Student Assembly 27th October 2022

5pm in the Venue

1. **Attendance and Apologies**

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| **Members in Attendance** | |
| Abdul Basit Khan | Assembly Representative - Civil and Environmental Engineering Department |
| Ahmad Khalid | Student Assembly Member |
| Burhan Asif | Student Assembly Member |
| Dwisha Jain | Assembly Representative - Economics and Finance Department |
| Faiza Al-Shafin Shajani | Assembly Representative - Law Department |
| Jay Gill | Student Assembly Member |
| Mallikarjun Modi | Student Assembly Member |
| Mohammad Shabul Haque | Student Assembly Member |
| Nida Mushtaq | Student Assembly Member |
| Nilay Patel | Assembly Representative - Business School |
| Nisarg Anil Pawar | Student Assembly Member |
| Sahil Ashish Parulekar | Assembly Representative for Mature and Part-time Students |
| Shashank Manjunatha | Student Assembly Member |
| Shyam Pradip Tanna | Assembly Representative - Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Department |
| Tanmay Sharma | Student Assembly Member |
| Tanvir Akheter Shakib | Environment and Ethics Officer |
| Ana Monica Santos Pereira | EU Officer |
| Eiza Tehreem | Women’s Officer |
| Wiktoria Swodoba | VP CMLS |
| Suraj Shaw | VP CEDPS |
| Archan Raval | VP CBASS |
| Tatiana Duplento | Assembly Representative - Arts and Humanities Department |
| Hussain Muhammad Mujahid | Student Assembly Member |
| Mustafa Naseem | Student Assembly Member |
| Ahmed Rasib | Student Assembly Member |
| Umar Abbas | Student Assembly Member |

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| **Apologies** | |
| Benjamin Wells | Assembly Rep Brunel Design School |
| Kira Nelson | LGBTQ+ Officer |
| Fabyeon Burgess-Yearwood | Disabled Students Officer |

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| **Members not in Attendance and no apologies sent** | |
| Gano Othow | BME Officer |
| Daksh Parihar | Assembly Rep Computer Science Department |
| Alina Budnyuk | Assembly Rep Maths |
| Muhammad Abdullah Amir | Student Assembly Community Member |
| Fardeen Khan | Student Assembly Community Member |
| Rana Nauman Ishfaq | Student Assembly Community Member |

1. **Minutes of the previous meeting (Thursday 3rd February 2022)**

No objections

1. **Matters Arising**

None

1. **Motions to change Byelaws**

GB gave a brief introduction of what the byelaws are (can be viewed on the website under ‘About Us’ then ‘Governing Documents’

There are no current motions to change the Byelaws, this will be discussed in the next Student Assembly.

1. **Motions and Motions set to Lapse**

GB explained that it is too soon after the elections for new motions to be introduced as this has not given students time to create cohesive documents. There are old motions that are due to overlaps. These policies will be referred to the Executive Committee who will overlook said motions.

There were no objections to motions set to lapse to move onto the executive committee.

1. **Ratification of Independent Trustee – Peter Smallwood.**

GB presented a paper from the Board recommending PS to continue as an independent trustee for a second and final term. The recommendation highlighted his relevant skills and previous valuable service to the union.

No one spoke against the recommendation and ratification of PS's continuation on the Board was put to a vote. Peter's Continuation was duly ratified.

This was taken to a vote by members of Student Assembly

* 22 voted for the ratification of PS.
* 0 voted against.
* 1 voter abstained.

1. **Subcommittee Elections.**
2. **Disciplinary Committee**

GB - The disciplinary committee is formed of 8 students and any time there is a discipline at the student union three of these students will sit on the disciplinary meeting. Overview evidence and make a judgment.

Due to more than 8 Students wishing to become part of the committee an online vote will take place over the upcoming weeks. The following members wish to run:

* Nida Mushtay
* Fardeen Khan
* Tanmay Sharma
* Mohammad Ashabul Haque
* Mallikarjun Modi
* Shashank Manjunatha
* Ahmad Khalid
* Jay Gill
* Burham Asif
* Ahmed Rasid

1. **Appointments Committee**

Craig -Two students will be needed for an active role in the Appointments Committee. The committee looks at suitable candidates for student trustees that need to be elected. During March next year the appointments committee will be looking for an external trustee. They will discuss the skillset needed and what they are looking for in trustees. The students on the committee will be highly involved in determining the appropriate skillsets needed for said trustees.

Due to more than two students wishing to become part of the committee an online vote will take place over the upcoming weeks. The following members wish to run:

* Tanya Duplenko
* Mohammed Ashabul Haque
* Mustafa Naseem
* Hussain Mujahid
* Tanvir Akhter Shakib
* Ana Monica
* Shashank Manjunatha
* Ahmed Khalid
* Nisasg Pawar

1. **Election of Deputy Chair.**

George -There has been some issues for the current chair who is not a student till January. therefore, we need the deputy chair to step up. They will meet up before meetings to discuss the agenda and will chair the assembly. Those who are chair do not get to vote.

The deputy chair will also chair the accountability meetings. Training will be provided.

Two nominees. Both give their pitch. The members then voted on who will be deputy chair.

* Hussain – 6
* Tanmay – 12
* Abstain – 3
* **Tanmay Sharma won the vote by 6 points and is therefore the new Deputy Chair of SA.**

1. **Officer Reports**

**A brief overview on what the officers have been working on as full reports will be presented in Officer Accountability.**

**VP CHMLS** – working on two different campaigns at the moment. ‘Sex at Brunel’ which aims to tackle sexual harassment and provide education on consent. WS is also working on providing free period products in the Hamilton Centre.

**VP CEDPS** – tackling the issue of online classes for students in his college. He is currently speaking to administrators and is hoping there will be positive results by the end of November. SS is also handling misconduct cases and on a positive note the issue surrounding student timetabling is resolved

**VP CBASS** –current campaign called ‘Lets Achieve this’ which revolves around writing skills and tackling academic misconduct such as plagiarism. There is an updated good conduct module on Brightspace that is filled with information on academic skills and good conduct. Archan also notes that all three officers are working on the cost-of-living campaign and are in contact with the accommodation centre. More updates to follow which will be posted on social media.

1. **Strategic Plan**

**CL – The plan shown is the final draft that has been worked on for the past nine months. Surveys were conducted to find out what the unions key priorities are and what needs to be improved. Workshops were then conducted to discuss the survey findings to decide what should go into the plan.**

This plan should last three years, priorities will change as old goals are completed and new priorities and challenges arise. This is a living document that will develop and change. The Assembly will need to ratify this and everyone will get opportunities to help and prepare what next year’s priorities will include.

No questions were asked

The plan was then taken to a vote:

* 25 voted in favour of the Strategic Plan
* 0 voted against
* 0 abstained
* **The Strategic Plan has now been passed.**

1. **Student matters and Urgent Business**

**None.**

1. **Bonus Student Democracy Discussion.**

Student Assembly was split into smaller discussion groups to converse with each other the following questions surrounding student democracy. One person from each group was chosen to speak and inform Student Assembly what their group had discussed.

**Question 1 - What has your experience of student democracy been like?**

* **Group 1** - they require more diversity in elections they feel comfortable around everyone they enjoy the experience.
* **Group 2** – there has been improvements from covid, less toxic environment it has been great. The university students are really involved with elections with a fair amount of people voting.
* **Group 3** – amazing opportunity to talk to a variety of people. Good for personal growth. Better commination skills. Negative is the timing for elections – not Wednesday. More diversity and awareness of elections needs to be improved. It is inconvenient that there is not voting online.
* **Group 4** – no issues regarding the voting of the elections, however more diversity is needed.

**Question 2 - What can the Student Union do to increase the diversity in democracy at the university?**

* **Group 1** – collaborating together.
* **Group 2** – societies passing on messages surrounding democracy and elections.
* **Group 3-** freshers fair could be used to promote the elections.
* **Group 4** – more cultural meet ups with societies indorsing the candidates, more emails from the university. Mixed opinion on what form of commination is best, some believe receiving emails from lecturers is positive however others disagree.

One of the aims is working closer with the university and different departments to promote elections.