GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The second ordinary meeting of the Governance Committee for the 2018/19 session, was held on Wednesday 21st November 2018 in Meeting Room 6, Beit Quad at 5:00pm.

Present:	Paul Beaumont (PB)	Governance Chair
	Robert Tomkies (RT)	Union President
	Alex 'Chippy' Compton (ACC)	Union Council Chair
	James Medler (JM)	Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)
	Claudia Caravello (CC)	Deputy President (Finance and Services)
	Jarlath O'Hara (JOH)	Managing Director
	Dorothy Griffiths (DG)	External Trustee
	Stephen Naulls (SN)	Student Trustee
	Abhijay Sood	Student Trustee
In Attendance:	Jomana Al Ahmad (JA) (Clerk)	Administration Support Manager
Apologies:	Keriann Lee (KL)	Interim Head of Student Voice & Experience

Unconfirmed minutes

Item 1 – Welcome and Chairs business	Actions
1. The Chair welcomed the Committee to the second	
meeting of the academic year 2017/18.	
Item 2 – Conflict of interest	
1. None Declared.	
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Item 03 – Apologies	
1. Keriann Lee.	
Item 04 – Minutes from 26 th Sept 2018	
1. Correction to be made: Dates for leadership election –	
•	JA to amend the
ACC suggested March not Feb or Jan	
The meeting minutes were approved pending the above	meeting minutes
correction.	

Item 0	5 – Action tracker	
1.	ACC updated the Committee that Council policies were	
	not updated on the website last year, additionally,	
	resource such as student staff is needed to do this update	
	as it it's a large piece of work	
2.	RT added that many policies are in paper format and need	
	to be turned to an online format, the deadline for	
	completing this is the end of the year, December 2019.	
3.	ACC and RT also mentioned that they will work on	
	updating the Exec policies to ensure they sit with the right	
	Governance Committee	
4.	RT mentioned that the removal of policy end dates will be	IA to undete estion
	delegated to student staff together with council policies	JA to update action tracker
	updates	tracker
	0 – Sports Hub	
1.		
	underway for the change in the structure of CSPB, this Board will split into two sections: Sports Board and	
	Societies and Projects Board. JM briefly mentioned that	
	the type of support the sports societies have in terms of	
	budgets is different to societies which is one of the main	
	reasons for the split.	
2.	JM added that more work needs to be done in terms of	
	planning and the proposal will also be taken to Council,	
	once Council approves the change of its Committees, it	
	will be taken to Board to approve	
3.	JM pointed out that the existing policies would be copied	
	over for each Board and specific amendments will be	
4	made if needed	
4.	SN enquired about societies which may cross over between the two Boards, JM responded that these will	
	have their own small Committee as there isn't many of	
	them	
5.	JM finally mentioned that the deadline for completion is	JM to present the
	end of this term	changes to Bye-Laws
6.	PB mentioned that as a result the name change will	to the next Committee
	require an update to the Bye-Laws, and will go to Board	meeting
	for approval, however, it would be useful for the	
	Governance to also review this at the next meeting	
ltom (6 – Union Council	
	RT updated the Committee that operationally, Union	
1.	Council has been streamlined and is much more efficiently	
	organised	
2.	In terms of the format and review of Council, ACC	
	mentioned that there is better participation compared to	
	the same period last year	
3.	ACC asked the Committee for advice on papers which are	
	submitted to Council and require members to vote on a	

	matter relating to Council, such as the catering at Council evening meetings, and whether there is a conflict of	
	interest	
4.	PB mentioned that a wider question would be: how can	
	this Committee support Council to make them understand	
	what is appropriate for Council and whether there is a	
-	clear process?	
5.	RT pointed out that the acceptance of a paper is at the	
	discretion of the Chair, additionally, Council are aware that	
	they do not have the power to make decisions on where	
~	Union money is spent	
6.	ACC added that she has mentioned in training the only	
	Board has the power to make a decision on matters that	
_	have financial implications	
7.	ACC pointed out that some of the decisions passed at	
	Council may have had indirect financial implications such	
	as adding to staff workload, PB responded that it is the	
	SABBs responsibility to do the work rather than Union	
	staff as they are the student representatives	
8.	PB mentioned that the wording needs to be clear that	
	Council can only make recommendations and the ultimate	
	decision in terms of budgeting/finance lies with Board	
9.	ACC responded that she will make it clearer at the next	
	meeting	
10.	CC pointed out that a recent proposal by Council to	
	redirect profits from certain newspapers to anti-racist	
	charities was implemented, JOH responded that the right	
	channels were used to escalate this, and again such a	
	proposal is only treated as a recommendation	
11.	JOH agreed that it is important to enforce the line about	
	what the power of Council is	
12.	RT updated the Committee that the standing order talks	
	about reforming Council, improving post grads	
	engagement, integrating with the business school,	
	changing OT roles and adding GSU president as an OT	
	role. RT then asked the Committee about what needs to	
	be done as a priority?	
13.	In terms of changing OT roles, PB mentioned that it is	
	important to do it before leadership elections, additionally,	
	they should be wary of spending too much time on	
	structures	
14.	ACC added that any work done on OT roles must be done	
	by December to be approved by Council in January	
15.	JOH pointed out that PG representation is agreed by	
	Board as a priority and RT mentioned that the GSU	
	working group have been formalized and work is currently	
	being done to assess the GSU president role	
16	ACC added that Council members feel that 53 people is	
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	too big for a meeting and a review of Council membership	

	not to carry it out this year as many people currently in	
	Council support the review	
Item 0	7 – Elections	
1.	JOH noted that AE18 were very successful according to	
	previous metrics, the recommendations in the paper	
	presented for LE19 are there to build on the current	
	success	
2	DG enquired about why the PG turnout was bigger, RT	
۷.	responded that the move of PG roles online and direct	
	communications to PG students were some of the main	
	reasons, JOH added that a video targeted at PGs was	
2	also made	
	DG congratulated all those involved in this success	
4.	ACC pointed out that more work needs to be done and it	
	is important to address the business school issue as they	
	do not want to move their roles online	
5.	DG volunteered to speak to the Dean of the business	
	school if needed	
6.	JOH mentioned that leadership elections is usually the	
	bigger focus, however it is important to focus on Autumn	
	Elections turnout as the roles influence all students	
7.	JOH pointed out that the LE19 working group has been	
	set and will resume work as soon as KL is from annual	
	leave	
8.	The Committee accepted the recommendations proposed	
	by KL.	RT to update the
		Committee on the
Item 0	8 – Policies	disciplinary procedures
	RT updated the Committee that the disciplinary	policy review next
	procedures policy is ongoing and an update will be	meeting
	brought to the January meeting	C C
2.		
2.	was put together based on the commission website	
	recommendations and researching other unions, RT	
	asked the Committee for Comments and advice on	
	whether to put financial procedures or SORP	
3.	ACC enquired about whether GDPR should be added	
	instead of the data protection Policy, RT responded that	
	he will look into updating the wording, the Committee	
	agreed that both the financial procedures and SORP	
	should be present in the policy	
4.	ACC enquired about whether this policy has covered all	
	legal grounds, RT responded that the commission website	RT/ACC to review the
	has a list of guidelines which was used to dictate what is	
	in this policy	need to sign a COI by
-		council members
5.	SN pointed out that as seen in this policy, COI is usually	
1	linked with financial activity and Council should not be	JA to add to Board
		agenda

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	concerned about signing a COI as no financial decisions	
	are involved.	
6.	PB asked ACC/RT to check and remove the need for	
	Council members to sign COI in the Constitution and Bye-	JA to add the
	Laws	Constitution and Bye-
7.	Subject to minor amendments in the format, this policy will	Laws approval to Board
	be brought to Board to approve. Board members would	agenda
	not need to sign it again unless they have any new COIs	RT to change the
	to declare.	wording in the
		Constitution as
Item 0	9 – Constitution and Bye-Laws	requested
	RT updated the Committee that the Constitution and Bye-	
	Laws changes have now passed at Council and will be	
	brought to Board and College Council, and finally to	
	Charity Commission	
2.	PB pointed out that the online Constitution has references	
	to Trustee Board not Board of Trustees and requested for	
	an amendment	
3.	RT responded that this will be brought as a later	
0.	amendment at Council, PB requested making this change	
	before it goes to College Council	
4	ACC mentioned that there is a concern that the complaints	JA to make the
	and disciplinary procedures review will be a very large	recommended changes
	task that requires extra support, RT mentioned that he will	before Board
	ensure that extra support is requested if needed	Sciole Board
Item 1	1 – Terms of Reference	
-	The Committee requested the following amendments to	
	be made: change the terminology from Lay to External	
	trustee, list the individual names on the membership list,	
	add the date for this year and include the HoSVC role into	
	the purpose	
2.	Add appointed student trustees to Point 3, fulfil functions	
	as dictated by the Bye-Laws, appointment and removal for	
	point 2	
3.	The edits are to be made offline prior to Board	
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Item 1	<u>2 – AOB</u>	
1	AS enquired about the reason why the Rugby club was	
	able to play a game recently after the sanctions have been	
	imposed on the club, JM responded that the game was	
	not a competitive match. PB mentioned that the decisions	
	should be more explicit to point out that friendly matches	
	are allow to maintain fitness levels	
	ACC enquired about whether the Committee needs to	
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Î	implement a chairs action and have a trail of where	

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