

Meeting:	<b>Diversity and Support Exec</b>
Location:	<b>1 East Meeting Room, 3.20/ Teams</b>
Date & Time:	<b>Thursday 16 March (13:15-14:00)</b>

**Present:**

Fartun Ali	Chair of Diversity and Support Exec
Mahikha Murali Sundar	NUS Liberation Conference Delegate
Andre Jek	Nightline
Jemima Wickenden	Student Minds
Grace Leigh	Disability Action Group
Shourya Gupta	Publicity Officer

**In attendance:**

Melissa Oram	Student Voice Coordinator (Change & Inclusion)
Scott Raven	Change & Inclusion Manager
Beatrice Clementel	Student Voice Admin

Item	
1.	<p><b>Apologies</b></p> <p>Florence Nash (F&amp;GE) – update sent to SVC in advance of the meeting            Amber Snary (DAG) – another representative attended instead            Blake Walker (Community Officer) - update sent to SVC in advance of the meeting            Charlotte Foster (Campaigns Liaison)</p>
2.	<p><b>Updates from each D&amp;S Group</b></p> <p><b>Student Minds:</b>            Male mental health awareness evening went really well, and planning is under way for talks in November around for men's mental health awareness. In the short term, we're preparing a pitch for wellbeing services to try get funding for students struggling with perfectionism. We've been struggling with numbers for socials, hoping to have a collab social with Nightline so hopefully that will go well.</p> <p><b>Nightline:</b>            We've been operating as usual and have trained a new full batch of volunteers. We're looking into how we can make the experience better next year, maybe refine the handover process i.e. looking how we can do more to better our internal skills development to teach new volunteers transferrable skills and how to utilize them. We've invited a speaker who specialises in grief counselling so we can better support those who lost a loved one. We're doing a few external events like a yoga social with student mind and the 25th march, we're doing a collab with the video game society to discuss a variety of mental health issues i.e. women gamers mental health.</p> <p><b>LGBTQ Society:</b>            Not in attendance</p> <p><b>Feminism and Gender Equality:</b>            Everything's been going really well in F&amp;GE. We do struggle a bit with attendance but there's always a solid group that comes to events. We've had a lot of great events in the past few weeks with the q&amp;a with Wera Hobhouse, our first meeting back, our empowered campus roadshow on Monday and all our plans for international women's day. It was such a shame they were disrupted by the snow but I still got to speak at the international women's day ucu rally yesterday, it was just moved online. We also had a huge, joint social for international women's day which loads of societies came to! We still want to look into doing a period poverty campaign</p>

	<p>on campus and in Fresh, because whilst some improvements have been made there are definitely not free products everywhere and we think there are some changes we can make. So any help with that would be amazing. We're also looking forward to the rescheduled panel event next Wednesday. We do struggle with the fact that a lot of people don't know we exist, which we think is partly due to where we are the website because we are very hard to find. Any help with raising our profile would therefore be amazing.</p> <p><b>Disability Action Group:</b> Our socials have been quiet due to deadlines, maybe a Nightline collab soon</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Nightline to have a look at calendar to see what's possible in terms of a DAG collab</p>
3.	<p><b>Update from Community Officer around D&amp;S issues</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New group formed to discuss student sexual health and sexual health provision. Beginning to look ahead at bringing back a SHAG (sexual health and guidance) week for next academic year.</li> <li>• New plans to have LGBTQ+ flats next year in accommodation – new preference option similar to mature or non-alcohol flats.</li> <li>• AccessAble is getting on with the campus audit – should have a report for May</li> <li>• Currently re-evaluating the way we decide how and what awareness/celebration days we celebrate – any thoughts?</li> <li>• Still working with the PG Officer on emotional support animals on campus, seems to be going in the right direction and likely to have a pilot for next year.</li> <li>• Starting to organise campus pride, which will be in April this year so more students can join.</li> </ul>
4.	<p><b>Visibility of Exec</b></p> <p>The Chair of the exec brought up the fact that there has been a bit of a struggle with visibility, discussed in the last meeting as well, is there anything more what can we do?</p> <p>Discussion points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A video highlighting what each group does and what support is out there</li> <li>• A video would be great for the freshers to reassure them they have support and to see the D&amp;S as a whole</li> <li>• Creating a D&amp;S stand so we can showcase what the exec are doing</li> <li>• Maybe see what students want from D&amp;S exec</li> <li>• Can use the SU emails more to our advantage but they might just be ignored</li> <li>• With emails, it depends who it comes from but Nightline internally finds emails blasts quite useful</li> </ul>
5.	<p><b>Elections</b></p> <p>Update: we've had interest for roles but we might need to do a reelection. There might be an option to have a summer meeting so handover is more smooth. By-elections are happening on the 29<sup>th</sup> March and close on 4<sup>th</sup> April but more information will be sent soon.</p> <p>The Chair of the exec asked, how can we make the exec roles more clear i.e. what we do, what our role is etc?</p> <p>Discussion points-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Having a meeting in June is a good idea for handover so its early on and people don't get other prioritises</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We should increase the publicity so that when someone has a specific problem, they contact the execs, not staff i.e. funding goes to the treasurer etc</li> <li>- We need to be weary of not making the line of communications too long, slow process</li> <li>- We should put pictures and a little description of execs on the D&amp;S website page</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> execs to give the Student Voice Coordinator an idea of what they wish they'd known when they first started</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Student Voice Coordinator to find out more about how funding works as well as central budgeting etc</p>
6.	<p><b>Events</b></p> <p>It was decided that for the ball, Student Voice staff were to approach the bar team to potentially host the event so we could pay them to put the event on at the TUB but we do need to decide a clear aim and objective for the event and who it's aimed at. It might be best to start small and get bigger every year, hopefully in the next meeting we can get an update from all the groups and the commercial team. It was a good idea to create a sperate meeting for events because then, it doesn't take over a whole meeting.</p>
7.	<p><b>Any other business</b></p> <p>It was decided that meetings should carry on being once a month since it is easier to track progress and discussion points.</p> <p>Student minds voiced how it was hard for them to incorporate roles with a lot of responsibility and help students with transferable skills they can take to the world of work and Nightline replied that in Nightline, they find it helpful to create teams around a role that is quite demanding and this usually helps to keep people engaged and gives them responsibility i.e. creating a welfare team and a publicity team</p>
<p><b>The meeting ended at [14:05].</b></p>	