



**BIRKBECK STUDENTS' UNION
STUDENT PARLIAMENT
MINUTES
JANUARY 17TH 2024**

1. APOLOGIES:

Apologies from Lily Boodhoo (LB), Simeon Lamaj (SI), Miriam Swan (MS) and Vaibhav Dureja (VD).

2. QUORUM:

Quorum was reached.

3. MINUTES:

Minutes confirmed.

4. CO-OPT:

- i. Agnes Akele (AA) co-opted successfully for parent carer role.
- ii. Michal Indrak (MI) co-opted successfully for parent carer role.
- iii. Davin Sidhy (DS) co-opted successfully for foundation rep role (position created during parliament session).

5. ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:

| Pahe/Item: | Action: | To be completed by: | Progress: |
|-------------------|---|----------------------------|------------------|
| Item 1 Page 1 | Encouraging societies to put on non-evening events. | William Sarenden | Completed |

- i. William Sarenden (WS) gave an update on encouraging societies to put on non-evening events. William (WS) confirmed that he is currently in contact with societies to ensure that they have events that fit varied Birkbeck timetables.

6. ELECTED OFFICER UPDATES:

i. William Sarenden (WS) (Chair, Welfare Officer)

William (WS) gave a verbal update on efforts to open food pantry, Sanity products on campus, loneliness campaign and AI policy. Floyd (FC) questioned if student services as taking part of the loneliness campaign and if this would overlap with mental health awareness month. William (WS) confirmed that Loneliness campaign is a Student Union campaign however the service teams have been involved.

ii. Ellie Rivera (ER) (Education Officer)

Ellie (ER) gave a verbal update on her continued efforts with the law school, and her "big 5" questionnaire. Rosalie (RVO) asked why the law school has so many issues, Ellie (ER) explained that its down to law students being more confident to complain and a result of the restructure.



iii. Miriam Swan (MS) (Woman's Officer)

No report

iv. Ella Edwin (EE) (Disabled Officer)

No report, no apologies.

Parliament noted that this was the second consecutive parliament with no report, and requested a written report next meeting.

v. Lily Boodhoo (LB) (BAME Officer)

Lily (LB) submitted a report read by Emily (EW). The report covered Lily's updates for BAME network social media, continued BAME awarding gap work and promotion of the "Black Students Connect" group.

vi. Artemi Falzon (AF) (Trans Officer)

No report, no apologies.

Parliament noted that this was the second consecutive parliament with no report, and requested a written report next meeting.

7. SUPPORT FOR STUDENT CARES MOTION (FC)

Floyd (FC) presented the Support for student cares motion which focused on ideas to support student carers.

William (WS) mentioned that amid continued cuts within the university it's unlikely that a fully funded nursery is unlikely. Floyd (FC) stated that parliament should not be 'passively accepting' cuts, and should be fighting for as many resources as possible. He also added that the nursery may be needed due to Birkbeck starting to transition today's daytime classes.

William (WS) suggested that Ella (EE) be involved in this decision as Disabled Officer, as well as Agnes (AA) a chance to make herself familiar with the documentation. Floyd (FC) said that he was happy to do this.

8. FREE EDUCATION MOTION (FC)

Floyd (FC) presented the Free Education Motion which focused on supporting free education campaigns.

Enrico (ER) agreed with the general idea of the motion, but questioned how much of an impact it would have. He stated that this is a political campaign and suggested taking a measured approach into researching which campaigns the Student Union should support. Floyd (FC) stated that this was a push for equity, and the reference to specific groups in the paper was used as an example.

Parliament postponed this motion in order for members to conduct personal research.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Dean (DI) suggested postponing the next parliament from the 13th of March to the 20th of March. This was confirmed by the parliament.



Dean (DI) suggested parliament (currently online) be moved to either an in-person or hybrid format. Floyd (FC) agreed that hybrid is a good idea, as it allows flexibility. Dean (DI) said he will discuss the matter with chair (absent).

Rosalie (RVO) was successfully ratified as student trustee by a unanimous student parliament vote.

Enrico (ER) suggested organising a student parliament event. He argued that this will allow parliament to meet each other in an informal capacity. Dean (DI) stated that he will take this idea into account.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next Student Parliament meeting will be held on 20th March 2024 at 3pm