

EDUCATION ZONE MEETING MINUTES 29TH JANUARY 2020, 1PM, WILBERFORCE BUILDING, LR04

1. Attendance

Apologies:

- Saalo Sparkes, Faculty Rep, Health Science (SSp)
- Emily Birch, Postgraduate Research Students' Officer (EB)
- Marc Brooke (Chair), Mature Students' Officer (MB)

Register:

- Simeon Orduen, President of Education (SO)
- Sanaa Sabir, Faculty Rep, Science & Engineering (SSa)
- Katherine Coats, Faculty Rep, Business, Law & Politics (KC)
- Eeshaan Singh Basu, Faculty Rep, Arts, Culture & Education (ESB)
- Casper Nicholas, Foundation Students' Officer (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 methods in which they are appointed, from self-nomination to election, have changed ahead of this academic year. Discussion 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 the SSF 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 the 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.