

31/07/2019 LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORTS

Content	Report Number
17/07/2019 Leadership Committee Minutes	R1
Paper on the timeline options for the 2019/20 SU officer elections	R2

Meeting:	Leadership Committee											
Location:	1 East Meeting Room 3.20											
Date & Time:	Wednesday 26th June 2019											
Present:												
Jack Kitchen	Education Officer (Chair)											
Andy Galloway	Sport Officer											
Eve Alcock	President											
Kimberley Pickett-McAtnackney	Activities Officer											
In attendance:												
Andrew McLaughlin	Chief Executive											
Mandy Wilson-Garner	Deputy Chief Executive											
Amy Young	Engagement & Quality Co-ordinator (<i>for item 1</i>)											
Francesco Masala	Incoming Activities Officer											
Ruqia Osman	Incoming Education Officer											
Tom Sawko	Incoming Sport Officer											
Item												
1.	<p>Presentation</p> <p>The committee received a report on findings from the student life pulse data to date (<i>see R1 of the Leadership Committee reports</i>).</p> <p>The Engagement & Quality Co-ordinator gave a presentation to the committee on the Alterline project.</p> <p>QUESTION: A committee member asked what action can be taken as a result of the project. ANSWER: The Engagement & Quality Co-ordinator explained that the data collected can be used with area plans to set targets and measure success as its collected year on year.</p> <p>QUESTION: A committee member asked when pulse 3 data will be available. ANSWER: The Engagement & Quality Co-ordinator explained that this would be available July/August.</p> <p>The Engagement & Quality Co-ordinator explained that future plans were to bring the Alterline project in-house and to reduce the number of questions asked.</p> <p>(The Engagement & Quality Co-ordinator left the meeting at this point)</p>											
2.	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Name</th> <th>Reason</th> <th>Accepted</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Alisha Lobo</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jiani Zhou</td> <td></td> <td>Yes</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Name	Reason	Accepted	Alisha Lobo		Yes	Jiani Zhou		Yes
Name	Reason	Accepted										
Alisha Lobo		Yes										
Jiani Zhou		Yes										
3.	<p>Notice of any other business</p> <p>No items were identified for discussion under any other business.</p>											
4.	<p>Declaration of conflict of interest</p> <p>No committee members declared a conflict of interest in any item on the agenda.</p> <p>Committee members were reminded to declare any conflict of interest if it arose during the course of the meeting.</p>											

5.	<p>Minutes of previous Committee meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the previous meetings were approved and signed by the Chair.</p>
5.1.	<p>Matters arising from the previous Committee meeting</p> <p>The committee noted that there had been no matters arising from the previous meeting.</p>
6.	<p>Review Panel Report</p> <p>The committee received a report on the Review Panel (<i>see R3 of the Leadership Committee reports</i>).</p> <p>The committee discussed the Review Panel and the issues raised within the report.</p> <p>They agreed to establish a working group to consider other possible options for the academic year 2019-20.</p> <p>They appointed the following people to be members of the working group:</p> <p>Ashia Fenwick Charlie Slack Tommy Parker Andrew McLaughlin Mandy Wilson-Garner Ruqia Osman Francesco Masala Eve Alcock</p>
7.	<p>Any other business</p> <p>No items had been previously identified for discussion.</p>
<p>The meeting ended at 13.48pm.</p>	

LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE – 17 JULY 2019**PAPER ON THE TIMELINE OPTIONS FOR THE 2019/20 SU OFFICER ELECTIONS****PURPOSE**

To agree the timeline for the SU Officer Elections 2019/20

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Page 3 Summation of options

REPORT**1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1. Feedback received during the candidate 'wash-up' sessions for the 2018/19 SU Officer Election stated that voting was undesirable. The reasons stated were that this led to candidates doing a final push late into the evening and candidates have said that this was too much after a tiring election campaign and that student engagement at this time was lower.
- 1.2. Currently, Questions to Candidates occurs for Postgraduate Officer and President at 18:15 on the Monday evening. Doctoral students have told the SU through forums like Doctoral Academic Council that they prefer events to be during the day at lunch break rather than in the evenings. Attendance at Questions to Candidates tends to be lower in the evening than during the day.
- 1.3. The 10pm closing time for voting is a consequence of counting paper. When voting was cast on paper, sufficient time was needed to count the election results, which required the entire day clear to do so. Now with online voting, such extended time is no longer necessary.
- 1.4. Based on these points, it would be helpful to review the timings of SU Officer Elections. The following constraints on any timeline must include voting to open after Questions to Candidates is completed, enough time for voting to be open, and to stagger the start of campaigning.
- 1.5. The timings later in the year can be adjusted if needed and the current cause work may have an impact on election timing. A discussion on the format of Questions to Candidates will be occurring with Elections Committee later in the year, but beyond the scope of this paper.

2. Option 1: Voting to close on Friday

Day	Time	What
Monday	09:00	Physical campaigning begins
	13:15-14:15	Q2C
Tuesday	13:15-14:15	Q2C
Wednesday	13:15-14:15	Q2C
	14:15	Voting opens
Friday	12:00	Voting Closes
	18:00	Results

- 2.1. This option would see Q2C to occur each lunchbreak Monday to Wednesday. Voting will open one day later than previous years, and to close at midday on Friday.

- 2.2. **Pros:** This means that Q2C will occur over a longer period of time and won't overload voters with too many hustings happening in the same day. This also means that the close of voting will happen during the day when students are still on campus, increasing the impact of close of voting, and make it easier for candidates to have a 'final push' during the day.
- 2.3. **Cons:** This extends campaigning time by 14 hours, and concerns have been raised of candidates campaigning late into the night on Thursday and having candidates campaign for a prolonged period. As voting opens a day later, this is an additional day where candidates have to campaign asking for votes to be cast at a later date.
- 2.4. It is worth noting that this option decreases the fallow time between close of voting and results. This could be seen as both a positive and negative depending on the candidates. Some have feedback that this fallow time is useful as it gives sufficient time to relax before results, but others have stated that they would like elections to be over and this time increases nerves and anxiety.

3. Option 2: Extended Q2C

Day	Time	What
Monday	09:00	Physical campaigning begins
	12:15-14:15	Q2C
Tuesday	12:15-14:15	Q2C
	14:15	Voting Opens
Thursday	17:00	Voting Closes
Friday	18:00	Results

- 3.1. This option would see Q2C to run for two hours on the Monday and Tuesday. Voting will open at the same time as previous years but will close at 17:00 on the Thursday.
- 3.2. **Pros:** This will give more time (1 additional hour) to Q2C allowing for more questions to be asked of candidates. Voting will close 5 hours earlier, meaning candidates are not doing their 'final push' late into the evening and there isn't one additional night time to campaign. It reduces the time between campaigning starts and voting unlike option 1, allowing for candidates to canvass votes during voting time.
- 3.3. **Cons:** This will mean that Q2C will run for two hours, meaning that it is likely that students will not be able to attend both hours of Q2C as students are only guaranteed one hour off during these times. If candidate numbers are sufficiently low enough, it may be difficult to fill the time allotted for Q2C. Voting starts a day and a half after the commencement of physical campaigning, which may lead to less informed votes.

4. Option 3: Hybrid one

Day	Time	What
Monday	09:00	Physical campaigning begins
	12:15-14:15	Q2C
Tuesday	12:15-14:15	Q2C
Wednesday	12:15-14:15	Q2C
	14:15	Voting opens
Friday	12:00	Voting Closes
	18:00	Results

- 4.1. This option is the extended length for Q2C in option 2 but with the voting timings and Q2C days of option 1.
- 4.2. The positives and negatives of this timeline are covered above.

5. Option 4: Hybrid two

Day	Time	What
Monday	09:00	Physical campaigning begins
	12:15-14:15	Q2C
Tuesday	12:15-14:15	Q2C
	14:15	Voting Opens
Friday	12:00	Voting Closes
	18:00	Results

5.1. This option has the Q2C and voting opening in Option 2, but the close of voting as Option 1.

5.2. **Pros:** This will give candidates more campaigning time during voting, allowing them to encourage students to cast their votes for them immediately. It also provides The SU more marketing opportunities to encourage students to cast their vote.

5.3. **Cons:** Most of the negatives have already been covered in previous options.