



Education Zone

1pm on 29/01/2020 – Wilberforce Building, LR04

1. Attendance

- Apologies:
Saalo Sparkes, Faculty Rep for Health Sciences
Emily Birch, Part-Time Officer for Postgraduate Research Students
Marc Brook, Part-Time Officer for Mature Students
- Register:
Simeon Orduen, President of Education (SO)
Sanaa Sabir, Faculty Rep for Science & Engineering (SS)
Katherine Coates, Faculty Rep for Business, Law & Politics (KC)
Eeshaan Singh Basu, Faculty Rep for Arts, Cultures & Education (ESB)
Casper Nicholas, Part-Time Officer for Foundation Students (CN)
Charlotte Binns, Councillor of Scrutiny (CB)
Benedict Greenwood, HUU Education Coordinator (BG)
Ellis McGlone, HUU Education Coordinator (EM)
- Guest attendees:
Nicole Steele, HUU Student Voice Manager (NS)
Elise Bateman, HUU Campaigns & Democracy Coordinator (EB)
- Pronoun Policy
Each attendee specified the pronoun that they would prefer to be used when referring to them.

2. Minutes

- Minutes of the previous meeting
SO requested that update iv. Be changed from foundation to international.


The minutes of the meeting held on 20th November 2019 were reviewed and approved.

- Matters arising
- Previous points to action – results

SO - Updated the zone on progress regarding the BAME Attainment Gap. This should now be referred to as the BAME 'Awarding' Gap, as the University awards degrees.

The four members of staff responsible are Katherine Hubbard, Claire Hookham, Dom Henri and Emma Palmer.

SO - Has asked for a focus on international students from K. Hubbard.



KC - updates. Better attendance at second round of SSFs in FBLP, but there were still issues with no elected chairs in some SSFs. KC has met with Tom Hoyland, FBLP Associate Dean for Student Experience to discuss matters.

KC – There are issues specifically within the Law Dept. Too many students are going straight to the Faculty Rep – KC has recommended that students email their module lead. The module, ‘Criminal Evidence’, has seen lots of complaints across the whole subject.

3. Reports

Report by the President of Education Questions


SO – Following recent discussions, SO addressed the issue of a lack of Course Rep Leaders and student chairs at SSFs. Very few students ran for the roles in the October by-elections, but there has been a shift in numbers of people coming forward wanting to chair meetings but not be a leader. SO pointed out that only the title of the role and the method in which they are appointed, from self-nomination to election, have changed ahead of this academic year. Discussions have taken place between HUU and University staff to assess this situation and other factors that might affect the role of Course Rep Leaders. As some Reps feel that the CRL dictates how they represent students, or does not have sufficient knowledge of programmes outside of their own to support them, it has been decided not to recruit new CRLs this trimester, but implement a system whereby the Reps at an SSF elect their chair from the Course Reps in attendance. This process already appears to be happening in some areas by default in the absence of an elected CRL.

CB – Asked what would happen with the process of passing feedback upwards through the Rep system if the chair of SSFs were to constantly change.

SO – It is likely that SSF groups will want to elect a chair to be in place for all SSFs, but there may need to be some procedure in place in the event that this doesn't happen. Later in this session, the zone will review and discuss the role of CRLs moving forward.

KC – Agreed with the new process and the idea of reviewing the role of CRL going forward, but reiterated that we need an effective feedback system moving upward through the representation structure.

BG – explained the changes that have been made to the academic unit structures on campus recently, and how that affected the way that the representation system lined up with the university's own structure. Faculties are confirming how the SSF groups will be set up ahead of the next round of SSFs.



ESB – Highlighted that the system might be more complex than it seems on the surface.

KC – Staff in FBLP have stated that HUU is not feeding back to them regarding changes to the representation system.

SO – The last President of Education, Isobel Hall, reached out to every member of staff on campus and invited them to contribute to the research and feedback. Staff were then presented with the proposals and changes and agreed to them.

SO – Glad that members of the zone are thinking ahead for the next academic year.

Faculty Representatives Report Questions

Faculty of Arts Culture & Education:

ESB – stated that it is impossible to chase people down to gather feedback, which is harder with no current CRLs in FACE

There is also disproportionate representation within the faculty. For example, there are plenty of Course Reps for English, Creative writing & American Studies, but only two in Social Sciences.

Many students not really thinking of representation, but where they are, it works. Some have 50% of courses represented, but some as low as 15%.

SO – highlighted that he did a shout-out for Social Sciences on Monday 27th January.

ESB – stated that students in the School of Arts feel disconnected with HUU, and are frustrated that University Careers do not offer worthwhile placements for Arts.

ESB has spoken to staff to discuss this and will sit down for a further conversation.

ESB – Asked about how do we advertise and raise awareness?

SO- Staff are able to talk to students about the role of Course Reps and the Presidents Team are keen to do as many shout-outs as possible.

ESB – Reps cannot convince people to engage. Issues go straight to a member of staff.

SO – Highlighted that there are other feedback mechanisms on campus that are producing challenges for the Rep system, and some students maybe not comfortable with either system. Talks are ongoing



with University staff to assess how we can make these processes work alongside SSFs.

ESB - Drama and Music have previously had free/open module options, but this has now been tightened. A petition had 200 names in 24 hours before being given to staff. No Reps were involved. The students argued that they pay for the ability to choose their modules. There is an increasing number of joint Arts students without representation. Spoken to Deputy and don't know who to talk to.

SO - requested to meet after and discuss in more detail ACTION!

ESB - There are not many Postgraduate Research students in FACE, but they have asked for senior faculty professors to improve their work. Arts currently have two but both are leaving. Currently PGRs only have lecturers and supervisors.

FOSE:

SS - There was no update as no SSF minutes or action registers had been received.

KC - highlighted that none had been received for FBLP either

EM - highlighted that talks had taken place about establishing a key contact for SSF groups to have more direct contact with each area, but feedback had suggested that this would not work for the faculties.

BG/EM/SO to talk to Faculty Reps and discuss what information they need and how this should be communicated.

CB - Stated that University issues shouldn't affect representation, referring to the key SSF contacts.

Report by Part-Time Students Officer

Questions

There is nobody currently in this role

Report by Mature Students Officer

Questions

Apologies sent for this meeting

Report by Postgraduate Research Office

Questions

Apologies sent for this meeting

Report by Postgraduate Taught Officer

Questions



There is nobody currently in this role

Report by Foundation Students Officer Questions

CN – Has been working with SO on the Academic Support Tutor Working Group

SO confirmed that foundations students have been granted eligibility to apply for scholarships starting from the academic year 2020 - 2021.

Foundation students feel that they don't have a lot of engagement with HUU. But CN has brought some of these students to events, such as Show Racism the Red Card, Climate Emergency Meeting and Forces of Nature.

Problems have possibly been down to the lack of time management of new students and the large amount of information that they receive. Students want to see more recycling options and activity from the Climate Action Group.

Report by HYMS Students Officer Questions

There is nobody currently in this role

Report by Scrutiny Councillors Questions

4. Proposals

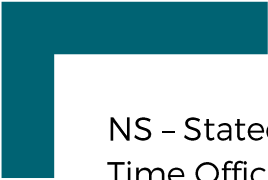
- SO to discuss the Drama and Music module options and the student petition that was circulated.
- SO, BG, EM to talk to Faculty Reps regarding the distribution of information and methods of communication with Course Reps.
- BG, EM to assess how the Foundation Students Officer can be in contact with foundation year Course Reps.

5. Motions

- Motions of caution/censure/no confidence
- Questions to trustees
- Questions for Council

6. Any other business

Funding for Zone Members:
NS & EB introduced themselves to the zone.



NS – Stated that all zones were being visited to remind/inform Part-Time Officers that there are funds available, approximately £100 per person, to be used to help with their engagement with students.

EB – If members of the zone have any campaign ideas or want to find out more, then they should email hvu-campaigns@hull.ac.uk. If they want to have a 1-2-1 meeting or meet for coffee to discuss ideas, then this can be arranged.

NS – Funds can be used to help with anything from a petition, survey or stalls, and they can request assistance with room bookings. The Voice Team can also help zone members make contact with specific members of staff, but that students should never be out of pocket and using their own money for these activities.

CN – Asked if it might be possible reaching foundation Course Reps. This is to be looked into by BG/EM.

BG – Explained that there will be a Chairing and Facilitation Training session on Wednesday 5th February at 2pm. This is available to all Course Reps, CRLs, Faculty Reps and members of the Education Zone.

CB & EB represented the Education Zone at the Governance Zone meeting on 28th January.

CB – Requested that minutes for all Education Zone minutes be circulated and uploaded to the website Minutes posted online please..

SO – Asked if all those present if they agree that future meetings occur the week before Union Council. The next meeting will be scheduled on or around 4th March 2020.