

Falmouth & Exeter Students' Union

Student Council 2022/2023

Date	29/03/2023	Time	13:00
Location	Exchange Courtyard 9		
Part Time Officers	Rebecca Hunt - Chair (RH) Bobby Angelov - Societies Officer (BA) Francesca Whetstone - Community Officer (FW)		
SU Presidents	Luke Court - President Falmouth (LC) Georgi Griskeviciene - President Exeter (GG) Kira Orchard - President Welfare and Inclusivity (KO)		
SU Staff	Matt Parker - Student Voice Manager (MP) Minutes		
Apologies	Lauren Taylor - President Student Experience (LT) Abigail Lockwood-Morris - Sports Officer (ALM) Charlie Kwong - Distance Learning Officer (CK) Camille Meaney - International Officer (CM) Nick De Prazier - Mature Officer (NDP) Amber Clifton - Open Office (AC) Heena Carahaa - Widening Participation Officer (HC) Caius Datt - UG Education Officer (Exeter) (CD) Jack Mullock - Accommodation Officer (JMu) Jack Myrick - Open Officer (JMy) Tes Choi - Liberation Officer (TC)		
Observers	Ephraim Masudi (EM) Tristan Kunzer (TK)		

	Item	Type	Lead
1	<p>Welcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Welcome • 	Verbal	Chair
2		To approve	Chair
3	<p>Make a Change</p> <p>All work should be marked before graduation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EM Presenting: Students who miss any due dates will not get to graduate at the same point as the rest of their course. Regardless of reason if they have anything outstanding, they will not be permitted to graduate. No one was told about this from first year. EM found out about this and discussed with other students on their course and no one else knew about it. As such they are representing their course as well as themselves. This creates difficulty for international students and other students that need to travel a long way for graduation as they would need to come back after they leave for a second ceremony. • RH: would it have been better if that been communicated? What is the core issue. • EM: The core issue is that we are not able to graduate with everyone else. Taken away from students when they have missed a deadline out of no fault of their own, you don't get to experience the graduation that they were told at the beginning. Supposed to symbolise us going through the first three years. • EM: Would like an event for students who do not get to go to the main graduation. <p>Council discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LC: Only relevant for final year students at Falmouth – if you need to apply for mitigation for final assessment, the deadline for submission is after the institutional deadline for graduation. Anything after that will not graduate until the next round. • GG: for Exeter, it is a bit different if you defer until august, you can still go to graduation and celebrate with your peers, there is boundary that you have to reach to get that, but you do not get a full certificate. Could something like that be implemented at Falmouth? • RH: should they be treated differently this year as they were so affected by covid? • LC has already brought this up at academic board, so they are aware of it. Issues around academic standards, their approach is 	Make a Change	Chair

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	<p>that they do not want to rush students through. Deadline will not move as this will be disruptive, and the academics need that extra time to mark. What Georgi is saying makes a lot of sense and asks if she can get hold of that policy to share it with Falmouth. At Falmouth you do not get your certificate at graduation anyway, it comes through the post afterwards. Falmouth should be able to accommodate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RH: sounds like Falmouth lecturers are on board. • KO: Agrees with that idea. • FW: not sure that the wording of the make a change is representative of what was actually discussed. • RH: should we take a vote to change the wording to something like all students get to attend the graduation? • MP: Make a change must be approved as written, but council members can submit a motion for the next meeting with an edited wording. Meanwhile, LC can take this agenda back to academic board with support from GG. • Not voted through but LC and GG will work towards something on the line of this discussion as we do agree with it, new motion will be put forward to next council for discussion and ratification. • LC: Very unlikely to get a policy change for next academic year. <p>Vote: 0 For 6 Against</p> <p>Parking Policy Change TK Presenting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As a car owner there are inconsistencies with the university policy which sounds great through an environmental lens. • Policy not being facilitated – assume there is some political reason that the university does not want to facilitate parking on campus. • Students are pushed use parking in the local community. • This increased the impact of cars in the local community. Residents have their wellbeing effected by the cars. • Cars still vital part of the UK economy – 77% of undergrads own a car, provides emotional benefits, sense of freedom, security. • Difficult for people in a rural setting. Residents are afraid to lose their parking spaces in the local community. • Difficult for older or disabled people in the community. Spoken to plenty of residents who have explained that it is another barrier for doing things. Feelings of stress and vulnerability. • Locals feel excluded from the university deal. Leads to a negative perception of the university because of disruption. 	<p>Make a Change</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • University should be seen to be corporately socially responsible. Leads to dissatisfaction between students and the community. • Leads to vandalism – car tires slashed by local residents due to impact. • Solutions: Change to university policy to make transport easier, better, and cheaper public transport, car sharing support, cycling infrastructure. Not necessarily asking for free parking, would like university to recognise the impact it is having by not incentivising cars without implementing any alternatives. Option to pay for permits if they want it. Review of policy, implementation of solutions to facilitate a change in policy and access to the current parking that isn't optimised. • FW: could we add car sharing to subsidised parking. • BA: What is the process if you want to park on campus? Long term you cannot get a permit without a blue badge or if you live outside of 10 miles away. Full day parking is up to 6 pounds a day. BA: increasing street parking is just contributing to angering local residents. • LC: Falmouth and Exeter are away of local community not being happy with it due to local news stories and the issue being cited as cost of parking on campus. • GG: in a meeting the other day about sustainability on the campus – university sharing a survey around transport which touches on cycling facilities and bike sharing • LC: not news that students and residents are being disadvantaged by the system. • Up to 100 votes from the students. <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BA: Interesting issue as we have a reputation for being a sustainable campus but don't want to punish students to need to use a car. But the busses from Falmouth specifically are very frequent and reasonably cheap. • KO: Goes to a forum with local councillors and parking comes up a lot. University is well aware that it is an issue. Council has to be aware of the fact that the community are not our members so we can pitch it as a policy for students rather than the community. • GG: Key things around sustainability issue around bike lanes and car sharing. Having student support for that kind of policy change would be very positive. They would be keen to hear it at this point. A mandate today would be a really good idea. • RH: green consultants' program might be worth investigating. • LC: completely agree, parking is a real issue for a number of reasons. Point of contention: Make a change is difficult as the wording is saying that cars are essential and a right. 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RH: has not put in there that he wants free parking quite cleverly. Will put to the vote to support a policy change to the university parking is something we can agree too. • Vote: 6 to 0 in favour. • GG: would be great to get the student involved with the discussion. • Action: matt to share result with Tristen and ask for a copy of the presentation for reference. • LC: access to the campus is an associated learning cost and staff pay a lot less than students do. <p>Vote: 6 For 0 Against</p> <p>Build a Skate Park on Penryn Campus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MP Reads comments from Make a Change Post. • KO: university have some money put aside for sports facilities and it is feasible thing that could be built as they have been asking for a while for student submissions but have not received anything they are happy with. No space for this in Falmouth and a good social space. Feasible in theory if this is voted through. • RH: is there a space on campus if this is put through. • KO: there is space set aside and the mandate could allow us to lobby for something like that. • LC: Lauren needs something that we can push for in particular. • RH: would be nice to know where it is going to go so we know it is not taking up a green space and for a specific thing. • GG: also worried about that but would be a very good and visible win for the SU and student council. Not necessarily a bad thing to promote it for this community because they have asked for it. • LC: That would be only concern, needs to be used by all student groups, but that is granular detail. Money and appetite already there. <p>Vote: 6 For 0 Against</p>	Make a Change	
4	<p>Cheaper Facilities for clubs and societies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FW: Once a term activities committee meet, including several PTOs, President Student Experience and the Activities Manager. Societies apply for money from the SU through this committee and we are starting to see a lot of applications for facilities hire that should be covered by their membership. One of UoE strategies is encouraging sport but it costs a lot of rent it out, so 	Verbal	

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	<p>it is difficult for societies. Wanted to put it forward to see what the council thought. Primarily concerned with FXPlus run sports facilities and AMATA run by Falmouth. Roughly £10,000 a year overall being spent.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LC: Understand a small fee for the use, but this seems very counterintuitive when understanding how the funding works, the SU having a grant fund to support students to pay the institutions to use their facilities. Money going round in a circle. Don't think anyone thinks about that. Process needs to be looked at. Money could be used for other things like competitions. • RH: Question about the ways that the SU communicates and liaises with FXPlus. • LC: A lot of it is relationship building with staff members – FXPlus have a board but none of the Sabbs are on the FXplus board. Can influence indirectly via the boards of each university. Lauren trying to get representation on FXPlus board. • RH: What would be the next step if voted through? • MP: Activities committee can work with Lauren to take it forward. <p>Vote: 6 For 0 Against</p>		
5	<p>Update from NUS National Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JMu unable to attend to discuss experience at NUS conference due to schedule conflict. • Discussion about NUS and clarification from MP around procedure for disaffiliation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A written motion must be submitted by a council member and at least one seconder, outlining the intent to call a referendum to disaffiliate. • If council vote to hold a referendum, this must be completed withing 5 days of the vote. 	Verbal	
6	<p>Equality Diversity and Inclusion Statement</p>	Verbal	
7	<p>President Updates</p> <p>Luke</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With three months left in post, main priority (big showcase) is done, smaller scale than expected but still very proud of it. Working on a second one for study block two with the Student Engagement manager. Will continue once every study block. 	Verbal	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lots of movement around the cost of learning group, did an update on the website. Considering it was only set up 6 months ago, a lot of positive stuff has come off the back of the group. <p>Georgi</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Divest borders campaign: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has written a paper which is going through to higher up meetings at Exeter. Falmouth are currently not investing in the border industry but could get an easy win by putting in place a policy that says they will not invest in the future. Will continue updating as it develops. Exeter Connect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Being taken forward as a students as change agents project. Experience Cornwall day in the works which will allow people to come from Devon to experience all the great things about Cornwall. Working with the guild to put something similar in place for Streatham campus, will keep the council updated going forward. People's assembly actions are being taken forward. Two papers detailing outcomes have been composed so far. Responses have come from universities but is in conversation with the people's assembly groups about how they want to take things forward. Meeting with them later in the term to discuss. <p>Kira</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Has just gotten back from an LGBT conference in Stoke on Trent. Staffordshire University have a really good LGBTQ+ policy. KO is working with Falmouth University to implement something similar. Also making a push for change on the Trans Inclusion Policy, as Falmouth are re-writing their policy at the moment. SU Pantry is open to use for all students. KO will be sharing information with staff soon to get the word out. It is also being absorbed into general SU processes. We Bleed/Period Product Update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FXPlus are in the process of taking over the buying of products. Trying to make sure they commit to it fully. KO asks the council to let her know if they see any places that have not been restocked or with no stock at all. 		
8	<p>Any other business</p> <p>No AOB was raised.</p>	Verbal	
9	<p>Date and time of next meeting:</p> <p>10 May 2023, 13:00 - 16:00</p>	Email	

