



AUSU
Trustee Board Meeting
8th August 2017
Committee Room

Present

Bruce Fraser Wight (BFW)	- Union Development Officer, Chairperson & Trustee
Jessica Williams (JW)	- Student Opportunities Officer & Trustee
Emma Beenham (EB)	- Academic Officer & Trustee
Molly Jean-Longden (MJL)	- Welfare Officer & Trustee
Alan Roberts (AR)	- External Trustee
Ryan Beasley (RB)	- External Trustee
Olympia Petrou (OP)	- External Trustee

In attendance

Trish McGrath (TM)	- CEO
Annmarie Evans (AE)	- Executive Assistant (notetaker)

MEETING ADMINISTRATION

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone and as it was the first meeting of the new officer team, introductions were made. The Chair reminded everyone of Sue Parnell's resignation as External Trustee and expressed his thanks on behalf of the board for all her support.

1. Apologies for Absence

Peter Curran (External Trustee) and Gwion Llwyd Williams (Welsh Culture Officer/UMCA President and Trustee)

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest were recorded.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held 17th March were approved as a true record of account.

Approved

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

5. Health & Safety Audit

TM gave a briefing of the Health & Safety Report previously provided for the Trustees to note its contents and to be aware of work being carried out.

STRATEGY

6. Finance: Management Accounts

TM presented the Management Accounts to June end and explained the reason for such a difference in the reforecast budget compared to actual. She further explained that we made 6% more income than anticipated and they remained cautious as it was difficult to predict.

Noted

Reserves Policy

A discussion was held over our current reserves policy and the board agreed that we would amend it so that we have 4 months of reserves but agreed that this could come back to the next Trustee meeting if needed. TM to look at ethical banking and maybe whether it would be appropriate to split our reserves over a few banks.

Action – TM

7. CEO Report

TM provided the Trustees with her CEO report that included updates on Strategy, Budgeting and Finance, Staffing/HR, National Societies Awards, Website and App, Health & Safety, Student Union Space and NSS.

Noted

Operational Plan

The Board agreed that this document would be something that the CEO and Officers look at in a separate meeting.

Action – TM/Officers

8. Future SU Space

TM updated the Board on a meeting held with the Director of Estates regarding possible move of the Students' Union. The Board agreed that TM would carry out a building use survey to establish the needs of the Students as well as getting clear justification for what's happening to the Students Union Building.

Action – TM

9. Staff Engagement Survey

TM explained that this survey was carried out in house this year instead of through NUS, however, the same questions and process was used and it was still completely anonymous. Overall the result was pleasing and showed we are moving in the right direction.

Noted

10. Officer Priorities

The officers gave a verbal account of their priorities for the coming year:

Student Opportunities

Safe Comfortable Space
Women sport on Campus (This Girl Can)
Storage

Welfare

18-25 testicle and breast checks – cancer awareness
Spaces for students to learn =better with wellbeing spaces
Empower Liberation groups through Art & Community

Academic

Looking at a Careers fayre
Special Circs – how it works across the University
Turn it in – Welsh??

Welsh Culture/UMCA President

Reopening of Pantycelyn
More inclusive wider welsh engagement
UMCA more accessible
Welsh Culture in the SU

Union Development

Breakdown barriers to students accessing the SU
Safeguarding Sponsorship

11. Charity Commission for the coming year

TM updated the Board on latest correspondence from the Charity Commission and discussed the response previously given for the Board to consider.
Noted and agreed by the Board

12. External Trustee Recruitment

The Board had a brief discussion regarding External Trustee recruitment around the skills needed looking at ensuring we have a diverse Board. The Board agreed that the Chair and RB would look at this before the next meeting.

13. A.O.B.

Deputy Chair – it was agreed that this would be discussed at the next Board meeting. Any expressions of interest please email the Chair at union.president@aber.ac.uk

Trustee to sit on Remuneration Committee – expressions of interest to be sent to the Chair at the email stated above. This will be reviewed annually.

14. Date of next meeting

21st November at 1pm

End of meeting

DRAFT