**Minutes**

**Thursday 10th November 2022**

**Teams**

**Members**

Upwards of 150 members present, including:

135 Student Reps (86% of voting participants)

Kazim Golzari (KG) – SUBU Summit Chair

Omuwa Ayomoto (OA) - SU President

Norah Deka (ND) – VP Education

Fiifi Asafu-Adjaye (FAA)- VP Student Opportunities

Chike Dike (CD) - VP Welfare and Community

Aneta Postek (AP) –Disabilities, Accessibility and Neuro-Diverse Officer

**In attendance**

Mata Durkin (Secretary/Democracy and Campaigns Coordinator)

Kayleigh Heckford (Democracy and Campaigns Manager)

Hayley Butler (Liberation and Campaigns Coordinator)

Emma Davies (Student Opportunities Manager)

Kerry Dean (Head of Student Participation)

Jane De Vekey (Head of Student Voice and Policy)

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# Welcome and Introduction

## The Chair welcomed the SUBU Summit participants and deemed the meeting quorate

## The Chair introduced the agenda and set out the operational points and the procedures to be followed during the meeting. This included that the results of all votes would be announced via email following the meeting to ensure that only votes cast by voting members were counted and not during the meeting itself.

## Minutes of Previous SUBU Summit

## The Chair invited members to read over the minutes which had previously been circulated and a vote was taken

# **Approve:  92**

# Reject: 0

# Abstain: 9

## **Minutes Approved**

# Trustee Board Update

# Presented by OA

# Key points noted:

* The Board have met twice since the last Report, in July and October. A key focus has been on preparing the budget for the academic year ahead. This was approved at the most recent board meeting and sees more reinvestment in key student facing activities.
* The Board also were updated on the development of an impact framework to measure and monitor the delivery of SUBU’s strategic and operational priorities. More detail on this will follow to the student body in due course.
* The Board also were most recently updated on the start to the academic year which saw record engagement in SUBU’s events and activities. Maintaining and building on this is a key priority for the year ahead.

#

# Full-Time Officer Reports

# President’s Report

# OA presented

# Key points noted:

## Manifesto: Work with BU to improve the arrivals process for international students

## Set up an international student working group to address the accommodation issues international students have been facing, especially student parents.

* + Worked on induction programmes for incoming students
	+ Starting a buddy scheme for international students, to allow incoming international students to have more support.

## Manifesto: To continue to work with BU and Careers BU to increase the visibility on all employability opportunities for all students

## Held a Part-Time job fair for students with Careers BU on October 5th.

## Manifesto: To focus on creating a cycle that involves guiding all students with an Alumni Future Series, that involves career development after graduation.

## Have been meeting with BU’s Graduate Employment Officer and Head of Careers about this.

# Vice President Education Report

# ND presented

# Key points noted:

## Manifesto: Boost an active community by tackling student loneliness, through the maintenance of the student buddy schemes

## Working on the launch of the international buddy scheme – planning on delivering training soon.

## Manifesto: Improve staff-student rapport, encourage students to feel open to communicate with staff and increase frequency of academic advisors’ meetings

## University change means that academic advisors are now Personal Tutors.

## Manifesto: Ensuring education is accessible for all students

## Lectures now have the ability to be recorded, but this is on an opt-out basis at the discretion of teaching staff.

## Manifesto: Work with the library to ensure all library books are available online and for students to be explicitly taught on how to write research papers and essays

## Most books are available online.

## Manifesto: Ensure that a high level of academic quality will always be met especially during the transitional period from online learning back to face-to-face learning (inc timeliness of assessment feedback and. Streamlining the process of exceptional circumstances)

## Working with academic quality to understand the policies in place and how the information can be relayed back to students.

# Vice-President Student Opportunities Report

# FAA presented

# Key points noted:

## Manifesto: Increase student satisfaction through clubs and societies

## Started to build relationships with clubs and societies committee members, especially during committee training.

## Suggested changes to the 5-star grading scheme to enhance collaboration.

## Manifesto: Supporting employability opportunities

## Part-Time Job fair went very well!

## Working with the Graduate Skills Programme on workshops for students.

## Manifesto: Creating an Injury Support Hub

* + Attended meeting between SportBU and the Assistant Dean for Health and Social Sciences – will be monitoring the current injury hub to check student usage.

## Manifesto: Giving more funding opportunities for sports for students

* + Created a sports bursary over the summer.

# Vice-President Welfare and Community Report

# CD presented

# Key points noted:

## Manifesto: Work with BU Residential Services to effectively improve the students’ housing experience by making it more accessible

## Launched accommodation bursary to help students

* + Looking into more support for mature students and students with dependents

## Manifesto: Further develop SUBU’s allyship programme to represent more marginalized communities

## Working with Liberation Officers to develop an Allyship action plan.

## Manifesto: Work with BU to prioritise student safety on and off campus

## Held a Night Safety Fair

* + Building connections with Town Pastors and Police,as well as other safety organisations.

## Manifesto: Collaborate with BU wellbeing team to reintroduce students to wellbeing services that champion healthy menta health practices

## Aiming to reintroduce services to students

## Had a pop up stall in Lansdowne for World Mental Health Day, and organized a nature workshop in Chapel Gate

* Manifesto: Introduce new International Students welfare programmes to enable easy integration into the BU community
	+ Supporting the International Buddy Scheme
	+ Working on an International Students Hub for provide international students with more information.

## The Chair invited the participants to speak further with the Full-Time Officer in different discussion groups.

# Student Ideas

# The Chair introduced the ideas up for discussion and invited the SUBU Summit participants to self-select discussion groups.

# The groups were invited to amend some, none or all of each proposal.

# The Chair advised participants they could swap discussion groups half-way through.

# Policy Discussions:

# Mental Health Greenspace

# SUBU to lobby to create safer crossings around campus

# Discussion Group Amendments:

## *Mental Health Greenspace*

# Ideas for solutions 1 to include – ‘and Lansdowne Campus that are wheelchair accessible’

* Added point 2 to Ideas for Solutions – ‘The spaces should have designated smoking/vaping areas or further work should be done to improve the sheltered smoking areas on both campuses’
* Added point 3 to Ideas for Solutions - The mental health green spaces should be varied to accommodate a range of student needs.’

# Added point 4 to Ideas for Solutions – ‘The spaces could include a sensory garden’

# Added point 5 to Ideas for Solutions – ‘SUBU should explore the possibilities of having mental health green spaces away from campus as well as on campus.’

# *SUBU to lobby to create safer crossing around campus*

# No amendments made.

# Speeches and Vote:

# Mental Health Greenspace

# Speech for: FAA

# An outdoor greenspace will help students’ mental health, and also increase social interaction, and help with stress relief.

* To implement on both campuses

# Speech Against: None

# Call to vote

# For: 73

# Against: 0

# Abstain: 4

# **Passes**

## SUBU to lobby to create safer crossings around campus

# Speech for: AP

# A lot of people have experiences with dangerous situations crossing roads around campus.

# There should be sounds to make it safer and so students know when to cross.

* Also to put more lights in around the area.

# Speech against: None

# Call to vote

# **For: 66**

# Against: 2

# Abstain: 5

# **Passes**

# Any Other Business:

# The Chair asked if there was any other business.

# The Chair thanked everyone for attending this meeting, and stated that the results of the vote would be emailed to all participants within the next 48 hours once all votes had been validated.