Clubs and Societies General Meeting 2

Monday 11th November 5pm – 7pm

Vertigo Level 8 Strath Union

1. What’s New?
* KB states that the Union room booking system has broken, and asks that all Clubs and Societies inform Union staff of any upcoming room bookings to ensure that none are missed and to prevent double bookings.
* KB states that there is a “Made Local” fund available for Clubs and Societies to apply for. Students must apply stating which project they would like to pursue, although the project cannot involve children due to the scheme being run by Carling.
1. Big Societies Takeover
* KB states that Clubs and Societies can now register interest for the ‘Big Societies Takeover’, which is taking place in January, whereby they will showcase events across the Union. KB suggests that they open up their weekly meeting to involve all students, or hold a social event where students can find out more about the society.
1. Training Opportunities
* KB notes that there are brand new training opportunities for clubs and societies to get involved in. First, there are Union-led training opportunities on things such as managing finances and leading committees. Second, there is committee-led training which is where Strath Union is asking for club and society committees to lead training on areas which they feel they are experienced in, such as running events and trips. Those who deliver the training will receive free food in return for delivering the training session. KB asks that societies register their interest with her at the end of the GM.
1. New Society Initiatives
* KB notes that she is running a campaign called “What Climate Change Means to my Society”, whereby societies submit an electronic poster to Strath Union showcasing the impact of climate change on their club or society.
1. Active and Engaged
* KB asks that societies let Strath Union know by 13th December where they are in terms of their Active and Engaged status
1. STAR Awards
* KB states that the nominations for the STAR Awards are open and reminds attendees that volunteering can also include roles out with the Union, such as volunteering with external charities.
1. Union Updates
* KB states that Strath Union held two referendums which have led to a new democratic structure being implemented, and 95% of students stating that they want Strath to de-carbonise by 2025.
* Strath Union is running a ‘16 Days of Action’ campaign which raises awareness of the issue of gender based violence.
* Strath Union is running a campaign to get rid of the fee on circuit laundry.
* The Strath Union VPE is running a campaign to decolonise the curriculum.
* KB is focusing on environmental campaigns and invites all attendees to contact her if they would like to get involved.
1. Participation Fund
* KB asks that all clubs and societies raise awareness of the Participation Fund to ensure that individuals are not at a disadvantage due to financial barriers. Any student can apply to the fund, and KB asks that the fund is discussed regularly at society meetings to ensure that students are aware of the fund.
1. Clubs Exec
* KB shows attendees the new Grant Request form and states that there is now further clarification. Core equipment and events/projects have now been split.
* The next Clubs Exec meeting has now been moved from Wednesday 20th November to Friday 22nd November, therefore the deadline for society and grant requests is now 12pm on Thursday 21st November.
1. Accountability Session
* KB states that the purpose of this session is for committee members to hold Clubs Exec to account and to ask questions such as how to fill in a grant request form. KB further states that an accountability session will now take place at every GM. KB asks that BR explains the purpose of Clubs Exec.
* BR states that Clubs Exec look at new society affiliation requests to consider whether they are too similar to existing societies, and that they decide whether they should approve requests from societies for grant funding. BR states that all decisions are recorded and put on the website in the form of minutes so that students can view the decisions made by the committee for accountability and transparency purposes.
* Student 1 asks about the AIS Society, whose affiliation request been rejected due to concerns that they may be too similar to MAESA. SD states that, if the society explains how they differ, then their request can be brought to Clubs Exec for re-consideration.
* Student 2 asks about printing costs, as grant guidelines previously stated that societies could not apply for printing costs, but their society had been provided with grant funding for printing the previous year from the Arts and Culture fund. KB states that the current Clubs Exec cannot be held account for decisions made by Clubs Exec last year, but notes that grant guidelines have changed with regards to rules on printing. Societies can now apply for printing costs as long as the printing is not solely for advertising purposes. For example, Photo Club could apply to print photos for an exhibition, or the Telegraph could apply for funding to print newspapers. KB also reminds attendees that societies can print in black and white for free on level 7 of the Strath Union building for advertising purposes, if necessary.
1. Q&A in the Yard