**Student Forum 13/03/24 Minutes**

**Attendees (Elected Officers Only)**

Theo Aldridge-Stone (Chair) - TAS

Hana Soliman (Chair) - HS

Phil Green (Vice President) - PG

Orestis Collins-Alamanos (Vice President) - OC

Ollie Miners (Community Officer) - OM

Apologies from Hanna (President Falmouth) and Connie (President Exeter)

**Welcome and Ground Rules**

**Democracy Pilot**

* PG spoke about about the new democracy pilot
* Replaces old representative model
* Detailed new Democracy Model (Democracy explainer released later?)

**Sabb Updates**

* OCA presented his Vice Presidential update including the Gender Expression Fund (GEF), welcoming international students to their flats at the start of term and improving disabled students access to buildings
* PG's update included the soup kitchen, the declaration of the climate ecology and developing a course on ecological citizenship. PG will also attend the NUS conference, hoping to pass an SU motion on liberation for trans students. PG also discussing a food review with FX Plus.
* Hanna's update presented by OCA. Successfully restarted creative workshops. Working on a mould review to take to management about combating mould. Call for photos for visual evidence (send to [**presidents@thesu.org.uk**](mailto:presidents@thesu.org.uk)). Gathering feedback for the Falmouth rep system. Meeting with departmental reps as well.
* Connie's update presented by PG. Working on student direct feedback with paid student focus groups. Academic representation review underway. Works with PG on the soup project (over 150 students fed over the last 6 weeks). Looking in to developing a community fridge on campus

**Executive Committee Updates**

* HS and TAS presented the feedback of executive committee updates

**Make A Change: Bike Shelters**

* Additional research perhaps? Comprehensive plan needed w/ backups (OGA)
* Planning years in advance?
* Look into ownership of bottom path - talk to council?
* OM fed back from his group on how FX Plus might not be too keen. Could look at alternatives such as providing tarps for protection?
* OM pointed out that lots of the racks are in Glasney and that expanding racks is inline with the SU's declaration of a climate emergency.
* Building restrictions due to trees and bats at the bottom of campus
* Possibility of prioritising retrofitting new ones with covers and lights where possible
* Need for survey - more data required. FXPlus is currently running a transport survey.

**Passed unanimously w/ no amendments**

**Make A Change: Cash on Campus**

* OCA added the importance of cash for international students although highlighted the difficulty of trying to bring it back. OCA raised the potential of having some kind of card for campus?
* Looking at voucher alternatives perhaps?
* PG fed back on how the decision came from the heads of both universities - need to talk to both Uni SMTs
* HS fed back on how cash on campus promotes the accessibility goals of the universities and the SU.
* Some jobs get paid in cash - how can this be used? Have to go to Truro?
* Starting off with vending machines and parking to slowly bring back cash onto campus.
* OM mentioned lack of access to bank accounts and need for equality.

Motion Amended to add accessibility as a key business

**Passed unanimously as amended**

**Priority Votes:**

This vote decides on what becomes a priority of the Students’ Union. By a suggestion becoming a priority at Forum, the Executive Committee are tasked to carry out campaigning to reach the goal of the suggestion. There are six priorities throughout the academic year.

The Executive Committee should report progress of priorities at every Forum to be held accountable by students’ union members on the progress of their decisions.

Bike Shelters:

For: 2

Against: 9

Abstain: 0

Bike shelters is not a union priority.

Cash on Campus:

For: 10

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Cash on Campus **is** a union priority.