

Student Assembly
Students' Union Cafe
Goldsmiths Students' Union
5:30-6.30pm, 19th October 2017

Chair Joe Williams

Full Time Officers present Eva Crossan Jory (President), Taylor McGraa (Education), Joseph Tema (Campaigns and Activities), Tara Mariwany (Welfare and Diversity)

Part Time Officers present Jade Hall-Smith (Disabled), Alvi Suipov (International), Edgar Ndazi (Mature), Kevin Lewis (Societies), Rosie Watson (Women's), Cat (Sports), Sechelle Mtitimila (Ethical and Environmental), Chloe (Campaigns), Shannon (Housing)

Goldsmiths Students' Union staff members: Meg Evans (Engagement Manager), Nuz Fatima (Democracy Coordinator), Rachel Sunderland (Societies Coordinator), Heather Welsh (Communications Coordinator)

Welcome and Introductions

The Chair introduced himself and welcomed students to the meeting, , noting that Student Assembly is open to all Goldsmiths students and is the forum to debate and agree the Union's position on issues and campaigns. The Chair noted the Union's Safe Space policy.

1. Full Time Officer Reports

Full Time Officers gave a 90 second update on what they have been working on with a further 5 minutes allocated by the chair for any questions from the floor.

President's Report – Eva Crossan Jory

ECJ reported that they had attended various NUS conferences which had been beneficial. ECJ further reported that they had been attendance of the Westminster All Party Parliamentary Group Higher Education Funding Council for England meeting. In their report, ECJ noted the areas of work that had been undertaken so far this term:

- Housing advice would now be available at the students' union, as promised in their manifesto. ECJ has also been working alongside the rent strike campaign group to stop further action from Goldsmiths College taking place.
- ECJ noted that they were working on increasing student representation across College committees.
- Work on improving and updating the students' union bye-laws is currently taking place.
- Work for This Girl Can week was being undertaken and a week of activity will be taking place in November. ECJ has also been working with the Welfare and Diversity Officer to plan a women in leadership conference for next term.

Welfare and Diversity Officer's Report- Tara Mariwany

TM reported that they had also taken part in attending NUS Lead and Change officer training, Students' Union 2017 and the Muslim Students' Leadership. Conference. Additionally, TM reported that she was working with the NUS Muslim Students working group and engaging in several areas of the group's work.

TM reported on work that had been taking place so far this term:

- They had been working on a programme of events for Black History Month in October and Islamophobia Awareness Month in November. They had also been working on promoting and supporting black-owned businesses within Lewisham.
- The Liberation room has now opened in the Angela Davis room and weekly coffee hours for Liberation groups are being held every Wednesday lunchtime.

Campaigns and Activities Officer's report - Joseph Tema

JT reported that he had attended Students' Unions 2017 and BUCS conference, as well as attending NUS Lead and Change officer training. They also attended the NUS Black Students' Campaign meet up of BME officers from different universities to discuss ideas.

JT reported on work that has taken place so far this term:

- JT is currently working on various projects such as rebooting 'the Leopard' and is working specifically ensuring that all students make good use of the student media outlet.
- Welcome Week had successfully taken place at the beginning of term and had been well received by the College.

- JT reported he had been involved in recruitment of part-time staff for the Students' Union, including for the cafe and the bar.
- Meetings with University of the Arts London have taken place about planning Varsity for Spring 2018.
- JT reported he had attended meetings of various working groups such as the Student Experience Committee and other groups regarding the space on campus.

Education Report – Taylor McGraa

TM reported that they have attended NUS Students' Union 2017 conference.

TM reported on work that had taken place since the beginning of term:

- Meetings with all the department heads have taken place. TM also sits on a number of working groups and College committees, including the Academic Board.
- Working on research into the experience of low-income students and the cost of materials.
- Delivered training for academic reps, alongside colleagues from the students' union.
- Working with the Careers department to develop skills workshops for students.
- Presented to the Warden and other senior College staff about the officer team plans for the year, alongside the other full-time officers.

The Chair took questions from the floor for the officers. A question was received asking for the officer team's thoughts on Jo Johnson's announcement about free speech at universities. TMA noted that free speech at universities could not exist alongside programmes like Prevent, which actively silence Muslim students and students of colour. They added that the union is supportive of free speech, as long as it complies with the safe space policy of the students' union.

Motions

Motion 1: Oppose closure of the Waldron walk-in health centre

Proposer: Tara Mariwany

Secunder: Taylor McGraa

Speech for the motion: Tara Mariwany

Questions

None

Speech against the motion

None

Amendments to the motion

None

Vote for Motion 1:

For: 37

Abstained: 2

Against: 1

Motion Passes.

Motion 2: Fight elitism campaign

Proposer: Karim Ullah

Seconder: Denise Nunes

Speech for the motion: Karim Ullah

Questions

None

Speech against the motion

None

Amendments to the motion

None

Vote

For: 38

Abstain: 2

Against: 0

Motion passes

Motion 3: Creation of new officer roles

Proposer: Eva Crossan Jory

Seconder: Tara Mariwany

Speech for the motion: Eva Crossan Jory

Questions

None

Speech against the motion

None

Amendments to the motion

None

Vote

For: 36

Abstain: 2

Against: 2

Motion passes

Motion 4: Removal of Campus Officer

Proposer: Eva Crossan Jory

Seconder: Tara Mariwany

Speech for the motion: Eva Crossan Jory

Questions: None

Speech against the motion: None

Amendments to the motion: None

Vote:

For: 35

Abstain: 2

Against: 3

Motion passes.

Motion 5: Policy lapse

Proposer: Eva Crossan Jory

Seconder: Tara Mariwany

Speech for the motion: Eva Crossan Jory

Questions: None

Speech against the motion: None

Amendments: None

Vote for Motion 5

For: 38

Abstain: 1

Against: 1

Motion passes.

Motion 6: Availability of Stretch space

Proposer: Rafael Escardo Espejo

Seconder: Annie Warner

Speech for the motion: Rafael Escardo Espejo

Questions: None

Amendments: None

Speech against the motion: None

Vote for Motion 6

For: 39

Abstain: 1

Against: 0

Motion passes.

Motion 7: To support changes to the regulations for 'acceptable/unacceptable circumstances'

Proposer: Jade Hall Smith

Seconder: Ellen Kenyon Peers Lucy Cowling, Yosra Elhamamy, Aoife Mac Elhatton, Anna Colwill, Casey Tufnell, Jasmine Haselwood

Speech for the motion: Jade Hall-Smith

Questions: None

Amendments: A friendly amendment from the proposer was accepted by the proposer.

Speech against the motion: None

Vote for Motion 7

For: 38

Abstain: 2

Against: 0

Motion passes.

Solidarity Motions:

Mogadishu bombing: Tara Mariwany proposed a motion of solidarity with the victims and families of the Mogadishu bombing in Somalia, noting that over 200 people including many students on their way to graduation had been killed in the attack.

The solidarity motion was passed.