

Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 3rd February 2015, Asylum, 3pm

Attendance

Dehenna Davison, Richard Brooks, Amber Jenkins, Anthony Rutili, Kathleen Brook, Daniel Sides-Pearson, Jamie Boote, Angela Suriyakumaran, Nichola Jackson, Thomas Swainson, Lewis Worrow, Adil Qureshi, Gareth Ikin, Matthew Evans, Simon Hernandez, Jeni Day, Adam Allnutt, Wendy Fan, Bryony Maskell.

1. Ratification of minutes of previous AGM

Question from Amber Jenkins about public access of minutes.

Answer from Richard Brooks, approved annually and uploaded online.

Minutes Approved.

2. Receiving the report of the Trustees on HUU's activities since the previous AGM

Richard Brooks gives presentation given to University Council:

- Individual accounts
- Overview of HUU
- Governance structures – 'power chart'
- Overview of Board of Trustees
- Strategy and student priorities
- Impact report
- HUU's Strategic Plan
- University's Strategic Plan

Question from Amber Jenkins about availability of information for students.

Answer from Richard Brooks, Marketing department planning to provide strategic information online.

Question from Amber Jenkins, could information be provided in a concise format for students.

Answer from Richard Brooks, yes.

3. Receiving the Accounts of HUU for the previous financial year

Richard Brooks explains income and main expenses, highlights work towards fossil-free divestment.

Question from Amber Jenkins could accounts be put into an accessible and understandable format for students?

Answer from Richard Brooks, yes.

Question from Jamie Boote, what is the annual NUS affiliation fee and what do we get for the money?

Answer from Richard Brooks, NUS affiliation fee is £51,000 per annum. Is a benefit because: NUSSL, training and support for sabbatical officers, research and resources, national campaigning, training and support for staff.

4. Appointment of the auditors

The Chair introduces the auditors.

Haines Watts appointed.

Question from Amber Jenkins, what is an auditor?

Answer from the Chair.

Answer from Richard Brooks.

Auditors approved.

5. Approving the list of affiliations of HUU

The Chair introduces the list of approved affiliations.

Question from Richard Brooks, what do we get from British Universities Skiing Club?

Answer from Nichola Jackson.

Affiliations approved.

6. Open questions to the Trustees

The Chair opens the floor to questions.

Richard Brooks encourages attendees to ask questions.

Question from Amber Jenkins about under-funding of Activities Zone and who can we talk to?

Answer from Richard Brooks, funding being assessed and something happening soon, subvention from University ties into funding, long-term review of volunteer support.

Question from Matthew Evans, lack of students in attendance and no non-engaged students in attendance.

Answer from the Chair, this is a test, major change to event for next year.

Answer from Richard Brooks, yes a concern. Across the students' union sector, governance structures are not suitable. AGM is a constitutional requirement, however students want things to change. HUU spent £200 on the AGM last year, only got 30 people to attend.

Question from Adam Allnut about process of consultation for Governance Review.

Answer from Richard Brooks, Governance Survey with over 500 respondents.

Question from Adam Allnut, is that good enough?

Answer from Richard Brooks, yes, representative of student population. We are conducting focus groups as well as consulting Union Council.

Question from Adam Allnut, are we considering becoming a Guild?

Answer from Richard Brooks, I don't know. Agree to talk later.

Question from Amber Jenkins, we should take democratic structures straight to students, should tie into induction.

Answer from Richard Brooks, explains Governance Review timeline. Inductions not run by HUU.

Question from Kathy Brook, focus of WelcomeFest should be services like societies not just events.

Answer from Richard Brooks, WelcomeFest a reflection of what students want, diversity of events. Services are really important, fairs and events are a key way of introducing HUU's services to students.

7. Any Other Business

Question from Adam Allnut about circling.

Answer from Richard Brooks, level of drinking activity unsustainable and creating an unacceptable risk. There has been an increase in incidents, complaints and scrutiny. HUU is conscious to student welfare, we want to promote acceptable drinking activity. Circling risk to organisation and dangerous for students, risk to finances if licence revoked.

Question from Bryony Maskell, socialising elsewhere is still a problem, ban hasn't addressed the issues of student welfare and complaints from the community.

Answer from community safety is a concern, we are planning about how we support clubs and social secretaries. Students have choice to go where they like, I cannot take personal responsibility.

Chair thanks everyone for attending, meeting closes.