Falmouth & Exeter Students' Union

Student Forum Minutes

Date	Tuesday 22 nd October	Time	15:00 to 16:30
Location	The SU, Penryn and online		
Chaired By	Moraa Siekei – Forum Chair (Exeter)		

#	Item	Meeting Papers &	Presented By	Outcome
1	Welcome and Introduction to Forum Moraa introduced the meeting and explained the hand signals that they would be using and encourage the attendees to use throughout the meeting. Moraa explained what Forum was and identified that it allows us to be more inclusive & representative. They also ran through how the meeting will work, what would be discussed and what will happen if a proposal is passed.	Links	Moraa Siekei – Forum Chair (Exeter)	N/A
2	Sabbatical Officer Updates Jadelle introduced herself to the meeting. Over the last few months, Jadelle has worked on: Improving the furniture outside the Stannary bar to make it more comfortable, aesthetically pleasing and communal for students. Introduced Koofi acoustic, Stannary open mic, and stannary sessions. Black History Month – been working closely with ACS and the engagement team to put on events throughout the month. There is an emphasis on BH not just being for one month and events will be happening throughout the year.	Read Jadelle's update here Read Connie's update here Read Marketa's update here Read Fina's update here	Jadelle Luckman – President Falmouth	N/A
	Connie introduced herself, over the last few months her updates have been: - Working in collaboration with students and staff in relation to the student encampment and advocating for students' right to protest. As a result, uni set up two different working groups which Connie sits on as well as		Connie Chilcott – President Exeter	

student members from Cornwall & Devon and counterparts from the Guild and people from the university. Investment & Treasury group. Outcomes will be in the Spring. Lots of training and networking over the summer Acknowledging the acute issues of Cornwall. Lobbying action against student poverty Food pantry across campuses, one been introduced to Falmouth and working on Truro Campus - as well as free soup friday. Working on getting breakfast clubs set up too to combat these issues The housing crisis is an issue, going to London to lobby the MPs around the renter's rights bill. Attended inductions across welcome Lots of meetings and chaired Student experience partnership board and set out priorities for the year and making sure recommendations focus on Cornwall too Working on manifesto and curriculum for change, connecting students and always around for a cup of tea when not in meetings! Marketa introduced herself to the meeting,

No questions for Connie.

updates:

- Delivered food bags in collaboration with res life - 248 to every flat in glasney and packsaddle to help establish community and encourage communal cooking. All sourced from Falmouth food coop
- Organised a trip to trevone quarry, an eco-living community
- Worked on a series of talks for students linking in with the local community such as Cornwall Wildlife Trust with focus on environmental & green impact
- Currently investigating topics of conversation for the Big Rep meetings looking at future facing careers & problems

No questions for Marketa

Fina introduced themselves to the meeting, updates:

Moved intercultural cafe into the SU space to make it more inclusive,

Marketa Caruthers - Vice President

Fina Day - Vice President

	there's been a nicer setting and increased community - Attending the NUS lobby day, clear issues for international students having to pay their whole rent up upfront due to not having guarantors - Held accessibility pop-ups, worked with the rolling forward campaign students and looking at physical accessibility - Working on student submission for Exeter University Mental Health Charter, deep dives what support students are receiving - Planning SHAG week to empower people to have pleasurable & empowering sexual experiences, lots of events being planned but get in contact with Fina if you have any ideas. No questions for Fina			
3	Proposal to change the roles of Sabbatical Officers Fina outlined the proposal for the changes to officer roles. Currently there are four roles, with an Exeter President, a Falmouth President and two VPs. This isn't representative as it often ends up with more presidents being from one university compared to the other. The proposal would be that there is an Exeter President, an Exeter VP, a Falmouth President and an Exeter VP. The proposal would see that only Exeter students could vote for the Exeter roles and vice versa for Falmouth roles.	Read the full explanation paper here	Fina Day – Vice President	For = 15 Against = 0 Abstain = 2 Passed
	A student asked for clarification on the wording of students, Fina clarified that this would mean members of Falmouth & Exeter Students' Union. Moraa held the vote: For = 15 Against = 0 Abstaining = 2 Proposal passes			
4	Make A Change Proposal 1: The percentage of online events, clubs and societies should match the percentage of online students	Read the proposal here	Moraa Siekei – Forum Chair (Exeter)	For = 13 Against = 3 Abstain = 2
	Moraa outlined the proposal, around 20% of Falmouth students are online students so societies need to have more imagination to make it more inclusive for these students to			Passed

attend. For example, if there was a cold-water swimming society even though they couldn't physically join they would attend an online talk on water safety. A student asked for clarification on if this would impact existing options, Lisa (the proposer) outlined that where practical it would apply to current societies.

Moraa split the meeting into groups to discuss this further.

Feedback from the group was as followed:

- Online societies would allow online students to feel part of the university but altering current societies may feel an afterthought
- Suggestion would be online students start their societies
- Changing requirements for online students to make it easier for them to form.
- Considerations of online students should be embedded in application process for new student groups
- Suggestion of research so societies can understand what online students want
- Acknowledge it was hard for societies to adapt
- Possibility that there was a set figure of online events that societies hold
- More clarification on what online students want
- Concerns over requirements as not accessible for all groups.
- Connection with the online attendees was poor so some feedback from this group was missed
- It was acknowledged that it would not be feasible for all groups but would like more parity.

Clarification on proposal was asked which identified it was to investigate feasibility of this.

Moraa held the vote:

For = 13

Against = 3

Abstain = 2

Proposal is passed

5	Make A Change Proposal 2: Gender neutral/inclusive bathrooms Moraa spoke through the proposal on behalf of Robin due to the connection, part of this would include creating a map to clearly identify where they are and investigate the feasibility of going to gender neutral toilet and then going to lectures etc. Moraa split the meeting into groups to discuss further, feedback: - It is important to have gender neutral toilets but concerns over the cost & feasibility of introducing more toilets. More information is needed to understand the proposals more - Need more research & data behind this to take forward to FX plus - Robin clarified it wasn't about changing all toilets - Wanted a requirement for one gender	Read the proposal here	Mora Siekei – Forum Chair (Exeter) Robin Hutchinson (proposer)	For = 17 Against = 0 Abstain = 1 Passed
	neutral toiler in every department - Change of signage to show that they say gender neutral - Better signage in toilets to help safeguard students further - Conversations about separate issues around baby changing facilities			
	For – 17 Against - 0 Abstain – 1 Proposal is passed			
	Union priority vote It was raised that there would then need to be a Union Priority vote and explained that there are six priorities available throughout the year. There was lots of discussion around concerns that it was too early in the year to vote on a priority. It was explained that we're still in a democracy pilot, so this aspect is still being worked on. Students agreed that there would be flexibility on priorities should the slots be filled early on and stronger proposals are passed later in the year.			

	A vote was then held: Voting for union priority – online events: For 0 Against 7 Abstain 7 Was not selected as a priority	Make a Change Proposal 1 (Online events) - not passed as a priority
	Voting for union priority – gender neutral For – 12 Against - Abstain- 4 Passed as a priority	Make a Change Proposal (Gender Neutral Toilets) - Passed as a priority
6	AOB and date of next meeting Jadelle shared that Falmouth & Exeter Students' Union are looking for Falmouth Students to apply to the Student Trustee roles. She highlighted that these are voluntary positions. The next meeting will be held on the 26 th November 2024	