2020/21 Clubs and Societies General Meeting 3

Wednesday 3rd February

Minutes

Meeting start: 4pm

Chair: Ru Wallace (RW), VP Community

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

1. Welcome and apologies
2. Charity Month

RW states that:

* For the ‘Best Collaboration’ award, Clubs Exec will be looking for innovative collaborations, the ‘Best Themed’ event can be any theme, a £250 award will be given to the society which raises most funds and that ‘Best Collaboration with an External’ is open to societies who work with any external charity or organisation.
* Nominations close on March 1st and winners will be announced on March 11th
* Societies such as the Afghan Society have already arranged events and initiatives for the week.
* Attendee 1 asks whether externals would include societies from other Universities. Madeleine Taylor (MT), Clubs Exec member, states that they would consider any external groups including societies from other Universities.
* Attendee 2 asks whether societies which are already involved with charities will be considered. RW states that any society is more than welcome to get involved and societies which are already involved with fundraising can continue raising money for their associated charity throughout the month and will still be eligible for an award.
1. Active and Engaged
* RW congratulates all Active and Engaged societies and encourages attendees to visit the Active and Engaged page on the Strath Union website to inform the Union of any activities they have done in order to receive an accreditation.
1. Star Awards

RW states that:

* Nominations for the Star Awards have now opened and encourages attendees to nominate themselves, others and their societies for awards.
* There are not as many awards this year to reduce the length of the online ceremony and that students can see all awards available on the Strath Union website
* New awards are available including the best Active and Engaged Gold Society of the year and recognition of the Charity Month winners.
1. Volunteer Week

RW states that:

* The Union is running a week to celebrate the work of student volunteers
* Stories of student volunteers will be shared throughout the week, including volunteers from clubs and societies, community volunteers, sports volunteers and class representatives.
* The ‘Knit a Heart’ event will be taking place on Friday 12th which is in association with the NHS who have asked students to knit a heart to remember those who have passed away from Covid. There will also be a tutorial and materials will be provided for students to send their hearts to the NHS.
* A £50 giveaway will also take place on Sunday 14th February on the Strath Opportunities Facebook page.
1. Volunteer Hours and Discount Cards
* RW reminds students to log their volunteer hours and notes that over 6000 hours have already been logged this year.
* RW notes that societies that have achieved Bronze Active and Engaged accreditation and whose committee members have logged 20 hours are eligible for an NUS Totum Card.
* RW further states that those who log their hours can apply for a certificate, volunteer skills record and reference letter for future employment.
1. Volunteering Skills Recognition
* RW states that he has been looking at how volunteers can be recognised for more than just their time and that there will now also be a recognition of their skills. This will be more inclusive for those who are unable to spend a huge amount of time volunteering. If students log 20 hours and log skills in 3 categories then they can receive a skills award, and if students log 30 hours and log skills in 3 categories, they can receive a Jack of All Trades award which will show on their volunteer achievement record.
* Attendee 3 asks whether there is a guide available of which activities link to which skills. Laura Milligan (LM), Clubs Exec member, states that there is a drop-down menu when logging the skills which provides examples.
* Attendee 4 asks how to view the skills already logged. RW states that these can be found within their volunteer profile.
1. Full Time Officer Election
* RW states that nominations to become a full-time officer are now open and that there are also other part-time roles available for those continuing their studies. RW notes that this a great way to get involved, provides valuable experience in working with senior members of the University, and that full-time officers are also trustees of the organisation. RW states that students can only nominate themselves for one position and that there are six full-time positions available. A workshop on how to run a campaign will be run on Thursday Feb 4th.
1. Clubs Exec Election
* RW states that nominations to become a member of Clubs Exec are now open. The committee considers grant requests, manages a budget of £35,000 and represents all clubs and societies at Strathclyde. RW further states that Clubs Exec can also run additional projects for clubs and societies such as Charity Month.
* RW asks attendees who are interested to email strathunion.clubs@strath.ac.uk.
1. Clubs Exec Budget Update
* RW states that there is £22,539.49 left in the Clubs Exec budget and encourages clubs and societies to apply for grant funding for projects and equipment, both now and after lockdown.
1. Ask the Clubs Exec
* Attendee 5 asks whether the grant request form on the website must be followed or whether a spreadsheet can be submitted outlining the equipment being applied for. MT states that the forms are designed to be universal and encourages them to submit the grant request with the spreadsheet attached in order to ensure they cover all aspects required by the committee.
* Attendee 5 asks how much detail Clubs Exec requires due to the society applying for a lot of parts which would make a cost and performance analysis of all parts difficult. MT states that Clubs Exec want to provide money to allow societies to have fun and run activities, but they do like to see that societies have researched equipment to evidence that they have found the cheapest possible option. In cases where it is difficult to show research because there are so many parts involved, then Clubs Exec will still consider this. RW states that they are looking for a reasonable amount of evidence and so if they show evidence that their supplier is cheaper than others then this will be taken into account. LM states that in cases where societies require more expensive equipment, they can explain this in the request and Clubs Exec will take this into consideration.
* Attendee 5 asks how societies can secure spaces on campus such as in James Weir or the Royal College Building. RW states that societies are currently unable to meet in-person, but that they should approach the specific department who will be able to assist with this after lockdown.
* Attendee 5 asks whether societies can attend Clubs Exec meetings where applications are being reviewed. RW states that this can be done, but it isn’t necessary as long as all evidence is available in the grant request. MT states that the minutes of meetings are also available on the website which clubs and societies can view afterwards if they would like to view the discussion. RW encourages any society which would like to attend a meeting to contact him directly by 12pm the day before the meeting in order to be added to the agenda.
* Attendee 6 asks whether the £35,000 budget for Clubs Exec is for the committee as a whole or for each member. RW notes that the £35,000 budget is for the committee as a whole.
* Attendee 7 asks whether there are different roles within Clubs Exec. MT states that the role of Clubs Exec member is the same for everyone in that they all review budgets and society affiliations as a committee, but the Student Executive roles are each different.
1. AOCB

Meeting ends: 4.50pm