

Undeb Aber
Trustee Board Meeting
3rd April 2025
In person and via Teams

Present

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|------------------------|---|
| Elain Gwynedd (EG) | - Welsh Culture Officer, UMCA President & Trustee |
| Emily (Mo) Morgan (EM) | - Wellbeing Officer & Officer Trustee |
| Tiff McWilliams (TMW) | - Student Opportunities Officer & Trustee |
| Will Parker (AS) | - Academic Affairs Officer |
| Alan Roberts (AR) | - External Trustee |
| Dr Debra Croft (DC) | - External Trustee |
| Dan Fow (DF) | - External Trustee |

In attendance

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Trish McGrath (TMcG) | - CEO |
| Annmarie Evans (AE) | - Head of People & Wellbeing (notetaker) |

MEETING ADMINISTRATION

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies received from Ryan Beasley, Fuaad Badarudeen and Andra Jones.

2. Declarations of Interest

WP declared an interest in the role of interim chair.

Noted

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held February 2025 were approved.

Approved

4. Matters Arising

There was a discussion in place around tightening up on financial procedures which will be in place for July.

Action – TMcG

5. Interim Chair

WP was approved as interim chair of the Board.

Approved

FINANCE STRATEGY

6. Finance: Management Accounts and reforecast budget

TMcG gave a brief overview of the Management Accounts to February 2025 including a reforecast to

year end. Particular emphasis was placed on a calculation error within the budget on NI but has now been rectified. Currently forecasting a £55k surplus.

Noted

7. Budget approval for 2025/26

TMcG provided the board with recommendations for budgets changes that take into consideration salary scale uplift due to Real Living Wage impact. The Board agreed that they are happy to approve the scale, with review in the Summer. The Board also agreed to amend the salary proposed for staff member within the Comms & Engagement Department.

Action – TMcG

8. Commercial Services Update

TMcG gave an overview of key aspects of commercial services project and confirmed they are working with Planning in the University and will share the business case when completed.

Noted

STRATEGY

9. KPI Progress

TM gave an overview of KPIs for the Board to note.

Noted

10. CEO Update

TMcG gave an overview of their previously submitted CEO update that covered People, Budget and Finance, Spaces, University Leadership, Communications & Engagement, Strategy, Student Opportunities, Student Voice, Advice & Support and Drug & Alcohol Impact.

Noted

11. Officer Update

The Officers gave an update on activities since the last meeting.

Opportunities – Superteams, Pride and International Womens Day, Empower Aber, Tiff Tries, complaints, met new chancellor, attended all open days this year. Working on club and societies wall with Comms department. Club and Soc photos, varsity, fireball sponsor saved lot of money. Working aber 7s, celebrates. Cage clear out and monkey huts next.

Academic Affairs - Black board exemplary course, annual quality submission, helping with celebrates, taking over president committees, neurodiversity week.

Wellbeing – various awareness days, time to talk, student money week, empower aber, international women's day post, pride event, AGM wellbeing and liberation name passed, drug and alcohol award harm reduction, setting up a disabled student advisory board.

Welsh Culture Officer/UMCA president – Eisteddfod Rhyngol, pleased to report we won, helped Superteams, open days, Welsh week, Student Money Week. Planning RAG week, few complaints on Welsh provision.

DC thanked the officer team for all the great work throughout the year and with handover preparation. TMcG to send over the handover template.

Action – TMcG

12. Annual Advice Report

AE provided the Board with the Annual Advice Service Report 2023/24. DF thanked her for the report and commented that it was good to see some testimonials included.

Noted

13. CEO Objectives

The Board were provided with an update on CEO objectives against target.

Noted

14. Student Voice Review

TMcG gave the Board an overview of the current Academic Representative system and asked the Board to agree in principle to review student voice mechanisms (primarily Academic Reps) in partnership with the University for implementation in 2026.

Approved

GOVERNANCE

15. Risk register

TMcG briefed the Board on minor changes made to the Risk Register and stated that If commercial changes go ahead then this will be added also.

16. AGM

The Board were asked to ratify the minutes of the AGM held on the 10th March 2025:

1. Change of maximum terms of office for external Trustees from two to three terms
2. Reduce the full time paid elected Officers to four roles:
 - a. Llywydd Academic
 - b. Llywydd Opportunities
 - c. Llywydd UMCA
 - d. Llywydd Wellbeing & Liberation
3. Trustee Board Chair should be one of the four Officer Trustees, who will be elected by the whole Trustee Board at the first Trustee Board meeting of year.

Ratified by the Board

17. Volunteer Officers and Full Time Officers free Team Aber membership

The Board discussed and agreed to pay retrospectively free team Aber membership to volunteer and full time Officers.

Approved

18. Approval of continuation of Trustees

In line with the AGM agreement to allow a third term for External Trustees, the Board were asked to vote to extend terms for:

Alan Roberts

Ryan Beasley

Approved



The Board also agreed that recruitment of the 5th external trustee would be put on hold until we know what is happening with commercial services.

Agreed

19. A.O.B.

DC offered their services if any further Equality training was required free of charge.

Noted

12. Date of next meeting

12th June 2025, 2pm