2020/21 Clubs and Societies AGM

Thursday 11th March 2021

Minutes

Meeting start: 5pm

Chair: Ru Wallace (RW), VP Community

Clerk: Jodie Waite (JW), Student Development Co-Ordinator

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Thomas Lam, Clubs Exec 2020/21 member and Clubs Exec 2021/22 candidate

Madeline Taylor, 2020/21 Clubs Exec member

1. **Alumni Fund presented by Emma Campbell (EC), Strathclyde University Alumni Fund Officer**

EC:

* Encourages clubs and societies to apply and notes that individuals are not eligible.
* States that the application is not long but encourages clubs and societies to be as detailed as possible.
* Notes that the Alumni and Development team will be flexible if clubs and societies are unsure about travel or accommodation bookings due to Covid-19.
* Reminds clubs and societies that those who received funding last year are required to submit a report by 31st March 2021. EC further notes that the Alumni and Development team understand if clubs and societies who received funding last year have not managed to achieve all their aims.
* States that clubs and societies will know if their application has been successful by July at the latest.

1. **Clubs Executive Committee 2021/22 Candidates**

* Caitlyn Alexander (CA). CA states that they are the Vice President of the Psychology society and has organised a variety of socials and online talks about the BPS and career development. CA notes that they are running to develop their skills and to use their experience to affect all societies.
* Sheik Malik (SM). SM states they are a 2nd year PhD student and has had a great experience being on the 2020/21 Clubs Exec. SM states that they founded two societies, is President and organiser of TEDx, and has learned a lot in terms of working with various groups of people and helping them develop. SM states they would like to continue supporting societies by approving budgets and helping them achieve their aims and goals.
* Liam Mosson (LM). LM notes they are in the current Clubs Exec and that it has been an eye-opening experience seeing the challenges that clubs and societies have seen over the past months. LM notes that they are dedicated to making the Covid recovery for clubs and societies right and to ensuring that enough budget is available to achieve this.
* Emma Reavey (ER). ER states that they are the current Events Manager for Women in Leadership Network. ER notes that they would like to use their events experience to support clubs and societies transition back to in-person activities following Covid.
* Miles Wright (MW). MW states that they have been involved in many clubs and societies including Mooting, Debating and Boardgames. MW notes that their large debating competition was cancelled and so understands the challenges that clubs and societies have faced, and is eager to help clubs and societies overcome these challenges.
* Tom Lam (TL). Apologies sent.
* Student 1 asks the candidates how they would approach budgeting as a Clubs Exec member.
* LM notes that they will ensure that there is adequate funding available for clubs and societies across the whole year, particularly during the Covid recovery period, and that this is something they have become aware of over the past year. LM further notes that Clubs Exec must put a plan in place to ensure they do not go over or under budget and to ensure that every club and society is benefitted to the best of their ability.
* SM states that they have seen many societies who have been unable to receive funding due to Covid, and states that Clubs Exec must prepare to receive a large number of applications in 2021/22. SM further states that Clubs Exec must plan to accommodate this by making smart decisions to fund as many societies as possible.
* MW notes that, while it is important to consider all societies, Clubs Exec should ensure that funding is provided to those who have been hit the hardest to help them attract members again. MW notes that these societies are their biggest priority.
* ER states that planning is important for Clubs Exec to deal with an increase in funding applications and that they must consider societies who have struggled during Covid.
* CA notes that budgeting will be about forward planning and considering the consequences of providing a generous amount to one society to ensure that all societies are given an equal opportunity to participate.

1. **Moving to the New Building presented by Chris Chelich (CC), Strath Union Student Staff**

CC notes that:

* Clubs and societies should inform staff what they have in storage in order for staff to know which items need to be transported to the new building
* The Union needs information about what clubs and societies have, how much they have, and what they would like done with it
* Clubs and societies will be contacted to find out whether items belong to them, but things may get lost in the moving process if the Union does not have a list of items that they must move
* Societies should get in touch if they have an idea of what room bookings they will need

1. **Life Memberships**

RW notes that:

* Life Memberships allow graduates to be members of Strath Union for life and they can continue to use Union services
* Strath Union is looking at increasing the benefits available for Life Members
* Some profit will be re-invested into clubs and societies
* Clubs and societies are encouraged to provide discounted membership fees to Life Members over non-student members
* It is not yet confirmed whether graduate members will be required to purchase a Life Membership

1. **Charity Month Awards**

RW congratulates the winners of Charity Month who raised a total of £1,612.16:

* Strath Speakers and SUMSA for Best Collaboration Between Societies
* Musical Theatre Society for Best Themed Event
* Hong Kong Society for Most Funds Raised
* Women in Banking and Finance for Best Collaboration with an External

1. **2021/11 Clubs Exec Election**

* Members voted via Zoom Poll
* All candidates elected

1. **Ask the Clubs Exec**

RW asks members how they have found the experience of sitting on Clubs Exec:

* Sheik Malik notes that it has been a great experience and has allowed them to build their own skills and experience while helping others
* Laura Milligan notes that they have really enjoyed being a member and gaining transferable skills
* Liam Mosson notes that it has been great to see clubs and societies apply for funding in order to run so many online events and that they look forward to now supporting societies to transition back to in-person activities

1. **Final Points to Note**

RW states that:

* All committee members can download a Volunteer Achievement Record to show future employers
* The online Star Awards ceremony takes place on 1st April
* The deadline for clubs and societies to update their Active and Engaged status is 1st May
* Any Gold accredited Active and Engaged societies can nominate themselves for a Gold Society of the Year Star Award
* The 2021/22 Full Time Officers have now been elected

1. **AOCB**

Meeting end: 5.30pm

Next meeting: September 2021