SRC #7 Minutes

Abertay SRC Meeting Minutes

Date: 26/04/2023 Time: 17:00 Location: MS Teams Video Conference

Chair: Olivia Robertson

Clerk: Sophie Kennedy

Attendees: Ailish Reyes, Susan MacDonald, Olivia Morgan, Robyn Thiel, Lauryn Baldie

Housekeeping:

1) Welcome (what are you proud of?)

OR welcomed everyone to the meeting. Everyone said something they were proud of, particularly items from the previous year.

2) Apologies

Apologies were received from Jacqueline Dignan, Euan Hughes, Owen Harvey, Callie Kelly, Duncan Kelly, Klayton Matthews, Mark McFadden, Amy Ohkai, Chloe Peters, and Chloe Pirie.

3) Minutes of the Last Meeting (Paper #0 – 22.03.23)

The minutes were agreed to be accurate.

Open Business:

4) SLT Update

As a thank you to everyone who was a rep this year OR ordered venti reusable coffee cups with their names.

5) Campaign Updates

LB – Wellbeing Week (b/c 15th May), some ideas and rooms have been booked. Promotions and event details will be coming soon. Pizza will be delivered along with the Relax Trolley.

OR – Asking for approval for £400 of the campaigns budget for use on Wellbeing Week. Therapets will be arranged with 5 dogs visiting campus, the tent will be outside the library with chalk and bubbles. The money will go towards crafting items for use in activities or for students to take them away and use at home. It’s about embracing childhood and fun.

LB – We have £450 left.

Budget approval with 4 ayes, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

LB: Looking to release a housing survey with £50 of Dundee Loves Local vouchers as a prize.

OR: Creating stickers and signs for the contraception stand. The stand will be painted white and there will be clear signage in red vinyl.

Reserved Business:

6) Society Council Update

DT was not in attendance in SRC, but LB attended.

There were mentions of Wellbeing Week, discussions of closing the academic feedback loop, and complaints about microcredentials. There were discussions of a Society Gameathon, which has been rescheduled for next academic year.

7) NUS Liberation – discussion

OM – Went as Women’s delegate.

TUESDAY: and attended an accessibility workshop session. She learnt a lot about other universities – it seemed like Abertay has been very progressive in terms of accessibility and that is something to be proud of, but we have work to do. We can work on event accessibility by providing more information on events, hearing loops, and personal evacuation plans.

WEDNESDAY: She also attended the Women’s Caucus which focused on representation of women in university. Abertay is also progressive in this arena by way of SHAG Week, free period products in all bathrooms, and gender-neutral toilets. We could look at increasing more female representation in the university.

LB – Went as LGBT+ delegate.

She found it interesting to chat to volunteers and our equivalent of community reps. If felt like a lot of bureaucracy. Conferences and events can be helpful, and we do not have to stick to NUS-focused conferences. She did not have much to say on content that was covered but is planning a conference tips survival guide for students. The Association is looking to address the gaps in conference attendees

8) 22/23: What worked and what didn’t?

RT – Looking at arranging meetings on campus. Some reps do not engage, which is a shame. She is unsure what the solution is.

OM – It is so difficult to get a hold of class reps. The engagement has been very low. They don’t seem to understand what division reps are or why they matter.

AR – A way to clarify the structure of the Students’ Association. We should have more of a sense of community amongst the representatives!

Wrap-Up:

9) Any other Business

RT is still working on her Student Workers research with recommendations for support. She is also finding it frustrating that the university has yet to release exam dates for Criminology, as it is difficult to schedule shifts. SK will chase this up and OR will follow up too.

LB questioned if it would be a good idea to ask reps to anonymously feedback on why they do not engage.

LB also asked about Canva access for Community & Division Reps.

10) Date of next meeting

This was the final SRC of the academic year.