

Leadership Team Meeting Minutes

10th October 2018, 4pm, Falmouth Campus, Seminar F (Treetops)



1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies

Present:

Mary Yemisi Shobowale (MYS)	Student Voice Chair
Chris Bigland (CB)	Open Officer – Falmouth
Phoebe Coppell (PC)	Sports Officer
Iona Davis (ID)	Fundraising Officer
Callie Edwards (CE)	FXU President Falmouth
Bee Hellier (BH)	UG Academic Officer – Exeter
Henry Massimo (HM)	Volunteering Officer
Kirsten Perkins (KP)	Liberation Committee Chair
Sarah Redman (SR)	FXU President Student Experience
Mafalda Ribeiro (MR)	Open Officer – Exeter
Izi Robe (IR)	FXU President Exeter
Kurt Ruby (KR)	Mature Students Officer
Elizabeth Streeter (ES)	Environment & Ethics Officer
Esther Wilson (EW)	Community Chair

Apologies:

Harry Bishop (HB)	FXU President Community & Welfare
River Owsley-Brown (ROB)	UG Academic Officer – Falmouth (Penryn Campus)

Staff Present:

Ben Rowswell (BR)	Student Voice Director
Grace Fisher (GF)	Communications & Engagement Coordinator

Voting attendees 14/25 – quorate reached if 11 or more.

2. Matters Arising

Not matters arising as this is the first meeting of the academic year.

3. Co-opt vacant positions

Nominations have been received for the current vacant positions. Three of these positions have candidates, which are:

- PGR Officer (Exeter)
- PGT Officer (Falmouth)
- Societies Officer

Candidates for these positions are welcomed to join the meeting to Co-opt vacant positions on the Leadership Team. Members of the Leadership Team are welcomed to hear from candidates and then vote

For PGR Officer (Exeter) the candidate is:

- James Cranston

For PGT Officer (Falmouth) the candidate is:

- Usman Kadiri

For Societies Officer the candidates are:

- Sajjad Jabarkhel
- Vaida Saulyte
- Alex-Lee Spain
- Joe Rigby

Candidates are asked to leave the room. Voting is completed and results will be announced later in the meeting.

4. Zone Updates & Proposals

• Student Experience Zone – SR

SR introduces a proposal on a new committee: Sustainability Committee

The purpose of the committee would be to address and explore issues of sustainability on the campuses that FXU represent. This would help inform the Environment & Ethics Officer and President Student Experience at Sustainability meetings with FXPlus and the Universities, as well as FXU practices.

The committee would be chaired by the Environment & Ethics Officer and have six committee positions:

- Waste Officer
- Food Officer
- Marine Officer

- Travel Officer
- Energy Officer
- Biodiversity Officer

The full details of the committee are in the [Sustainability Committee Terms of Reference](#).

Q: What will the voting process be?

A: SR online as with all Leadership Team elections

Q: What impact are you expecting from the committee?

A: SR looking for more student engagement with those areas across the campus and giving sustainability focused societies more of a structure and support system.

Vote to create a Sustainability Committee:

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Proposal APPROVED

• Falmouth Zone - CE

Falmouth Zone have yet to have a meeting so no proposals have been brought forward yet.

CE provides update on what CB has been doing as the Open Officer for Falmouth. CB's Focus is on communications, specifically the Activities Team's communications with societies.

CE & CB discussed if a weekly newsletter from FXU is too much. CB questions if it should be made more targeted to students from different groups – Penryn Campus, Woodlane Campus, Truro Campus, UG students, PG students, Distance Learners etc. Changes to the newsletter included being 3 main categories – academia, social & support. This would be separate to the Activities newsletter.

Q: Does this pigeon-hole students? Mature students, for example, might not want to be pigeon-holed into those groupings as they miss out on things they might not 'typically' go to as a group. – KR

A: CB this should be considered, making sure content is relevant to the groups.

Q: What about if FXU campaigns that are at the end of a month and the newsletter comes out at the start? – IR

A: CB will be important to create more engagement such as through social media.

Vote to change the FXU Newsletter from Weekly to Monthly.

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Proposal APPROVED

• **Exeter Zone - IR**

IR provides update on her priorities which were discussed at the Exeter Zone.

Discussion on Postgraduate Research (PGR) students' priority which would create opportunity for PGR students to do talks on their own research which will be open to students of all years. Some PGR students already do these but they aren't open to all students. This links to BH's manifesto point around including the community in research as IR would look to host the last talk of the year in Falmouth and would be focused on research relating to Cornwall.

Q: Who is the audience?

A: IR All students but specific focus in allowing UG students access to PGR talks.

Q: What will the themes be?

A: IR Broad themes that are catchy and interesting, that lots of disciplines can feed into. For example one talk could be on an environmental theme

Q: Who will be giving the talks?

A: IR PhD students

Q: Where in Falmouth would the last talk be?

A: IR location could be The Poly but would also like to explore the opportunity to do talks in local pubs.

Comment from BH: from previous experience a Cornish history focus works well in the local community.

Comment from SR: Could link into societies who have links with local people

Comment from CE: If you attach a society to the talks they will still have impact when the president leaves

Vote to take forward PGR Talks.

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Proposal APPROVED

Discussion on MR's manifesto about the Students' Union giving more hints and tips about budgeting and cooking etc. MR is looking to develop 'hints & tips' cards each week. If the card that month is focused on food, MR would look to work with the Stannary to get them to cook that food that week. The focus of doing this would be about creating belonging for student groups.

Comments from Team: Could you form a recipe book at the end and then sell it to raise money for a charity. Could get the Huddle Café to host events in town too. Would be good to link to sustainability and being less wasteful by finding out what people want to eat. SR suggests creating a working group.

Vote to create a working group for 'hints & tips' cards.

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Proposal APPROVED

• Community & Welfare Zone

HB on annual leave so other zone members provide an update.

KP liberation committee election was successful with only one position not filled, the Open Officer.

KR notes HB's focus is on Voices and mental health wellbeing campaign.

KR questions if one mature students officer is suitable for the large range of ages the role covers. KR has noticed that different age ranges perhaps experience different Wellbeing issues. BR suggests speaking to HB and making sure all officers are sign posting students to Wellbeing services.

EW notes that Community Wardens were set up this week. It will be interesting to see what they bring up.

• **General Zones Comments**

Presidents concluded that more clarity is needed for what the content of the zones section of the Leadership Meeting will be.

Action: Presidents to meet with BR to discuss what the zones content will look like at future meetings

5. Results of Co-opting

Candidates (Vaida Saulyte, Sajjad Jabarkhel, Alex-Lee Spain, Joe Rigby, James Cranston & Usman Kadiri) are invited to re-join the meeting as results are announced.

BR thanks all candidates for standing.

SR for those candidates aren't elected as Societies Officer, a Societies Committee is looking to be created and candidates are welcome to apply.

RESULTS:

FXU Societies Officer

Vaida Saulyte – 1 vote

Sajjad Jabarkhel – 7 votes

Alex Lee Spain – 5 votes

Joe Rigby – 1 vote

Sajjad Jabarkhel ELECTED as Societies Officer

PGR Officer Exeter

James Cranston – 14 votes

James Cranston ELECTED as PGR Officer Exeter

PGT Officer Falmouth

Usman Kadiri – 14

Usman Kadiri ELECTED as PGT Officer Falmouth

Elected candidates are welcomed and join the meeting but do not have voting rights until the next meeting.

6. Make A Change referrals

MYS introduces the Make a Change tab referral for this meeting:

[Bicycle storage at games studio \(Penryn\)](#)

The meeting is invited to discuss the idea.

SR is in favour of this idea. There is limited car parking on campus, we're encouraging green travel, providing more bike storage is a relatively inexpensive option to support this. The cost of which would be paid for by FX Plus.

Q: should we be looking at this as more of a campus wide issue of there not being enough bike storage, it's definitely more than just Games Academy. - SJ

A: SR the top of campus bike storage is often left empty however the bottom of campus of storage is very full because of the big hill between the top and bottom of campus.

KR confirms there are often lots of bikes on the railings from the bottom of campus.

Vote to take forward referral on bike storage at Games Studio.

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Proposal APPROVED

Action: SR to take this motion forward.

7. AOB

KR Mature student officer – changing the title of Mature Students’ Officer

KR opens discussion about changing the name of Mature Students’ Officer to 21+ Officer because mature students KR has spoken to don’t identify with this name.

Q: Is 21+ the age of mature students?

A: KR confirms it is

Q: What about the name used by University – Return to Learning (RTL)?

A: SR student feedback received suggests RTL title also not liked by mature students

Suggestion: BR can KR go back to more mature students and gain more suggestions of what students would like to be referred to as? Then come back to leadership team with more options?

KR issue is that it’s such an age range for mature students.

Q: Should there be a campaign around change perceptions of what defines a mature student?

A: KR agrees this would be a good idea.

Action: KR to create a proposal to bring to the next meeting of another name for the role.

PC Sports Officer – Changing name of FXU Can Week – Changed to ‘Give it a go week’ as Jan one has been changed to refresh

PC discusses renaming FXU Can Week and suggests name is changed to ‘Give It A Go Week’. This is the name of previous ‘refreshers’ campaign which happens in January, however for 2019 this has been renamed to ‘refresh’ to fit with freshers branding.

This change would fit with changes to national NUS campaign ‘Does You Good’ formerly marketed as ‘This Girl Can’, which will now focus on getting students who aren’t usually active to get more involved in Students’ Union activities.

The FXU campaign would focus on awareness of how being active can help mental wellbeing and academic performance. PC intends to survey students on our campuses to

see what those less active students would want to see from the campaign, therefore shaping the campaign around them. PC will be asking Sports Committees to get involved.

Action: Leadership Team to share promotional material when released.

Q: CB what was the feedback from students about the previous branding of 'Give It A Go Week'? Previous years saw a very cheesy video of Jamal (former FXU President Student Experience).

A: PC would be looking to keep the name but change the branding. Making it silly and fun but engaging more people. Perhaps a Flashmob.

MYS asks that these discussions are continued outside of the meeting.

IR – People's Vote Demonstration on 20th October

NUS have a £20,000 of funding which the FXU Presidents have applied to, to help get students to the People's Vote Demonstration on 20th October. There is no guarantee of funding at this point as it is a first come first served funding source.

The Presidents have costed together a 37 seat coach which would leave Falmouth at 04:30 on the 20th October and return at 18:00 the same day. The cost of the coach would be £1600 and with no funding would cost £45 per person. The bus company would need to be contacted ASAP to confirm a booking.

If no budget is confirmed, the presidents could look to subsidise this out of their presidents' budgets, however this would be a significant amount of their budget (£400 of their £1000 budget).

Presidents would not want to commit their budget towards the march and agree that no payment should be made until NUS funding is confirmed. Though there is no clarity as to when this will be confirmed.

GF raises the fact that FXU have a policy on the EU referendum, brought into place in 2016, which states the Students' Union will remain neutral as students have different options on the referendum. Though the policy does not specifically include a stance on the People's Vote, as this wasn't an active campaign in 2016, there are links with the People's Vote and Remain campaign. This would therefore suggest if FXU were to remain unbiased, they would have to provide funding for a People's Vote march they would have to do the same

for a similar Leave Campaign event. Or, the presidents would have to step back from involvement in work hours to remain neutral. However, society groups could be involved if their members deem it appropriate.

Q: Have political societies been contacted?

A: SR no but they should be. Perhaps we should contact them to coordinate if the presidents can't due to FXU policy. Funding, if acquired, could be passed onto these societies.

Q: Do people want to go?

A: To be confirmed

Q: Only a small number of students would be able to attend with coach capacity. How can we make sure more people can attend and get involved?

A: Handover to political societies. But, it would need to be open to students who aren't part of these.

SR proposes final motion: 'To create a collaborative meeting formed of FXU activity groups to coordinate taking students to the march if funding is made available.'

Vote on proposal.

For: 14

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Proposal APPROVED

8. Next meeting and Close

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

21st November, 4pm

Falmouth Campus, Lecture Theatre 2

Leadership Team Meeting

6th November, 4-6pm

Penryn Campus, Tremough House Board Room