

Student Council Minutes

Wednesday 5th February 2020 (5pm)

Location: C408, College Lane

In attendance:

Paul Dosunmu (PD) – Chair of Student Council
Maryam Zaman (MZ) – Deputy Chair of Student Council
University of Hertfordshire students (x47)

Elected Officers

Rida Shafqat (RS) – President
Muhammad Sajid (MS) – Vice-President Activities
Farhan Rafique (FR) – Vice-President Community
Amy Holloway-Smith (AHS) – Vice-President Education

Students' Union Staff

Rebecca Hobbs (RH) – General Manager
Steve Owen (SO) – Student Voice Manager
Hannah Minchin (HM) – Marketing Executive
Tash Crump (TC) – Campaigns and Policy Advisor
Laura Chambers (LC) – Representation Coordinator
Warren Bingham-Roberts (WBR) – Representation Coordinator (Clerk)

Apologies:

None to note.

<p>SC-1</p>	<p>Welcome and introductions</p> <p>Paul Dosunmu (PD) welcomed everyone to the third Student Council meeting of the year, thanking everyone for coming, and for the high attendance. He asked that everyone remain respectful of other people’s comments and opinions throughout the meeting, to allow the opportunity for all to have their say.</p> <p>He introduced himself as the Chair, and invited the rest of the panel to do the same with their own roles: Maryam Zaman (MZ, Deputy Chair), Rida Shafqat (RS, President); Muhammad Sajid (MS, Vice-President Activities); Farhan Rafique (FR, Vice-President Community); Amy Holloway-Smith (AHS, Vice-President Education); and Rebecca Hobbs (RH, General Manager).</p>	
--------------------	---	--

<p>SC-2</p>	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>There were no apologies to note.</p>	
<p>SC-3</p>	<p>Acceptance of urgent business</p> <p>There was no urgent business to note.</p>	
<p>SC-4</p> <p><u>SC-4.1</u></p>	<p>Minutes of the previous meeting</p> <p><u>Minutes (20.11.19)</u></p> <p>PD invited the Elected Officers to provide updates on the actions that has been assigned to them in previous meetings. These are summarised in a separate “Student Council Action Tracker” at the end of these minutes.</p> <p>Following the updates on actions, PD asked those in attendance confirm whether or not they were happy to accept the minutes of the previous meeting, which they were.</p>	
<p>SC-5</p> <p><u>SC-5.1</u></p> <p><u>SC-5.2a</u></p>	<p>Updates from the Students' Union</p> <p><u>Notice of upcoming Election (Feb/Mar 20)</u></p> <p>RH provided details of the upcoming SU Elections, where the Vice-Presidents and President for 2020-21 will be elected into their roles. The key points to note were that Nominations open at 9am on Monday 17th February and close at 23:59pm on Sunday 1st March. Students will then be able to vote for their Officer team from 8am on Monday 9th March until 12pm on Thursday 12th March. Results will be announced on the evening of Friday 13th March. All of the details can be found on the dedicated webpage here: https://hertfordshire.su/your-say/elections20/</p> <p><u>Byelaw 3b – Part-Time Officers</u></p> <p>RH informed everyone of a need to update the part of this Byelaw related to Part-Time Officers, as “School Officers” were replaced by the “School Community Organiser” role a couple of years ago, but hadn’t been officially updated in writing here in the Byelaw.</p> <p>PD asked for a vote on whether or not to accept the proposed changes highlighted in paper SC-5.2b:</p>	

<p><u>SC-5.3</u></p>	<p>RESULT = clear majority in favour of changes, so the proposals were passed and the Byelaw will be revised accordingly.</p> <p><u><i>Byelaw 4 - Elections and Referenda</i></u></p> <p>RH outlined proposal to amend the section in this Byelaw that refers to the process of what happens when a winning (SU Elections) candidate withdraws or is unable to take up their post after the fact. The proposed change is to allow the second-placed candidate (etc.) to be offered the role instead, as opposed to running a completely new election. She expressed that it would be more democratically appropriate to take this approach.</p> <p>QUESTION: Does the Byelaw say there has to be a certain timeframe in which this would have to happen (i.e. candidate withdrawing and the position being offered to someone else)?</p> <p>RH: It would have to be before the Officer takes up their role on the start date outlined in their contract.</p> <p>PD asked for a vote on whether or not to accept proposed changes highlighted in the paper:</p> <p>RESULT = clear majority in favour of changes, so the proposals were passed and the Byelaw will be revised accordingly.</p>	
<p>SC-6</p> <p><u>SC-6.1</u></p>	<p>Reports from the Elected Officers</p> <p><u><i>Rida Shafqat (President)</i></u></p> <p>PD invited RS to give an update on what she's been working on in her role as President.</p> <p>RS stated that in her role as President, she attends a lot of meetings with the University, and wouldn't mention all of them due to time, but would instead focus on some of her main campaigns instead.</p> <p>She highlighted the fact that the SU had just launched its BAME Attainment Gap campaign called "Rise Up", which was developed and is being supported in conjunction with the whole Elected Officer team. As part of it, one of the main aims is to lobby the University to recruit more diverse staff role models.</p> <p>QUESTION: What is the BAME Attainment Gap?</p>	

RS: The BAME Attainment Gap refers to the issue of fewer British students from a Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic background being awarded a 2:1 or 1st compared to their White British peers. At Herts this gap is 21%. (NOTE: more information about this and the campaign as a whole can be found here: <https://hertfordshire.su/your-say/campaigns/riseup/>).

RS went on to explain that there are many factors contributing to this gap, and the SU are working with the University to try and identify/address them.

RS then outlined her plans to implement some women's only gym sessions, a project she is working on with Muhammad Sajid (VP Activities) and HertSquad.

QUESTION: Will this be for the pool as well?

RS: I will be looking at getting blinds installed for the pool so that it can be.

RS summarised by talking about (students') Wellbeing; the University are introducing a Mental Health Charter, and the SU looking at doing a Mental Health March and lobbying for there to be more counsellors. She also noted that her £8000 bid for Teqball tables had been successful, and will be spent when suitable space(s) across campus is identified.

PD brought the report time to a close, and invited any questions and comments for RS from the floor.

COMMENT: Since the start of the year, the BAME Attainment Gap has been raised as an issue, but most people still don't seem to be talking about it. I don't think the measures taken are as strong as they could have been – we need to look at improving how we actually communicate this problem to students.

RS: You're absolutely right, and a lot of students don't even know what the SU is either. We (Elected Officers) didn't know much (if anything) about the Gap when we became Officers ourselves. The strategies we're considering are longer-term, and we're planning to add some more information sessions that should help address this issue.

<p><u>SC-6.2</u></p>	<p>COMMENT: A lot of people don't know about the figures and Gap – there should be a publication so that people know the reality of the situation.</p> <p>RS: We've already published the figures on our website and they've been used as part of the campaign too, which we'll continue to push.</p> <p>PD: There's a focus group on the BAME Student Experience coming up – can be found on StudyNet.</p> <p>MZ: Students can also go to the BAME Advocates as they collect and deal with specific feedback on this issue.</p> <p>COMMENT: You should use better platforms for communication so that you can reach more people.</p> <p>COMMENT: I heard about the BAME Attainment Gap from my lecturer (within Business School) – it should be pushed and promoted this way too.</p> <p><u><i>Muhammad Sajid (Vice-President Activities)</i></u></p> <p>PD invited MS to give an update on what he's been working on in his role as Vice-President Activities.</p> <p>MS listed off some of the key things he's been involved with since the last meeting, including: Refreshers' Week, attending suicide awareness training, speaking to students about safety on campus, Christmas market, Lunar New Year, SU Awards categories, and a big focus on RAG. He stated that he was trying to bring RAG back to life, and that the SU had dedicated this week (3-7 Feb) to it.</p> <p>PD brought the report time to a close, and invited any questions and comments for MS from the floor.</p> <p>QUESTION: At the last Student Council meeting you mentioned that you were trying to get more students involved in the SU, but you haven't given any updates on that here or in your report – would you be able to tell us how things are going?</p> <p>MS: This is a longer-term project that we're researching how to do. We try to be a part of all the stalls that go on, and our Marketing team does really well in giving out a variety of free products.</p>	
----------------------	---	--

<p><u>SC-6.3</u></p>	<p>(FOLLOW-UP) QUESTION: What has your research shown?</p> <p>MS: Society memberships have gone up by 35%, and engagement with Forum events is increasing.</p> <p><u>Farhan Rafique (Vice-President Community)</u></p> <p>PD invited FR to give an update on what he's been working on in his role as Vice-President Community.</p> <p>FR informed the meeting that he had been helping to promote the Uno bus App on both campuses, including at the bus stops themselves. He had also met with the head of security to ask that students' experience can be improved – as a result the instruction has been given to check that gates are closed properly at night. There's also an external company coming in to do a complete review of the University's security. He mentioned that he'd also been promoting the SU's Advice and Support centre in Colleges, so that students there are able to benefit from it too. He finished by noting that the Jacob's Ladder lift was in the process of being fixed.</p> <p>PD brought the report time to a close, and invited any questions and comments for FR from the floor.</p> <p>QUESTION: Can security fraternise with students (ask for their numbers etc.)?</p> <p>RH: Absolutely not, and cases where this happens should be raised with Farhan / reported.</p> <p>QUESTION: Will there be a crackdown on smoking weed on campus?</p> <p>FR: There will be an external company coming in to review security so they can look into this.</p> <p>QUESTION: Do security know basic CPR?</p> <p>FR: I have been told that they are, and there are paramedic staff on board too at evening events.</p> <p>QUESTION: How are you promoting the reporting platforms and websites?</p> <p>FR: I've messaged various group chats and have updated through social media. It's also advertised in the SU's Advice and Support Centre, and I've asked for</p>	
----------------------	---	--

	<p>the number of posters to be increased around campus too.</p> <p>FR and PD introduced a representative from Uno bus to answer any questions students had about them.</p> <p>COMMENT: When using the App I can't see the route of travel when travelling further off-campus.</p> <p>ANSWER: I will raise this with the developers.</p> <p>QUESTION: With bus 614 (Queensbury), they are always single-decker, and also tend to run early – would you be able to look into this?</p> <p>ANSWER: Single-deckers should not be used on peak journeys, and we will remind drivers that they should be arriving/leaving each stop on time.</p> <p>COMMENT: The App keeps crashing for me.</p> <p>ANSWER: A new update has just been rolled out which should help deal with this problem.</p> <p>QUESTION: Students have complained about not being able to fit on the shuttle – could there be more double-deckers used for this route?</p> <p>ANSWER: We try running double-deckers wherever we can, but I will emphasise this to the operations team so that current usage is in line with what's happening. Longer-term, we're looking at brining in some new vehicles (will probably about 2021 when these come in).</p> <p>COMMENT: Students have reported instances of collisions happening, and cases of speeding because they (buses) are running late.</p> <p>ANSWER: This is not acceptable. The way to resolve it would be for students to note down specific journeys where this sort of thing happens, so that the drivers can be traced and highlighted as not being up to the right standard – this will then allow us to send them on training days. You can send anything through to Farhan so that he can pass it on to us.</p> <p>COMMENT: The App is still crashing for me.</p> <p>ANSWER: I'll pass it on to the team.</p>	
--	---	--

<p><u>SC-6.4</u></p>	<p>QUESTION: Is there any training in place for drivers to be more friendly with students? There have been cases reported of them being very rude, and shouting at students?</p> <p>ANSWER: We have a series of trainings in place. Again, it would be best if students could pick out specific buses and report them – that way they can be identified.</p> <p>COMMENT: It's often very hot and humid inside the buses, with windows shut all of the time.</p> <p>ANSWER: Given the age of our vehicles, many don't have air conditioning, but some of our newer models are a lot better for this.</p> <p>QUESTION: I had a case where the driver wouldn't accept coins because they didn't want to count it – is this allowed?</p> <p>ANSWER: Drivers should be accepting coins.</p> <p>AHS: Just wanted to make a comment here as some of the responsibility should fall upon Uno bus too when it comes to reporting issues, not just Farhan / VP Community. Is there a way of setting up a forum where students can send feedback in?</p> <p>ANSWER: Longer-term we do need to get better at this. Every passenger is recorded on our system, so we're able to pick up on the busiest times etc., and do have a way of identifying some of these concerns.</p> <p>PD brought the questions and comments to a close, and thanked the Uno bus representative for coming along to the meeting.</p> <p><u>Amy Holloway-Smith (Vice-President Education)</u></p> <p>PD invited AHS to give an update on what she's been working on in her role as Vice-President Education.</p> <p>AHS began by outlining her desire to get a better provision for the Student Rep system on Canvas, which would take the form of a module/hub where resources can be uploaded etc. She mentioned that she had a meeting to discuss this with the University on Friday (7th February).</p>	
----------------------	--	--

	<p>She mentioned that she had made some changes to the UH website so that there was more information available for Student Parents. She will also be conducting some research into the hidden costs of University – costs that students didn't/don't know about before coming here. This will be collected and included in plans moving forward.</p> <p>PD brought the report time to a close, and invited any questions and comments for AHS from the floor.</p> <p>QUESTION: How quickly will the Canvas App changes be ready?</p> <p>ANSWER: I will be aiming for this to be completed and ready for September so that it can be rolled out for new students, but not entirely sure what the response from the University will be at this point.</p> <p>COMMENT: You (and the other Elected Officers) seem to require a lot of information from students by email. We have #HertsEmpowerment that was set up last year, but seems to have dwindled this year – there needs to be a lot more awareness of it so that you can collect students' views this way too.</p> <p>AHS: There seems to be a lot more engagement with it this year actually, and I'm not sure what you mean by us using it to get students' views?</p> <p>RH: We have an issue on the agenda today that has come through the #HertsEmpowerment process.</p> <p>TC: It was also used as a key place for collecting students' views during Speak Week, but we found that students were more willing to vote on existing ideas than put something new up themselves.</p> <p>FR: An Uno bus post was put on there too, so I emailed the University and passed on this feedback to them straight away.</p> <p>RH: I would agree that it does need more promotion though.</p> <p>PD brought the Officer Report section of the agenda to a close, thanking everyone for their contributions.</p>	
<p>SC-7</p>	<p>Oral report from the Student Trustees</p>	

	<p>There were no Student Trustees in attendance, so no update was given.</p>	
<p>SC-8</p> <p><u>SC-8.1</u></p>	<p>Business submitted by individual members of Student Council</p> <p><u><i>Creating Communities Through Networks (Motion)</i></u></p> <p>PD introduced the purpose and importance of this part of the meeting, highlighting the fact that students are able to submit their own ideas and issues for discussion. He then invited AHS and RS (proposer/s) to introduce and speak about the first motion of the meeting.</p> <p>AHS began by outlining the fact that the SU have found that not all students feel represented by the Students' Union, and want to address this by introducing "Networks" (which could be considered as support groups) designed to work for students from specific demographics. Would also bring them together more socially. She then summarised by outlining a few key reasons why this motion was put forward:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1- The University of Hertfordshire has a hugely diverse population of students, and we (SU) want them to feel represented. 2- 8 Networks have already been identified for introduction across the Union, so that SU staff can start developing them over the summer period when there's more time to prepare. 3- Starting a society can sometimes be too much work or pressure, so having Networks would allow things to be operated more flexibly and on a team basis (they will also be free to join). 4- It would also help the Officers in future when it comes to lobbying and collecting feedback from certain groups of students. <p>AHS/RS concluded, and PD invited any questions and comments about this motion from the floor.</p> <p>QUESTION: I really think this is a good idea, but looking at the structures we have currently, student engagement is minimal, so I'd be worried about adding another layer. Would it not be more appropriate to focus on enhancing current structures?</p> <p>AHS: Some (of the current structures) don't have the flexibility of being changed too much, whereas the Networks will be linked with full-time staff so that</p>	

	<p>there's better continuity of them, and flexibility to tailor them to students' needs.</p> <p>QUESTION: I'm confused as to how these differ from a society? Don't they need a rigid structure in place to help them? Societies already have this, and students can sign up for free.</p> <p>AHS: Societies need 3 committee members, so there's less flexibility in terms of who's leading them.</p> <p>RH: This (motion) is about having diverse groups that represent students.</p> <p>QUESTION: Have you considered making this more democratic? We currently have Officers that are elected, with students then mobilised to give feedback – can we include more students in the actual decision-making process?</p> <p>AHS: This can be done currently with the Elected Officers, SCOs etc. The proposal we're making here is a fresh idea, allowing students to get involved and not just channel it through one person, so there's definitely still an element of activism.</p> <p>RH: Students' Unions are mandated to have a specific group of Elected Officers due to the Education Act, but we are trying to get more students involved in that process rather than only looking to 4 people.</p> <p>QUESTION: We already have societies which represent different communities and interests – how will this bring in more representation? We also have Campaign Officers working for specific things, so having another layer would be confusing , especially if there are no specific roles included as part of the Networks.</p> <p>AHS: Societies are more for social purposes, whereas these would function more as support networks.</p> <p>RH: Campaign Officers were a trial, and this is the last year of that trial. This motion will build on the work that's been done here.</p> <p>AHS: With the fluidity of them it will help in tailoring them to the needs of students.</p> <p>RH: Part of the Elected Officer role is to be held to account, so these Networks would also help with that.</p>	
--	---	--

<p><u>SC-8.2</u></p>	<p>COMMENT: I was the Secretary for a society last year, and didn't have to be elected. We could do anything we wanted which sounds exactly like these Networks – we should focus on improving and enhancing societies rather than introducing a completely new system.</p> <p>COMMENT: Societies are paid for, Networks are free.</p> <p>COMMENT: It was a £5 membership fee for us.</p> <p>MS: Not all societies are paid for, some are free.</p> <p>COMMENT: I would suggest that these Networks need some accountability, and a way of measuring their success – they should be more rigid in structure.</p> <p>TC: These Networks would be specifically representative of certain student groups that have issues, such as degree apprentices and commuting students. Sometimes you just need some students who are in the same position as you to speak to. Certain groups like these don't feel represented currently, and this would be a way to make sure that it happens.</p> <p>PD brought the discussion to a close, suggesting that the motion was taken to a vote.</p> <p><u>Votes were cast as follows:</u></p> <p>FOR = 31, AGAINST = 10, ABSTAIN = 1</p> <p>The motion therefore passed.</p> <p><u>Environmental Policy (Motion)</u></p> <p>PD explained that this motion would not be discussed with a view to it being voted on in this meeting; instead, the time would be used to discuss what students would like to see included in an Environmental Policy written by the SU (that could be brought back to Student Council for sign-off in future).</p> <p>He invited Rehan Rafique (RR, Environmental Campaign Officer) to introduce himself / his role, and</p>	<p><u>ACTION:</u> AHS and RS to take “Creating Communities Through Networks” motion forward, and work with full-time SU staff to implement what’s proposed.</p>
----------------------	---	--

outline his intentions regarding the creation of an Environmental Policy.

RR briefly outlined some of the key benefits of being environmentally friendly, and suggested that there needs to be a clear policy for the Students' Union and University. He emphasised the importance of becoming plastic-free.

PD brought this introduction to a close, and invited questions and comments from the floor.

QUESTION: Are the cups in the University environmentally friendly?

RR: I have proposed for this to be the case in the motion.

COMMENT: The food boxes and plastic cups are made out of Vegware, so aren't recyclable – only certain companies can take them away for composting. There should definitely be something included in a policy around recyclable cups though.

COMMENT: The air quality around campus is very poor, the policy should include something around smoking.

QUESTION: What happens with mixed recycling, when plastics and metals are included in the same bag?

COMMENT: The University are working on improving the labelling for situations like this. The sorting is currently done in the University yard, where it's first sorted by hand and then sent off to be sorted again at a waste plant. If items are contaminated with food or liquid it is sometimes not possible to recycle. Labelling should be included in any policy that's written up.

COMMENT: We should have more food and liquid waste bins on campus.

COMMENT: An Environmental Policy is a really good idea, and should also focus on increasing awareness of what can be recycled, as not everyone knows.

COMMENT: There's always an issue in student accommodation where there should be 3 separate bins for different waste, but it's usually just 3 of the same bins so this needs to be addressed.

<p><u>SC-8.3</u></p>	<p>COMMENT: There used to be a “clean up Hatfield” initiative – it would be good to set up something similar.</p> <p>COMMENT: There could maybe be a fine for students who don't recycle properly.</p> <p>PD brought the discussion to a close, thanking RR for bringing it as a motion to Student Council for initial student feedback.</p> <p><u>Parking on Campus (Motion)</u></p> <p>PD invitee Georgina Saadalla (GS, proposer) to introduce herself and the motion she submitted.</p> <p>GS explained that she was given a parking permit by the University last year due to extenuating circumstances (medical condition), but that this year they have stopped providing these free of charge. She then gave of brief overview of what was included in the motion submission, summarising by emphasising the fact that the University should not be making a profit off students with serious medical conditions, and that more parking should be opened up for permit holders.</p> <p>PD invited students to ask any questions or provide further comment on what had been proposed.</p> <p>RS: I remember you mentioning this at the Student Rep Conference and did take it forward to the Vice-Chancellor (where he was receptive to feedback on this issue), so just need to keep pushing for it.</p> <p>QUESTION: Is this College Lane based? Because it's also an issue for De Hav – many people utilise the fact that the parking near the bus stops is free, which is taking up space from those who actually live there and have bought permits.</p> <p>GS: We should only have to pay at an hourly rate, the University shouldn't be making money from this.</p> <p>COMMENT: You can park at the park and ride (800 spaces), and on campus you can park anywhere for free after work hours.</p>	<p><u>ACTION:</u> TC to support RR in collecting further student views on the creation of an Environmental Policy.</p>
----------------------	---	---

<p><u>SC-8.4</u></p>	<p>GS: People don't always have the option of parking during the day.</p> <p>FR: Sometimes we have to just obey the law, and we can't have much influence over that. The University are currently reviewing cost of parking, and security have been informed of people using spaces by the bus stops which should hopefully stop people doing it.</p> <p>PD brought the discussion to a close, and proceeded to take a vote on whether or not to pass the proposed actions outlined in the paper:</p> <p>RESULT = clear majority in favour of actions proposed.</p> <p><u>Campus Accommodation Prices (Motion)</u></p> <p>Maryam Zaman (MZ) stepped in as Chair at this point, as the motion to be discussed had been submitted by PD himself.</p> <p>MZ invited PD to introduce the purpose of his motion.</p> <p>PD began by asking the room how important money was at University, and how many lived on campus. He pointed to their response (e.g. raised hands) as a way of showing that the points outlined in the motion affected almost every student in the room. He then briefly summarised what he'd included in his motion submission; specifically, lobbying for a freeze on the rent for (on-campus) student accommodation.</p> <p>MZ invited any questions and comments about this motion from the floor.</p> <p>QUESTION: Is there a reason for increasing prices – is it to make other services better, for example?</p> <p>AHS: Some prices are rising above £10,000 (which is ridiculous) – the only thing that worries me is that if it isn't increasing with inflation it could affect other areas of the student experience. For example, the security is funded using the income from rent.</p>	<p>ACTION: FR/RS to take "Parking on Campus" motion forward, and lobby the University to make the changes proposed.</p>
----------------------	--	--

QUESTION: Is it possible to reallocate funds from elsewhere into accommodation, as it's a key part of the student experience too?

RH: It's hard to lobby on this front, but it's up to students to express their views on what's important so we can respond in line.

COMMENT: I could barely afford the cheapest accommodation, so would be good to freeze it. Don't know why security should be funded by us with our loans – the University should have enough protection for its students in any case.

FR: It's good to use Herts Empowerment to raise issues like this, the University staff go through all the posts there to see what students are saying.

COMMENT: From a business point of view, I can see that this (freezing prices) probably won't be possible – could we instead look at paying on a monthly basis rather than the whole year. If you want to stay on, you can then pay the additional costs – University is about becoming more of an adult, and this would help with that. Overall, making incremental changes on this front would be better.

QUESTION: Does the University make a profit off accommodation?

RH: The University funded the build of new accommodation with an external loan, so fees are used to pay down on that loan over a period of 50 years or so.

COMMENT: The whole point of the SU is to show that students care about these issues, this needs to be taken up with the University.

QUESTION: May be a longshot, but what's the harm in asking for it?

MZ closed the discussion on this motion and took it to a vote on whether or not to lobby for the proposals outlined in the motion:

RESULT: clear majority in favour of actions proposed.

ACTION:
RS/FR to take "Campus Accommodation Prices" motion forward, and lobby the

		University to take the action in line with what's proposed.
<p>SC-9</p> <p><u>SC-9.1</u></p>	<p># Herts Empowerment</p> <p><u>Security on Campus</u></p> <p>PD introduced some of the background around this being discussed here. He mentioned that it had received over 160 upvotes on the #HertsEmpowerment platform (https://hertfordshire.su/your-say/hertsempowerment/), where any idea or issue that gets 50 or above is brought to Student Council. He then highlighted some of the submission's key tenets, before opening up to the floor for any questions and comments.</p> <p>COMMENT: There should be undercover student security.</p> <p>RH: Reference to Neighbourhood Watch – hearing that there should be better reporting lines available for students who experience issues with regards to security.</p> <p>QUESTION: Is it true that a lot of the cameras across the University don't work?</p> <p>FR: A lot of these comments are just made online, which can lead to rumours. Have already lobbied for them to be looked at and they do all work – in some places they are suggesting that more cameras be introduced.</p> <p>COMMENT: The University need to improve the way they communicate issues to students, so that everyone is clear on what has actually happened.</p> <p>FR: They don't release information straight away as they have to consult with the police.</p> <p>QUESTION: When will cameras be applied to some of the other bike sheds around campus?</p> <p>FR: It's been implemented on 3 sheds so far – it will cost a lot to roll it out on others but if it's working then it will be done.</p> <p>COMMENT: I had my bike stolen in first year (lock was cut) – enquired about CCTV but nothing. This year a</p>	

friend's motorbike was stolen (camera wasn't looking the right way in order to capture it, and wasn't HD in any case).

FR: If you speak to the University they won't be able to show you the footage, but if you got to the Oval they should do.

COMMENT: There needs to be clearer guidance on what students can do in this type of situation (e.g. legal advice).

RH: Our Advice and Support team can offer this kind of advice.

COMMENT: Students found a knife in Telford Forest – reported it to security but 3 days later it was still there. Contacted Oval security and they said they hadn't heard about it.

QUESTION: Are security trained in Mental Health First Aid?

FR: They are going to look into everything next week when an external company are coming in to review the University's security.

COMMENT: Security have removed people from events on the basis of race, I believe they themselves are a cause of some of the Mental Health problems being faced. Also, the Elected Officers have been invited to events but not even replied – how can you say we can email you to give you feedback?

RS: We get invited to a lot of different events and get a lot of emails – we try to respond as much as possible but will take your comment on board.

COMMENT: I've been in many situations where students just haven't been responsible, such as opening doors for people they don't know. I feel safe personally, but there needs to be greater awareness from students on how to be responsible.

COMMENT: Welwyn Police have a notification system that keeps people up to date on what's happening in the local area but there's nothing like this for ULiving – need more platforms for communication and reporting.

	<p>QUESTION: Are the security aware that they are being reviewed?</p> <p>RS: Overall, yes – but there will also be random and undercover checks.</p> <p>PD thanked everyone for their input, and brought the discussion to a close.</p>	<p>ACTION: FR to liaise with the liaise with the University regarding the review of security, and ensure students' feedback here (and elsewhere) is taken on board and actioned.</p>
SC-10	<p>Discussion of urgent business (if any)</p> <p>There was no urgent business to discuss.</p>	
SC-11	<p>Questions</p> <p>There were no further questions at this point.</p>	
SC-12	<p>Confirmation of next meeting</p> <p>PD thanked everyone for what had been a really engaging meeting, full of discussion, and encouraged them to continue getting involved in future. He wrapped up the meeting by confirming the date and location of the next, which will double-up as an All Members Meeting:</p> <p><i>Tuesday 24th March (5pm)</i> <i>Location: Room N001, De Havilland</i></p>	

Student Council Action Tracker

TO DO:

Action	Responsibility	Update
<p><u>05.02.20</u></p> <p>FR to liaise with the liaise with the University regarding the review of security, and ensure students' feedback here (and elsewhere) is taken on board and actioned.</p>	<p>Farhan Rafique (VP Community)</p>	
<p><u>05.02.20</u></p> <p>RS/FR to take "Campus Accommodation Prices" motion forward, and lobby the University to take the action in line with what's proposed.</p>	<p>Rida Shafqat (President) and Farhan Rafique (VP Community)</p>	
<p><u>05.02.20</u></p> <p>FR/RS to take "Parking on Campus" motion forward, and lobby the University to make the changes proposed.</p>	<p>Farhan Rafique (VP Community) and Rida Shafqat (President)</p>	
<p><u>05.02.20</u></p> <p>TC to support RR in collecting further student views on the creation of an Environmental Policy.</p>	<p>Tash Crump (Campaigns and Policy Advisor) and Rehan Rafique (Environmental Campaign Officer)</p>	
<p><u>05.02.20</u></p> <p>AHS and RS to take "Creating Communities Through Networks" motion forward, and work with full-time SU staff to implement what's proposed.</p>	<p>Amy Holloway-Smith (VP Education) and Rida Shafqat (President)</p>	
<p><u>20.11.19</u></p>		

FR to collect students' feedback on Uno buses, and come back to Student Council with a summary report of the issues that have been raised so far this year.	Farhan Rafique (VP Community)	
---	-------------------------------	--

DOING:

Action	Responsibility	Update
<u>20.11.19</u> TC to work with the student who proposed the motion, and report back to Student Council with an update on progress made.	Tash Crump (Campaigns and Policy Advisor)	<u>05.02.20</u> Meeting held with the initial proposer of the motion, with ideas for next steps and how to proceed being discussed.
<u>20.11.19</u> MS to take Society inclusion officers motion forward, as amended, and implement / lobby for the changes proposed.	Muhammad Sajid (VP Activities)	<u>05.02.20</u> This is currently being worked on, so a more concrete update will be available at a future meeting.
<u>20.11.19</u> AHS to take Group work motion forward, as amended, and lobby the University to make the changes proposed.	Amy Holloway-Smith (VP Education)	<u>05.02.20</u> Has been raised in the Pro Vice-Chancellor's Advisory Group, where there was kick back from students there because they understood the benefit of group work. Some wanted more, and the possibility of peer to peer marking was discussed. Will continue to explore.
<u>20.11.19</u> Elected Officers to gather more student feedback around the subject of Mental Health, and bring an update back to the next meeting.	Elected Officers (ALL)	<u>05.02.20</u> Amy (VP Education) and Saj (VP Activities) sit on the Student Educational Experience Committee (SEEC), where it was promised that

		the University were working on a Mental Health Strategy.
<u>09.10.19</u> "AHS/TC to finalise a White T-shirt Policy that will be implemented by the Students' Union."	Amy Holloway-Smith (VP Education) and Tash Crump (Campaigns and Policy Advisor)	<u>05.02.20</u> There's currently no area for this Policy to sit in, so the Activities team are going to do an audit of an overall Social Policy, where this specific part can then be included.

DONE:

Action	Responsibility	Update
<u>20.11.19</u> AHS and Elected Officers to set up meetings with SCOs and emphasise the importance of them engaging with their roles.	Elected Officers (ALL)	<u>05.02.20</u> Group chats have been made and they have been met with in person too.
<u>20.11.19</u> AHS to collect students' feedback on Timetabling, and come back to Student Council with a summary report of the issues that have been raised so far this year.	Amy Holloway-Smith (VP Education)	<u>05.02.20</u> Students' feedback regarding Timetabling has been fed into the University's Timetabling review.
<u>20.11.19</u> FR to confirm the (reasons for) differences in prices for buses going to De Havilland campus from College Lane.	Farhan Rafique (VP Community)	<u>05.02.20</u> The prices for tickets from College Lane to De Havilland campus should be the same.
<u>09.10.19</u> "MS to investigate whether it is possible for Societies to promote their events on interactive screens."	Muhammad Sajid (VP Activities)	<u>20.11.19</u> It's been confirmed that Societies are able to promote their events on interactive screens.
<u>09.10.19</u>		<u>20.11.19</u>

<p>“MS to look at communicate issues between Societies and their members, particularly through the email system.”</p>	<p>Muhammad Sajid (VP Activities)</p>	<p>The communication issues with regards to the email system have been resolved.</p>
---	---------------------------------------	--