

AUSU Trustee Board Meeting 18th March 2019 Committee Room

Present

Bruce Fraser Wight (BFW) - AUSU President & Chair

Anna Wyn (AW) - AUSU Welsh Culture Officer, UMCA President & Trustee

Molly Longden (ML) - AUSU Wellbeing Officer & Trustee

Ryan Beasley (RB) - AUSU External Trustee
Olymbia Petrou (OP) - AUSU External Trustee

Alice Raven (AR)

Dan Steward (DS)

Alan Roberts (AR) via skype

- AUSU Undergraduate Trustee
- AUSU Postgraduate Trustee
- AUSU External Trustee

Louisa Fletcher (LF) via skype - AUSU Student Opportunities Officer & Trustee

In attendance

Trish McGrath (TM) - AUSU CEO

Annmarie Evans (AE) - AUSU People & Wellbeing Manager (notetaker)

MEETING ADMINISTRATION

I. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were given from Meg Hatfield and Peter Curran.

2. Declarations of Interest

No declarations of interest.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting held 18th January 2019 were approved.

Approved

4. Matters Arising

Staff Handbook – will move to the next meeting agenda.

Action-OP

Block grant – discussions were held with the University Finance Team regarding Trustees request to try and secure a budget for 3 years. Unfortunately, because of the current education climate they are unable to look beyond I year.

Noted

Long term debtors – Matter of timing when the pay goes out and the block grant comes in. Will possibly look at including list of debtors to management accounts.

Action- Trish

STRATEGY

5. Finance: Management Accounts

TM gave an explanation of the Management Accounts to date and stated that they now include a reforecast budget and variance. The main things to note from the accounts were:

3k extra costs - advice on how to get new tax changing – winding up of Masanachu – reregistering our VAT. TM will send an explanation of this via email. **Action - TM**

Mids Wales Travel cards – haven't invoiced yet- but will be in next set of accounts.

NUS totum is down significantly – shocking year down 50% down on last year which is something that the whole of SUs are dealing with. AR advised to look at NUSSL.

Freshers – down on income. Difficult to get local businesses to come and includes Tesco agreement – get items such as food but doesn't show as income.

There was a query over the reforecasted figure for volunteering projects, TM will check and advise via email. **Action - TM**

Budget 2019/20

TM gave a summary of the reasons behind the Budget for 2019/20 and during the explanation, the items discussed were:

TimAber Insurance. The Board agreed that the amount needed to be increased to £4 but asked that honest communication is given to students of why the cost is increasing.

Action – TM.

Superteams – we don't actually cost staff hours in the budget for this so we will assess in year when we reforecast. The Trustees overall felt it was down to communication – what we explain to Students, how the cost breaks down, to be transparent about what goes in and why the cost goes up. Why it's such a good event ensuring it's giving a positive spin.

Noted

BUCS – need to balance how many teams we can put through.

Action - TM

6. CEO Report

TM gave a summary of her CEO Report that included an update of each department. The Trustees thanked TM and the Team for all the great work that has been happening but RB

questioned whether the Board were doing enough to support TM with her objectives in reviewing it as it is the duty of the Board to do so. AE will look to set a date in the calendar to set an appraisal for TM to include both the current President and President elect.

Action -AE

7. Risk Register

A discussion was held regarding the risk of reduced student numbers and whether we can add something in about organisational/workplace culture.

Action - TM

8. Pay Review

A discussion was held regarding the salary review carried out by TM and the Board agreed that Officers salary will change to £18k, Coordinator and Manager Salary will remain the same and a cost of living 1% increase will be given to staff eligible, but will be capped to 1% of top Coordinator salary, (£21k). This will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Approved by the Board

9. Policies passed since last meeting

- SU climate strike was previously sent out via email.
- Reverse Sports Funding for information.
- Senedd next Monday possible motion to leave NUS but we will update in next meeting.
- To consent train every staff member and officer

10. A.O.B.

Successfully got £23k lottery funding suicide prevention training and resilience. Will update in next meeting on how we proceed.

An action sheet will now be included in all papers – **Action –AE**

Date of next meeting

Original date in June needs to be rearranged. AE to contact and set date.