



# Minutes

**Senedd**

**28/10/2024**

## **Members in attendance:**

Francesco Lanzi (Chair)

Bayanda Vundamina (Undeb President)

Tiff McWilliams (Opportunities Officer)

Elain Gwynedd (Welsh Culture and UMCA President)

Mo Morgan (Wellbeing Officer)

Will Parker (Academic Affairs Officer)

Tristan Wood (LGBT+ Volunteer Officer)

Dewi Price (Environment and Sustainability Volunteer Officer)

Heather Kerby (Disabled Students Volunteer Officer)

Alex Molotska (International Volunteer Officer)

Clare Foley (Postgraduate Volunteer Officer)

Livvy Haggett (Women/s Volunteer Officer)

Beca Wright Hughes (Welsh Language Volunteer Officer)

Marty Fennell (Trans and GNC Volunteer Officer)

Evy Gwynne (Sports Rep)

Jade Guildford (Sport Rep)

Katie Mason (Sports Rep)

Deborah Osarieme (Society Rep)

Bruno Kington Brady (Society Rep) [Authorized leave at 7pm]

Bradley Powell (Society Rep)

Ollie Hall (Society Rep)

Rory Young (Volunteer Project Rep)

Mariam Elsergany (UG Academic Rep)

Millie Hackett (Faculty of Business and Physical Sciences)

Jo Buys (Faculty of Earth and Life Science)

Nanw Maelor (UMCA Rep)

Catrin Alaw Jones (UMCA Rep)



## Also in attendance: (Student Observers)

Dan Baxter

## Absent:

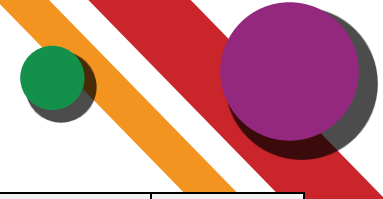
Ifeyinwa Anaduaka (BAME Volunteer Officer) Apology Sent

Ozzy Humphreys (Society Rep) Apology Sent

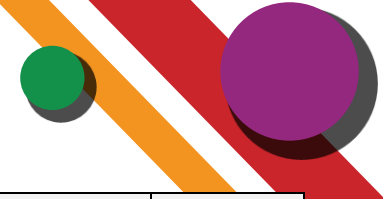
Agenda	Item	Notes	Voting Breakdown		
			Yes	No	Abstain
<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>	The Union Chairperson welcomed everyone present at the meeting	Union Chairperson welcomes everyone to the meeting. Meeting started: 18:04 Chair said update of sharing attendance and how members have voted. You can see the breakdown of this on the Undeb Aber website.			
	Apologies for Absence	Chair said apologies from the two that we received.			
	Last Minutes Meeting and matters arising	No minutes or matters arising to approve			
	Introductions	Everyone in the room introduced themselves.			
<b>Election of deputy chair</b>	Asking who would like to stand and voting.	Chair asked who would like to stand. One person put their hand up/ Deborah (SOC) Has been elected.			



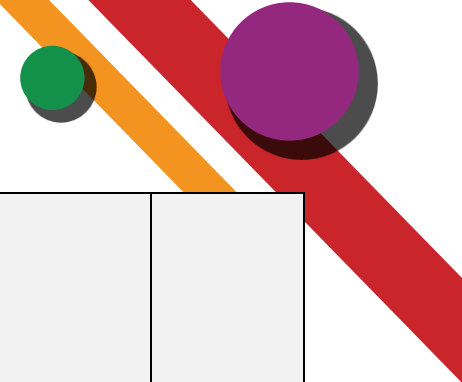
<b>Lapsing Policy</b>	Updates	Chair gave an update on what Policies will be lapsing. See from the <a href="#">Agenda here</a> .			
<b>Officers' Report</b>	Officers to say what they have been working on and their priorities for the year.	Officers gave an update on what they have been working on. <a href="#">See report here</a> .			
<b>Idea 1:</b> Amendment to the All student vote bye-law  6:45	Proposer speech	Spoken on by Tiff (FTO).  Tiff summarised the proposal, stating the idea has already passed at the AGM last academic year. This is to agree wording. We have similar policies for Academic Reps and by doing this, we realised there was a gap in Volunteer Officers vote of no confidence. Explained the percentages chosen where an educated estimate.			
	Questions   Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Alex (VO): On the agenda 'the smallest' was crossed out? This is different to what has been said? Tiff (FTO): This is a mistake; this should not be crossed out.</li> <li>Tiff (FTO): Gave examples of how this may work: LGBTQ+ officers - If 32% of the population declare as LGBTQ+ on their student record then that would be 1955 if we have 8,500 students. 20% of that population is 391 so that would need 250 to call the vote. 30% of the LGBT student population is 587 so you would need 500 to vote in it for it to count. A simple majority (at least 51%) would need to vote to no confidence someone for it to pass.</li> </ul> <p>BAME Officer. If 10% of the population declare as BAME on their student record then that would be 850 if we have 8500 students. 20% of that population is 170 so 170 would be needed to call the vote as it is less than 250. 30% of the</p>			



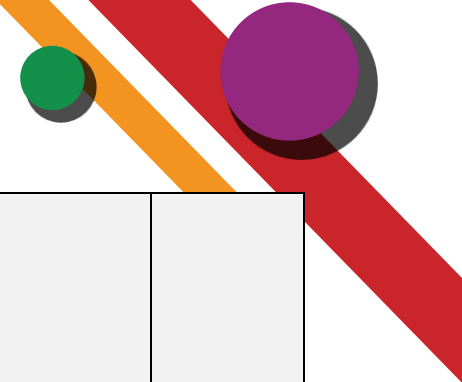
		BAME student population would be 255 so that number would be needed for the vote to be quorate as it is less than 500. Again, a simple majority (at least 51%) would need to vote to no confidence someone for it to pass.			
	Feedback from Group Discussion.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Millie (FO): Their group had no problems with the wording and percentages – feels right to only be able to be voted out by your own cohort.</li> <li>• Tristan (VO): You should only vote for what you identify as.</li> <li>• Ollie (SOC): We were originally worried about the low percentages but now we understand this is just to open the vote. Tiff (FTO): Yes, the point is to make it easy enough to call if there is an issue, but difficult enough that someone wouldn't do it for the sake of it.</li> <li>• Nanw (UMCA): We thought it was a good update especially for those in minority groups.</li> <li>• Clare (VO): Due to it being self-identification, does this mean anyone can vote? Tiff (FTO): You would need to self-identify first and then would be able to vote. We will look into MSL systems about how we would implement this.</li> </ul>			
	Other Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tiff summarised the idea – Systems already exist, we just want to make them better and more fair.</li> </ul>			
	Vote	<b>This idea was PASSED</b> <a href="#">See how the Senedd Voted Here</a>	100%	0%	0%
<b>Idea 2: Zero Tolerance stance on Discrimination, Sexual Harassment, and Assault.</b>	Proposer speech	Spoken on by: Mo (FTO)  Mo summarised the idea; for the Undeb to promote students wellbeing. We did a lot of work last year that we want to continue. Please see agenda for full proposal.			



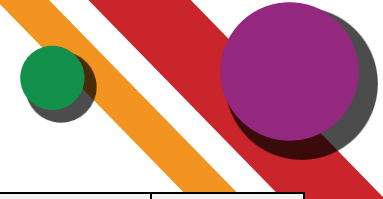
7:20		Opposing the idea: No one			
	Questions   Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will (FTO): What does zero tolerance mean? Mo (FTO): We won't stand for it – there is never an excuse.</li> <li>• Bayanda (FTO): What is a stance? Mo: We don't necessarily do anything but is an opinion. Ash (Campaigns and Democracy Coordinator) added that we have a stance on Pro-reproductive rights. We don't necessarily do anything with this, but if the government banned terminations, we may then do something.</li> <li>• Clare (VO): How would you implement a zero-tolerance policy. Mo (FTO): If this policy is passed, we can look into it.</li> <li>• Olly (SOC): How would this be enforced by student groups? Mo (FTO): It depends on the case – will go through normal procedures of complaint procedures. As a union our stance is zero tolerance. Olly (SOC): Would the person be removed? Mo (FTO): It depends on the case.</li> </ul>			
	Feedback from Group Discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will (FTO): A stance makes sense but wording makes it feel like an action. If implemented what would change? Tiff (FTO): We already do a lot for this, not about changing this but more shouting about that we are already doing it. A lot has changed in last year and we already doing loads on it, just a way of shouting that we are doing it.</li> <li>• Mariam (AR): Not consequences of actions but just saying morally not okay with it.</li> </ul>			



		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Rory (VP): We had a question about the summary. About sexual harassment, assault and bullying. Is this lumped in the same thing. Bullying can be harder to define. Questioning those three together and the moral wait of it. Is it bullying in general nature or sexual. Mo (FTO): It is bullying and inappropriate behaviour.</li> <li>Clare (VO): Is this changing nothing but the University is supported by Undeb more? How is it going to be different? Mo (FTO): This is just a stance.</li> <li>Nanw (UMCA): We agree its important policy; the Undeb doing things before this which is good. Think we need more about systems that take place after with procedures.</li> <li>Bayanda (FTO): As an organisation we just need to be careful when using the term zero tolerance as it could be bad. Gave the example of pro-life society in Liverpool. Just need to be careful with isolated instances.</li> <li>Millie (FO): This is not actively doing anything just saying what we have been doing. It's just saying the Undeb are morally against it. More just clarifying that we don't support that.</li> <li>Livvy (VO): It may make people feel safer in the Undeb if they know we are against it and may be more likely to come forward with a problem.</li> <li>Tristan (VO): Its good to say what has been happening. This stuff can easily go under the radar.</li> </ul>			
	Other Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mo summaries the idea: said about zero tolerance policy due to the statistics that have come out.</li> </ul>			
	Vote	<p><b>This idea has PASSED</b></p> <p><a href="#">See how the Senedd Voted Here</a></p>	95%	0%	4%

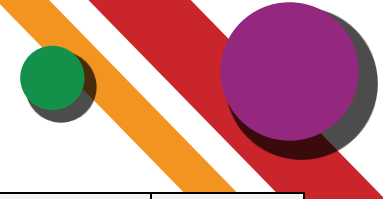


<b>Idea 3: We as students want Redeveloped Sports Facilities (Revised)</b>  <b>7:45</b>	Proposed Ideas	<p>Spoken on by: Tiff (FTO)</p> <p>Chair updated the Senedd that this was a policy about to lapse.</p> <p>Tiff (FTO) summarised the idea, stating that she had worked on this last year and is important for future Opportunities Officers to work on this. With a new Exec, it is a great opportunity to show them what they should invest in, investing in something that will make them money. Those is student groups are more likely to have jobs, getting better grades and are less likely to drop out of university.</p> <p>Being part of a sports team supports both physical and mental health.</p> <p>Tiff updated on the list of things that still need to be improved. Please see agenda.</p> <p>They are currently writing the Universities sport strategy and are applying for grants.</p> <p>Oppose this policy: Will (FTO): I think money should be spent on departments and education. As the Academic Officer I want to say this. I support it but just talking from the perspective of my role.</p>			
	Questions   Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No Questions</li> </ul>			
	Feedback from Group Discussions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bayanda (FTO): It's a good policy to have and it should be in the Opportunities Officer remit. Comment on the opposition: us as an officer team are fighting for the same thing. While you may disagree, we are all competing to get own priorities through, it makes no difference if this policy is</li> </ul>			

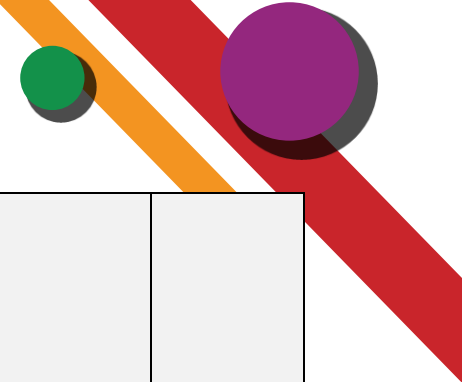


		<p>passed. As officers we will be fighting for different thing but still working together.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Elain (FTO): We are not losing anything academically if this is passed.</li></ul> <p>Chair gave an update about the money coming from grants. The money probably will not be able to go anywhere else.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rory (VP): If funding was gained, how would picking what the money is spent on be chosen? Are students involved in this? For example, some people don't like the sports dome, but money was spent on this.</li></ul> <p>Tiff (FTO): A strategy will be created this year with include small fixes. Will have meetings with students about priorities and talk with sports staff on what they want. Strategy will be including everything. Not necessarily prioritizing but fixing what we can when we can. Students will be included in decisions. The dome has helped a lot of our student groups by providing access to more space. The sport centre is still open for suggestions about the dome so if you have ideas for improvement, please do let me know.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Jade (SPORT): Small groups may be disadvantaged by bigger groups as they have the louder voice.</li></ul> <p>Tiff (FTO): It is more about what is needed the most. We have dance spaces, but some student groups don't have anything. For example, hockey has nothing, and we spend a lot of money on sending them away. To start we are more likely to get a hockey space than dance space as we have this already.</p> <p>A new pitch could support lots of different groups.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Rory (VP): What are your thoughts on how this would prioritise sports clubs.</li></ul>			
--	--	---	--	--	--





		<p>Tiff (FTO): This just depends on the officer you get and what they care about. Feedback I have been given is mainly about sports so that is why I am working on it. Doesn't necessarily mean other things will be rejected or are not important.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Will (FTO): Would it all be grant money or would some be university funds?</li></ul> <p>Tiff (FTO): Some of the money may come from the university but I want the university to invest in it because its important. However, to get it started I need to do something, using grants to pay for it to show it is good thing to do. This is a long process and will not all happen at once. It will be little fixes when they can afford to do it to make us better in the long term.</p> <p>Will (FTO): Money put into things like library would be better.</p> <p>Tiff (FTO): As officers we work on different things.</p> <p>Elain (FTO): The university has said the reasons for library. I don't think you can compare them.</p> <p>Will (FTO): If I was a general student and saw the university spending money on sport but closing place like the library I would be annoyed. Students come for a degree not sport.</p> <p>Elain (FTO): There is evidence to show sports can impact your grades.</p> <p>Ollie (SOC): How can you present anything if it may go somewhere else? There are always more places the money could go.</p> <p>Will (FTO): This is just wanting to speak on behalf of students.</p> <p>Evy (SPORT): May just look like we not spending any money.</p>			
--	--	---	--	--	--



		<p>Jade (SPORT): are there any conditions for grants?            Tiff (FTO): I am looking at sport specific grants.            Looking at national bodies for sports.            Jade (SPORT): So it couldn't be used for anything else?            Tiff (FTO): No.</p> <p>Alex (VO): Procedural motion to go to vote - PASSED</p>			
	Other Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tiff (FTO) Summary – Improving sport facilities improves lots of things. Its showing one thing isn't more important and can make money</li> <li>• Will (FTO) Summary– If the money is coming from grants then fair enough however academic facilities are worth more though.</li> </ul>			
	Vote on idea	<p><b>This idea has PASSED</b>  <a href="#">See how the Senedd Voted Here</a></p>	80%	16%	4%
<b>Any Other Business</b>	<p><b>Any other business:</b>            Chair said to log volunteer hours.            Please come for photos if you don't already have them to go on the website.  <b>Next Senedd:</b> 02/12/2024            Meeting Finished: 19:40</p>				

**FTO=Full Time Officer**

**VO=Volunteer Officer**

**FO = Faculty Officer**

**Sport=Sports Rep**



**Soc=Societies Rep**

**UMCA = UMCA Rep**

**VP = Volunteer Project Rep**

**AR = Academic Rep**

**Member = Member of SU but not a Senedd Member**

