025, 007, 006, 003, 005, 018

Against: 012, 020, 016, 023, 019, 021, 022, 024, 015

Abstains: 008, 010

Result: 7.3 Motion goes to ASV

7.4 – Increase Available Study Space

The Chair asks for speakers for the motion; none received as the proposer could not attend

The Chair asks for speakers against the motion; none received

The Chair asks for comments about the motion; none received

The Chair now moves to voting procedure; this is a vote to take the motion to ASV in the first instant;

Voting for Motion 7.4 to go to ASV;

For: 008, 012, 014, 020, 010, 016, 004, 025, 006, 023, 019, 003, 005, 018, 021, 022, 024, 015, 017

Against: None

Abstains: 001, 007

Result: 7.4 Motion goes to ASV

7.5 – Campaign to ensure that Post Study Work Visas are available equally to new and existing students

The Chair asks for speakers for the motion; ZZ (017) gives speech for the motion

The Chair asks for speakers against the motion; none received

The Chair asks for comments about the motion; none received

The Chair now moves to voting procedure; this is a vote to take the motion to ASV in the first instant;

Voting for Motion 7.5 to go to ASV;

For: 001, 008, 012, 014, 020, 010, 016, 004, 025, 007, 006, 023, 019, 003, 005, 018, 021, 022, 024, 015, 017

Against: None

Abstains: None

Result: 7.5 Motion goes to ASV

7.6 – Allowing joint platforms and endorsement in SU elections

Before the Chair has asked for speakers for the motion, the proposer FA has asked to remove Resolve 1.2 “Candidates can claim the support of SU recognised campaigning clubs and societies only, as categorised by the Student Activities team at the start of each year.” FA stated that the motion no longer enables societies to endorse candidates but simply to enable candidates to form slates independently.

The Chair accepts the added amendment and asks for speakers for the motion; FA speaks passionately in favour of the motion, stating that this is not a force

The Chair asks for speakers against the motion; BN fundamentally disagrees with the motion and states that it creates an inaccessible election, creates toxic tribal issues similar to the NUS and creates lower engagement and people won't look too deep in to candidates but groups instead.

There is a debate amongst council members about the pros and cons of having slates in elections. (summary below)

NB (024) makes the point that slates exist informally and this motion will improve the transparency of the SU if approved. ZZ disagrees and says it will politicise the SU and increase harm. ZZ also raises the difficulty for students with no prior experience of an SU to grasp concepts like council yet alone slates. Prisco argues that insiders exist in the SU and people will generally create informal slates based off friendship groups.

MC (018) also stipulates that if all on a slate were to be elected it will lead to a more effective exec team. AF (015) does state it will limit the diversity of the roles in the long-term and end up with the same characteristics of candidates. TA (010) states that it is up to the democracy team to deal with the rules on slates, communities don't always participate in these elections and this could do that. CL (006) worries that this might discourage candidates that aren't overly political to run in elections and would discourage good candidates if they think they won't get on a slate.

ML (004) added that there is a democracy review that will look at this and that the democracy exec will be involved in the conversation regardless of the motion. NB added that this can be done/approved as a trial year and if there are issues with this then a motion can be done to get rid of the motion in place. If we all acknowledge that slates are bad, they exist let them be more

transparent and then deal with the consequences. BN disagrees that this makes the SU more political, rather party political. If the consensus is that slates do exist informally, we should be addressing why that happens rather than accepting it. BN also acknowledges MC point about all 7 Sabbatical Officers being elected from one slate, but in the event one is elected and isn't a part of that slate can cause issues. AD (023) agrees and says that having different individuals with different politics have good political debate.

FA does state that if you don't have slates then it is anti-democratic as you won't be free to align with other people as it's too individualised. ZZ lastly states that the current process isn't undemocratic, point is to vote for the candidate, if we allow slates it can also create a risk of communities turning against each other, if there is a split how do you deal with that?

Chair asks for a close of motion discussion and the proposer to sum up;

Chair asks for an opposition summary; BN provides opposition summary

Chair decides as this is an internal matter will be dealt with at council.

The chair now moves to voting procedure; this is a vote in favour of the motion to become policy;

Voting for Motion 7.6 to be approved as policy;

For: 012, 014, 010, 019, 018, 021, 022, 024, 008

Against: 020, 016, 004, 001, 025, 006, 023, 003, 015, 017

Abstains: 007, 005

Result: 7.6 Motion falls

7.7 – Warwick SU for Climate Justice

The chair asks for speakers for the motion; FA the proposer gives a speech for the motion.

The chair asks for speakers against the motion; none received

The chair asks for comments about the motion; BN states that whilst they are for the motion, would like to add some explanation to resolves 9 and 13 as they have some context behind 9 not working in the first place and find 13 disappointing to see.

FA believes 9 is representing the disappointment that this item did not happen and for the sabb team to hear and they had heard the reason behind 13 not happening was because the SU thought it too "hostile"

BN on record stated that this is not true

ZZ queries on point 12 that if we are to have a political affiliation would this not limit students.

NB takes that point but states that climate is political and organisation like the SU should work with workers across the country through representative organisation to get a standpoint.

The Chair now moves to voting procedure; this is a vote to take the motion to ASV in the first instant;

Voting for Motion 7.7 to go to ASV;

For: 008, 012, 014, 020, 010, 016, 004, 001, 025, 007, 006, 023, 019, 003, 005, 018, 021, 022, 024, 015 008

Against: 017

Abstains: none

Result: 7.7 Motion goes to ASV

7.8 – Student Voter Registration

The Chair asks for speakers for the motion; Megan Clarke (Proposer) gives a speech in favour of the motion

The Chair asks for speakers against the motion; BN opposes on two grounds; Resolve 3 as we have already used our resources to get people to vote and Resolves 1 as it is within the remit of the Democracy and Development Officer to do this.

MC states that if you make this SU policy to be done in the future as well. BN states that lots have been done already in the build up to this. FA queries how students are aware of this.

PB (018) international students don't know that they are eligible to vote, people from commonwealth countries can vote and the SU should make it openly known. TA agrees and queries if we need to push the policy for EU students to vote as well.

Chair says due to time constraint this will be voted at council not ASV,

AC questioned why this was not done during the strike motion. The chair stated that the decision had already been made and voted on to go to ASV.

The Chair now moves to voting procedure; this is a vote to take the motion to ASV in the first instant;

Voting for Motion 7.8 to pass as policy;

For: 008, 012, 014, 010, 016, 025, 007, 023, 019, 003, 005, 018, 021, 022, 024, 015

Against: None

Abstains: 020, 001, 017, 004, 006,

Result: 7.8 Motion passes

The Chair has received a procedural motion 3 (Members overturn Chairs ruling) in relation to Ruling on Motion 7.2 to ASV.

FA & BN have asked to vote for procedural motion 3 in order to overturn the decision of going to ASV so that it can be voted at Council

Voting for Motion 7.2 decision to be overturned to ASV;

For: 012, 014, 010, 016, 004, 001, 025, 007, 019, 003, 005, 018, 021, 022, 024, 015, 008

Against:

Abstains: 020, 017, 006, 023

Result: Chairs ruling on motion 7.2 overruled to go to ASV

The Chair will now entertain a debate about motion 7.2

The Chair asks for speakers for the motion; FA & AC give speeches for the motion to go to Council instead as the strike has specific timescales which is difficult to process in the week.

The Chair asks for speakers against the motion; none received

BN states for this to go to ASV and instead an emergency motion should go to clarify this.

There was a discussion during the access break that this should still go to ASV and an emergency motion was submitted.

The Chair now moves to voting procedure; this is a vote to take the motion to Council if in favour, or to ASV if against;

Voting for Motion 7.2 to be for (Council) or against (ASV);

For the vote to be in council: 012, 019, 003

Against the vote to be in council and for it to go to ASV: 014, 020, 010, 016, 004, 001, 025, 007, 006, 023, 005, 021, 022, 015, 017

Abstains: None

Result: 7.2 Motion will go to ASV as originally agreed

7.9 – Emergency Motion about UCU's organizing meeting on the 13/11/2019

The Chair asks for speakers for the motion; BN speaks for the motion after stating that 7.2 motion is going to ASV instead.

The Chair asks for speakers against the motion; none received.

The Chair asks for comments about the motion; BN asked clarification if the President has to attend, NB stated it is just for a show of support

Chair decides as this is an emergency motion and close to the date of the meeting, that the vote will go to council.

The Chair now moves to voting procedure; this is a vote in favour of the motion to become policy;

Voting for Emergency Motion 7.9 to be passed as policy;

For: 012, 014, 020, 010, 016, 004, 001, 025, 007, 006, 023, 019, 003, 005, 021, 022, 024, 015, 008

Against: 018

Abstains: None

Result: Emergency Motion 7.9 has been passed as policy

8 Policy Review

Chair has stated that due to the information not going to the relevant execs, this will be delayed to the next meeting. ML (DDO) is happy for this to be deferred to the next meeting and to circulate to the execs

Action: DDO to circulate policy lapses to relevant execs and be deferred for the next meeting

9 AOB

SB (Societies Exec) asks when the next motion deadline is, DDO states 18/11/2019.

TA (Ethnic Minorities Officer) states that training should be done for next council, Chair agrees and asks for this to be sent to council

Action: DDO send email for training dates for council members before the next student council, 03/12/2019.

10 – Date of next council is the 03/12/2019 in the Kevin Gately Room 2 (formerly known as MR2 SUHQ)

Council Ends.

Action List:

Action	Who?	Due Date
<i>Action: Democracy Team to announce votes electronically via email for co-options of Sports Exec, Faculty of Arts Exec and Faculty of Science Exec.</i>	ML	ASAP
<i>Action: Motion 7.1 to go to ASV</i>	ML	11/11/2019
<i>Action: Motion 7.2 to go to ASV</i>	ML	11/11/2019
<i>Action: Motion 7.3 to go to ASV</i>	ML	11/11/2019
<i>Action: Motion 7.4 to go to ASV</i>	ML	11/11/2019
<i>Action: Motion 7.5 to go to ASV</i>	ML	11/11/2019
<i>Action: Motion 7.7 to go to ASV</i>	ML	11/11/2019
<i>Action: Motion 7.8 approved and passed as policy</i>	ML	03/12/2019
<i>Action: Emergency Motion 7.9 approved as policy</i>	ML & BN	03/12/2019
<i>Action: DDO to circulate policy lapses to relevant execs and be deferred for the next meeting</i>	ML	03/12/2019
<i>Action: DDO send email for training dates for council members before the next student council, 03/12/2019</i>	ML	ASAP