



**AberSU**  
**Trustee Board Meeting**  
**21 February 2014**  
**Committee Room**

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**Present**

Ioan Evans (IE) – AberSU President, Chairperson & Trustee  
Laura Dickens (LD) – AberSU Student Support Officer & Trustee  
Grace Burton (GB) – AberSU Student Education Officer & Trustee  
Olivia Prewett (OP) – AberSU Student Activities Officer & Trustee  
Stephen Meachem (SM) – AberSU External Trustee  
Joshua James (JJ) – AberSU Undergraduate Trustee  
Christopher Lloyd-Jones (CLJ) AberSU Postgraduate Trustee  
John Glasby (JG) – AberSU CEO  
Catrin Hopkins (CH) – AberSU Finance Officer  
Andrew Morwood (AM) – AberSU Membership Services Manager

**In attendance**

Anmarie Evans – AberSU Board of Trustee Clerk.

**1. Apologies for Absence**

Mared Ifan (MI) – UMCA President & Trustee, Elfyn Jones (EJ) – AberSU External Trustee, Estelle Hart (EH) – AberSU External Trustee

**2. Approve Minutes of Meeting held 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2013**

Minutes of the previous meeting, held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2013 were approved as a true record of account.

Proposed: GB

Seconded: OP

**3. Matters Arising**

IE stated that during the last meeting it was requested that Officer Reports link into organisation KPIs but asked for clarification as Officers were not connected to these. The reports submitted were instead linked to manifesto commitments. It was agreed that future Officer Reports would link to Officer KPIs as stated in the constitution.

**Action - Officers**

IE informed the group that due to recent weather conditions, the Officers' have been unable to meet with students to clarify what type of events they want. The Board stated that they would like this to be done as a structured survey by staff. JG stated that this will be carried out by Jamie Barker and Tony Bickley. JG will update the Board on the results as soon as they become available.

**Action – JG**

Students had not yet been consulted regarding the spar proposal in Assembly as previously agreed. This will now be taken to the AGM in May by The President. Once officers had raised the discussion and got student feedback, the Board will agree via email.

**Action – IE/JG**

#### **4. Officers' Reports**

The Chair asked the Board to read over the provided Officers' Report. There was a discussion held around the lack of interest from Mature Students to run for position. It was noted that this is part of a wider review to look at how we attract students to run for elected positions.

**Noted**

#### **5. Finance Report**

CH ran through her previously submitted report and stated that the risk area at the moment is Bad Debts. She explained that due to an increased workload with the new food/beverage outlets, the Bad Debts have been put to one side. They will however, be looking at working through these as soon as possible.

**Action – CH**

#### **6. Budget 2014/15**

CH provided the Board with the proposed Budget for 2014/15 and asked that they approve it. There were various discussions held around student numbers and the impact of students being in Llanbadarn. JG explained that the University cannot give accurate estimates of recruitment numbers due to the changing landscape of HE recruitment following the autumn budget and removal of caps in England. Hence we have to assume student numbers will be the same as this year and react accordingly if they aren't. The Board unanimously approved the Budget for 2014/15.

**Approved**

CH left the room.

#### **7. Membership Services Report**

AM explained that his KPIs are part of the Operational Plan submitted by JG and asked whether the Board requires a written report also. The Board agreed that a written report was not required.

AM updated the Board on Elections stating that nominations have closed and that there have been 22 candidates nominated for Full Time Positions compared to 17 last year. He also stated that he was disappointed with the outcome for Part Time positions and that this is something they need to look at.

Activities are doing great work and SuperTeams sold out in 7 minutes, with the womens being sold out in 1 minute. He also explained that sport has been impacted by recent weather conditions but they are working hard to ensure BUCS Fixtures go ahead.

Motions – A paper was provided on the financial and operational implications of the motion to make clubs and societies fully bilingual. Although a discussion was held regarding this, it was agreed that it would be temporarily put on hold until the next Trustee Meeting when the UMCA officer would hopefully be present.

**Action – AM/AE to ensure on the agenda**

AM also informed the Board that it has been a busy period in the Advice section due to exam results and coursework issues and that they were waiting on trainers to come and go through the Advice Pro Database with the Advisers.

He also stated that Academic Reps Conference went extremely well and he is looking at the possibility of expanding it to cover all areas of the Union.

**Noted**

## **8. Chief Executive's Report**

JG summarised his previously submitted report. His report covered Commercial Developments, Food Safety Rating and Translation. He explained that in line with the Trustees request, his report is now shorter and is backed up with a new KPI review/Operational Plan. The Board agreed that the report makes it much easier to read and will be provided in every Trustee Meeting.

JJ asked who was responsible for the ordering of alcohol in the shop as it was an interesting selection and he didn't think it was the typical alcohol that students would drink. JG stated that this was an operational issue and would pass this on to the Shop Manager.

## **9. Staff Performance and Salary Review**

AM and AE were asked to leave the room while a discussion was held regarding JG's proposal. OP, CLJ, LD, GB and JJ voted for Option 3 but SM abstained.

**Action – JG to implement**

AM and AE returned to the meeting.

## **10. Feedback from Governance and Democracy Meeting**

AM informed the group that a meeting was held on 20<sup>th</sup> February to discuss internal governance and democracy, although the meeting had become solely about democracy. The trustee asked to investigate less formal methods for officers to take positions for the Union not involving referendums and assembly as the main focus. It was agreed that the Internal Governance Proposal be provided and included.

## **11. A.O.B.**

### **2011/12 Financial Accounts – Audit**

IE proposed to change the effective date of Constitution from 26<sup>th</sup> June 2012 to 1<sup>st</sup> July 2012 as this was a clerical error.

**Unanimously agreed by the Board**

OP provided the group with a report she has completed – A review of the relationship between Aberystwyth Students' Union and Aberystwyth University Sports Centre.

OP explained the basis of her report and asked that the Board consider her proposed options. After a detailed discussion the Board agreed to support Option 1 until Option 2 can be implemented.

**Unanimously agreed by the Board**

It was agreed that IE, OP and JG would meet with Rhodri Llwyd Morgan from the University to discuss the above report.

CLJ informed the group that the Remuneration Committee met before the Trustee meeting and recommend the following:

*Officers' salary to increase to spinal point 8 of the University Salary Scale £16,252 per annum starting from January 1<sup>st</sup> 2014.*

The date of the next Trustee meeting will change from 9<sup>th</sup> May due to it being the same day as our May Ball. AE to confirm.

**Next meeting to be confirmed**