



SU Committee Meeting – 01.06.2021

Attendance: RM (Publicity & Relations Officer), SWC (President), MP (VP)

Apologies (Short notice): HM (EM Rep), GG (WCS Rep), LH (LGBT+ Rep), AIJ (Local Students' Rep), MH (SU Rep), AJ (SU Rep)

Location: Zoom

9 People have filled out the survey

Motion: The voting records of individual assembly members should be publicly known and readily accessible

RM Voting records should be publicised – probably on the website. Mixed response. Most for it, plenty of abstain/against – someone said they understand the accountability aspect but think this isn't the way to do it. Personally I think it is fine, but at times there should be a secret ballot.

MP I am strongly in favour because basically every position is there as a representative, and should be held accountable for what they vote for.

SWC Agree with MP – no one is there as an individual.

RM I will ask questions about how it interacts with secret ballot. Has been used when political protesters were a bit intimidating in the past.

SWC Procedural would have to pass – so it should already be covered.

RM to vote for

Motion: Join the Lift the ban Coalition

RM Get the right to work for asylum seekers.

MP Won't lie I do not understand what this motion really is

RM Lobbying to change current law

RM to vote for

Motion to stand in solidarity with the people of Palestine

SWC Quite carefully worded – 'israeli government' – for that reason I am in support

RM Personally in favour

MP What are the companies that would be boycotted? What is the impact of this motion?

RM I think uni has shares in BDS lists



MP Is booking.com impacted? I would be in favour of boycotting some companies for their involvement (arms dealers etc.) but I think others are a different question

RM I can ask for clarity? People do use different lists for this sort of thing.

RM to vote for

Motion : Supporting Student Sex Workers: Core Position

RM Some against it – majority said we should?

MP What is the toolkit mentioned by the motion?

RM Seems like signposting

MP Seems ok I guess

RM to vote for

Motion: Postgraduate Access and Participation

Everyone has skim read this – it's very long

MP I back SM (Postgrad Academic)100%

RM to vote for

Motion: Climate emergency

RM When you do a student group activity you'd have to talk about environmental impact.

SWC Is the membership of the assesment group for anyone? There are ambiguous positions?

RM Could be good if it was more democratic. Should we vote against this then?

SWC I don't think so, just question it

MP Will this impact Cuth's risk assessments at all?

SWC Just SU groups

MP What does it do?

SWC Forces people to think about mitigating?

MP Do worry that this just wouldn't do anything and will make meaningless red tape as ever

RM to vote for



Motions: Democracy Review Parts 1, 2, & 3 – Committees and Working Groups

This wasn't on the survey due to confusion over whether or not this is a motion (we think it is a motion now)

SWC 15 working days seems like an excessive time to submit a motion – so many will miss that – I feel like it's not that long now.

MP I'm skeptical how many motions will be able to define how they will improve student lives, how many have this year?

RM Probably a good thing to be on it then. I also think storing policies is good.

SWC I think more assemblies is good

MP Agree. What is an assembly committee?

RM Some are important some are not. SU rep committee we just chat, Prescomm is important. Governance and grants is big.

SWC This document does not reflect the conversations that have been going on between the JCR and the SU. More of a prescomm than a jcr comment. I do not understand them.

RM I (like a lot of people) wasn't able to go to working groups. Problem is attendance.

MP The problem is that democratic reform is really difficult when the current system is fundamentally undemocratic. I'm not sure all of this stuff is really going to be enough.

SWC I do not know. Another thing is that it speaks to my point that the CEO of the SU told me there is a legal issue with JCR SU reps – any one should be able to run, not just JCR members. But that hasn't been addressed here at all. Bizarre its not included in this reform. This seems the culmination of a year of work, and it doesn't change our relationship, which needs to change.

RM What did you want to change though?

SWC First of all what I want is a solution to the SU reps thing – whether it is an issue or not – why is there no proposed solution? For JCR Prescomm/the SU, I personally saw an improvement in relationships as new relationship with officers. I kept being told until the democracy review things can't change but this doesn't change anything. I want a structure that isnt reliant on individual presidents liking the SU. I feel like they've skated over it. I might send an email beforehand.

RM I think AM (Oppourtunities Officer) struggled with engagement this term, but hopefully it wil improve.

SWC They asked me to get JCR presidents together for something, and then I never got anything back. I understand everyone has annual leave, but it seems like nothing ever gets done. I don't think reform happens without this document. Something is missing for me. Again, this complaint isn't exclusively made within my capacity as JCR President.

RM Find it less likely I'd care as I'm not here next year. It's not perfect but I think its positive change.



SWC It's so vague – the '7 places' – what is this? Shouldn't you say what you will actually do? It seems incomplete.

RM I don't have an issue with it all.

MP I would vote against – there is no possible reality in which this passing is a major step in making the SU not a hyper-bureaucratic useless body.

SWC I don't think we should be passing flawed motions purely because it's what AM has been working on. While I think the first 2 are alright, I have big problems with the 3rd one. If we don't pass these, surely the next opportunities officer will have a mandate to finish it off.

RM I'll see. Do you want me to vote for or against? I could ask before.

SWC I think you should post another survey. There is enough time.

RM I am inclined to vote for it but there are questions.

MP I think we should vote against.

RM I'll post a poll in the committee. I'll put the survey results in a group chat to you, and we can discuss from there.