**Societies General Meeting 1 – 26/09/2024**

**Jamie Campbell (VP Community) – Chair**

**Erin Ross (Activities Coordinator) – Clerk**

**Start of meeting 5.34pm**

JC welcomes everyone to first Societies GM of the year

**Sign in**

Societies sign in using QR code

**StrathInspire**

Katy McNair from Strathclyde Inspire gives a talk introducing the service

KM: What does entrepreneurship mean to you?

Societies: skillset, drive to start venture, business; empowerment; resilience

KM: SI is a team of students, staff and alumni who support entrepreneurship at Strathclyde, based on Level 6 of Graham Hills building

Idea of ‘The Entrepreneurial Strathclyder’ – relates to the qualities mentioned, collaboration and communication

People involved in societies are already entrepreneurial and SI wants to connect with socs to help develop skills and mindsets

SI approach is ‘entrpreneurship for all’ – offer curricular and extracurricular opportunities

Opportunities include the Exploring Entrepreneurship Challenge – 2-hr online learning toolkit and in-person activities, chance to win £2000 in pitch competition around Sustainable Development Goals

Start-up support – mentoring/advice, funding, training and community

Videos shown of student ambassador explaining the service and opportunities

SI wants to know if societies consider themselves entrepreneurial

KM: Do the activities you undertake create value and involve 2 other elements of the definition discussed?

Societies: USEV – Strathclyde Eco Vehicle; Biomedical Engineering Society (would like to collaborate); Pharmacy Society

Society member: entrepreneurship should be inclusive

KM: Absolutely, SI are undertaking activity to better include women; two student staff roles within the union, Natasha and Abdul, working on more inclusive events and activity

\_\_ also mentions SUMSA, WILN+ - suggests any other interested societies can leave their names

**Mentimeter**

JC asks societies to scan QR code to take part in Mentimeter

Questions: How are we all feeling today? – varied

Who has done committee training? – mainly yes or ‘soon’

What are some projects you are planning on doing this year? – varied

Would you take part if JC put on a Societies/Welcome Fair in January? – mostly yes

Should JC bring back the Battle of the Societies quiz, or would socs like another type of competition or big societies social? – varied suggestions, quiz still fairly popular

JC is looking to hold societies drop-ins, what days/times work best for you? – Wednesday afternoons most popular

Do you want to see resources like Socs Exec videos on FAQs? – some yes

Would you be ok with JC starting to collect pictures of soc activity before/for STAR awards?

Anything else JC should know about? – socs asked about bookable space as several union spaces have been removed (Heart, Voice and Connelly) – JC will get back to socs about this issue, note that Heart room is now Campus Living-Room

**Budget update**

14.6% of the general pot has been spent and 13.8% of Arts & Culture

JC notes that the university attempted to withhold Arts and Culture funding this year but President Eva Curran lobbied the uni and got it restored

**Training**

JC recaps mandatory Committee training

Finance training

Additional training opportunities

**Promo cards**

Phil (Head of Commercial at the union) offering all societies promo cards – get in touch with phil.reavey@strath.ac.uk

**Native and Zettle charges**

JC updates socs on new rules on transaction charges on soc memberships, Native tickets and Zettle card machines

With memberships the fee is added by the union to the membership price so you still receive the amount you asked for

With Native tickets you select ‘pass on’ the fee and it is paid by the ticket purchaser

With Zettle charges the transaction fees will be deducated from the amount you made on the machines that is transferred into your account

**Save the Societies**

JC updates on the societies and action groups we are trying to bring back – there is a QR code and form to register interest

**Charity Year**

Similar initiatives have run previously, great to see societies raising money and giving back so this is being extended across the whole year

Socs can apply anytime during the year opening shortly; there will be a £250 prize each semester for most funds raised, and a £500 at the end of the academic year for best collaboration

**Save the dates**

JC mentions Strath-RISE campaigns week happening from 1st-4th October

Safer Gambling Week from 18th – 22nd November

16 Days of Action and Fight for the Night from 25th November – 10th December

**Logging volunteering hours and skills**

JC explains how to set up a volunteering profile and log your hours and skills

Benefits are volunteer discount cards, professional reference from union managers when you need one

**Society equipment and storage**

If you don’t already have a box or place to store your things in the societies cupboard, email strathunion.societies to sort this out and get the code

Cupboard is on Level 1 of Strath Union

**Socs Exec time**

Societies have opportunity to chat to their point of contact on Socs Exec

JC introduces which Socs Exec members support which society category

Rachel – Media, Arts and Music

Shania – Course-Related

Ollie – Faith and Culture

Jo – Community and Widening Access

Cameron – Hobbies and Interests

Chep – Politics and Activism

**Thank you!**

**End of meeting**