



Student Council Meeting Minutes

Falmouth Seminar A: 03/12/2015

1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies

Present:

MB Mathilde Baade (FXU International Officer)
RB Robbie Bartlett (FXU Sports Officer)
ACC Amanda Chetwynd-Cowieson (FXU President, Student Experience)
WE Will Elliott (FXU Undergraduate Education Officer Falmouth)
GF Grace Fisher (FXU President, Exeter)
BH Bryony Hacker (School of Art)
MH Megan Hemsworth (Fashion & Textiles)
FM Fred Mallin (FXU President, Falmouth)
GM Grace Marshall (FXU Societies Officer)
EM Ernst Molo (Games Academy)
TMR Tom Murray-Richards (FXU Undergraduate Education Officer Exeter)
DP Dean Pomeroy (FXU Student Voice Chair)
DR Dwayne Roberts (AMATA)
SSO Sienna Somers (FXU Environment and Ethics Officer)
AW Alexa Webster (FXU President, Welfare)

Also Present:

MRB Matt Blewett (FXU Student Voice, Minute Taker)
BR Ben Rowswell (FXU – Student Voice Director)

Apologies:

JC Jamal Clarke (FXU Community Officer)
ZL Zoe Lane (CLES PG)
PL Poppy Lomax (FXU RAD (Raise & Donate) President)

13 members present; full Council has 42 members, Quorate not reached. Decisions taken were circulated to Council members who were not present and requested their vote in order to reach a quorate decision. Enough votes were received to reach quorate.

1. Unfilled Positions

Executive Committee– Unfilled Positions

Volunteering Officer – Laura Sharps co-opted
Widening Participation Officer - Rebekah Trehern & Ellie Healy (Joint) co-opted
Postgraduate Officer (Exeter) - Alice Lord co-opted
PG Research (Exeter) rep – Jack Sargent co-opted

Vacant positions remaining:

Postgraduate Officer (Falmouth)
Mature Students Rep
Part-time Students Rep
Distance-learning Rep
Open (Exeter)
Open (Falmouth)

Each candidate was given 60 seconds to speak about themselves and what they might bring to the role.

GF explained that we are not quorate and so our vote needs to be ratified by remainder of the council. If they agree then the successful candidates will be notified as soon as we get enough votes. Enough non-present members replied to the email to get a quorate decision.

2. Previous Minutes 1st June 2015

Roger Auster/ACC

- Does new food options in Falmouth include service at weekends? No it doesn't
- Raise whether condiments in the Stannary can be supplied in bulk (rather than individual expensive sachets) with Estates. Yes, but not progressed.

Rhun Davis / GF

- Discuss graduation ceremonies and space and if more than one family member can attend.
GF to carry forward.

Cat Thornhill / AW

- Add "facilitate equality" to terms of reference of the Liberation committee? Done.
- Receive a paper from JC about introducing a volunteer council? JC left and none received.

Ellie Scouller / FM

- None

Council Members

- Did any 2015/16 members get any handover from any 2014/15 members? No.

3. Previous Minutes 10th November 2015

ACC

- Cashpoint at Woodlane – see president's report
- Vegan labeling at Woodlane – see president's report
- FXPlus to absorb the tampon tax – see president's report
- Buses update – see president's report
- Collate and circulate bursary info – see president's report
- Get Print credit link added – see president's report

ACC & FM

- Update on efforts to improve space – see president's report

FM

- Find bursary info and pass to ACC – being done.

GF

- Receiving copy of exam scripts – see president's report
- Find bursary info and pass to ACC – being done

HP

- Investigate Personal Tutors – being done by GF
- Let Library know Student Council request to open over Christmas break - done
- Carry forward invitations to mature soc and PG soc – asked, 1 candidate.

WE

- Examples of the difficulties with learning space – see Exec report

TMR

- Examples of the effect of SID changes – see Exec report

All Council

- Send ACC examples of bus problems - done
- Send ACC parking feedback - done

4. **Any matters arising from UGM 26th November 2015**

None.

5. **Presidents' Reports**

FM

- I am meeting Paul Cabuts (Dir of IOP) tomorrow to talk about how building work affects IOP students. We will also talk about the provision of post graduate space in general and changes to MFA course structure.
- Creative Skills exchange – we have got two students on board, and John Christie, Head of Careers to help set up the next event in January.
- Falmouth now has study abroad and Erasmus mentors.
- Rob Holmes, Dir of Finance, is working on a new financial transparency document to be released in January, and Top10 style booklet for students to show where their course fees are spent.
- Also working with Rob on hidden course costs to include in course cost publication on the Falmouth website for the end of December.

GF

- Issues around Personal Tutor review currently happening, feedback sought from students, gone to Dave Hosken and shared to heads of department.
- Exam scripts feedback from SID team – students can view exam scripts, but need to request from personal tutor – but please give some notice!
- **Will be chasing graduation tickets.**
- Deputy VC of education Tim drop in sessions in Stannary tomorrow, and session in exchange red
- Study abroad event today Q & A, students looking to develop an exchange society for students who will go or have been abroad. Developing Penryn specific staff member for this.
- Had PGR event Wednesday, will be developing PGR forum.

ACC

- Half way through FXYoucan week, most sessions have had more male and female students attend.
- Planning Give it a Go Week for January, got lots of clubs and societies on board.
- Working with private sector to get as much info together for January to get feedback from last year into our accommodation sessions.
- Working on study space, getting more tables/chairs in library, and how to make better use of the Stannary.
- Cashpoint at woodlane – Director of estates, carry on encourage people to upvote on Make a Change tab to demonstrate the need.
- Vegan labelling now on food at Woodlane, but with fewer staff it is unlikely to be the same standard as Tremough.
- FXPlus shop will subsidise 5% tampon tax. **They will give us a start date.**
- Buses – new mobile phone app will start by next meeting, as well as physical pre-pay card.
- Started **master list of bursaries**, confirming with unis how much is in each pot.
- Need to meet Xhub to get webprint added – **still work in process.**
- Loads of people sent bus and parking problems. Still doing maths around carparking, got 30 off sports centre, 20 off ESI, trying to get parking in halls and staff parking to reduce congestion on campus.

AW

- Finishing term with biggest black history month, and phobia awareness month
- May LGBTQ+ Pride month, and Int Womens day is now going to be Int Womens week
- Met FXPlus today about DSA and we are putting in place ways to mitigate cuts to DSA.
- Still working on access
- One Mental Health meeting a week on each campus, stress free app launching 12th January.

6. Make a Change Tab

Matt explained the Council needs to make a decision, but that decision is to approve the change, reject the change, or call for more info.

Reprographics; Parity for Falmouth Campus was approved.

FM next step find out what facilities are here, and **take forward.**

7. Vote to accept Draft Strategic Plan

Approved

8. Falmouth University issues and topics

Stannary – more student led events is being pushed for by all presidents. New working groups are being set up. If students put in applications then they will be taken to the group to look at. Bar manager feedback is that they do not want more than one paying event per week.

Bus shelter – ACC we received 1 poor response to the bus shelter design competition. FXPlus are looking to extend bus shelters and deliver clearer timetables.

Student growth will affect the local community – AW working on relationships with both town mayors. It is a long process to break down barriers.

9. Exeter University issues and topics

Student growth will be raised at next week's subject chair working group. GF & FM are working with both universities about student growth.

Call for a shuttlebus between Exeter Streatham and Penryn GF happy to have conversation about that. Streatham parking permits – go to reception. New permits have option for Streatham permit as part of Penryn permit.

10. Halls Facilities

Survey for first years is [live](#), please share and encourage people to fill it in.

11. International/Part-time/Mature Issues and Topics

See MB's report

12. Executive Officer Reports

MB (FXU International Officer)

Aims:

- Get more international students involved in British celebrations and seasonal things going on in the local area
- Make sure the students get welcomed and well informed on moving day, and introduce them to Cornwall in some way within the first few days after moving in.

Met up with mentors 02/12/15:

- Briefly looking at the cultural calendar for this year, and the possibilities for events around international and British celebrations.
- Free christmas dinner for students staying in Falmouth during Christmas
- Organise a get together for New Years Eve for both international and erasmus students?

Met up with the International Society 02/12/15:

- Work together on events
- New meeting after new years to discuss further

RB (FXU Sports Officer)

- This girl ([FXyou can](#) week) is happening this week. It is going well so far with more events still to go.
- I am going to BUCS AGM with Hayley Curtis on 10th December. We will meet with ACC before going.
- Give it a go week – will start on 18th January. We are still trying to get as many clubs as possible involved. We plan to use it as an opportunity for us to go and try out as many clubs as possible, getting photos and video to promote clubs and societies. We may link with sport relief and do it as a sponsored event.

JC (FXU Community Officer)

Community Officer

- Attended Executive meeting on 1st December, where Ben Rowswell and I spoke about plans to meet with somebody from the First Bus Kernow. What will be on my agenda is to put forward the idea that students living between Penryn Campus and Truro, outside of the student fare-zone, should be able to obtain a permit to travel for £1 just like the students in the fare zone.
- Alexa Webster and I discussed the prospect of meeting people from the local community, such

as the Mayor, or attending local celebratory events like the turning on of the Christmas lights in Penryn.

Liberation Chair

Due to a violation of the FXU constitution, where one student cannot have two seats on the Student Council, I opted to resign from this post and continue with my role as Community Officer. A statement is yet to be released.

- On Tuesday 24th November I chaired a meeting with the Liberation Committee, where we discussed basic strategy for the period until we break up before Christmas. All of the liberation officers have made action plans, and I planned to design a page for the FXU website for liberation.

WE (FXU Undergraduate Education Officer Falmouth)

Over the past few weeks, I have predominantly been approached and have heard about a few main issues frequently to complement other less common issues - here I will headline each issue with a short summary before opening up to the floor about the issues raised - if anyone requires a reminder about the issues then please ask.

- Firstly, there has been enormous concerns raised (as we saw at the UGM) with things such as spacing and resources issues at woodlane campus - mainly issues with printing and how building developments may affect productivity - what are the university's plans regarding expanding resources needed for our Arts students to 'be artists'?
- Secondly, there have also been issues with how the expansion and projected growth will affect student experience and courses as the space projected to be needed will vary on a course-to-course basis. Also under this falls how planned building work will affect student experience, and is there a backup plan if building work overruns in future? (as it has with the shop)
- A further concern raised is how the University's growth will affect the local community as we will be 'flooding the towns with students', however note that this was addressed as a point that will need work from both the local community and students to work in cohesion to ensure no conflicts happen. In connection with this, students also raised concern about student housing in relation to growing student numbers, students are worried that Falmouth is too small to expand for housing for the university.
- On a side, and possibly less urgent note, I have received a large amount of complaints from first years about the nightlife on campus, students have contacted me saying that they feel there are not enough events on campus during the week, and the Stannary events that only go on until 2am feel a bit limited. They also feel that when they start their own events in their dorms that they are shut down before they have a chance to socialise with others properly. I understand that we can't allow constant raves to cause havoc across campus, but at the same time students' social life is a key part of university and if they can't have the chance to do that in their own time under their own roofs then where can they?
- Of course, I was also contacted about buses - I'm quoting one student here who said to me when I asked what could be improved about Falmouth and the University, "Buses! They are awful, they constantly show up late if they show up at all." Another student told me they waited 45 minutes for a bus at the campus bus stop and not one bus came, they feel they should be more frequent, as well as possibly improving the conditions of the bus stops; it is such a hub for activity that there should be appropriate waiting conditions to accommodate for this - I understand Amanda is working towards better bus facilities and better communication with First, but I thought it should be noted that it is still an ongoing problem.

Thank you, if anyone has any input about any of the above points then please feel free to add it now - and equally if anyone would like me to go over any of my points in more detail then please ask.

PL (FXU RAD (Raise & Donate) President)

- Movember night was last Monday, went down really well. Currently counting up money raised

from the whole month, final amount will be announced tomorrow. New dates for Lost announced – 23rd/24th January, all participants have been notified of this. We were hoping to host a Christmas film night, collaborate with film society, but couldn't get it sorted.

GM (FXU Societies Officer)

- Planning ahead for Give it a Go week commencing on the 18th January.
- I'm currently spreading the word about the event and in the process of making contact with the leaders of the societies involved.
- I'm hoping to encourage as many students as possible, particularly Falmouth University students from Woodlane campus, to partake in activities and events that the societies have on offer.
- I will be encouraging societies to promote these activities and events to both universities and campuses.
- I'll be communicating with Amanda about Give it a Go week and the plans I have for the week, such as approaching the idea of shuttle buses moving from campus to campus throughout the week.

TMR (FXU Undergraduate Education Officer Exeter)

- Student Information Desk (SID): SID is where all your academic support staff are located. SID was introduced at the beginning of this academic year, and feedback has suggested that students felt the service, whilst improved in some areas, was less student-facing than academic support staff had been previously. As a result, GF and I have met with the managers of the office and after Christmas there will be (on trial) office hours for students to see these staff. Closer to the time, I will update and I would appreciate Exeter chairs/students making others aware of this, as more use will equate to a greater likelihood the office hours will be extended beyond the trial period.
- Monitoring teaching quality to ensure high levels are maintained, through accelerate (module review system, replacing MACE, but also incorporating an opt-in in module feedback option). Also continuing to monitor the 3 week turn around, to see where this is appropriate and where it isn't, as well as the effect of rising student numbers on Exeter students. Subject Chair Working Group next week and this will be discussed there in greater detail.
- Will run an event/campaign next term to raise awareness of ASK (hopefully w/ Will Elliot) and academic support, probably in conjunction with promoting SID office hours.

SSO (FXU Environment and Ethics Officer)

- Wanted to do a display at the compass on recycling plastic bottles, including what happens when you recycle a bottle, link to effect plastics have on oceans, talk to shop see if they can put a sign next to plastic water bottles saying along the lines of `think before you buy` Need to and get shop to promote reusable water bottles, promote eco cup for. Talk to catering about promoting meat free Mondays, as 1/5 of world's greenhouse gases come from meat production. Meet with Amanda to discuss ideas and how to carry them out

13. AOB Next meeting and Close

FM – how do you feel about a separate FXU Woodlane fb page? Agreed.

ACC – looking for UGM feedback

Good to have them there, so they could feel the pressure of students and put things into perspective for them to hear direct from the students instead of only from FXU presidents.

They didn't answer questions, a lot of people left feeling their questions were brushed aside.

Questions dodged very well.

Good discussion but frustrating.

Felt patronized by visibly poor attempt to dodge the question – be good for chair to bring them back to

the point.

Dominated by reprographics issue, while important it overshadowed the others. FM is a figurehead for a range of parity issues.

Considering a theme for AGM – study space. Asked what could be put in place in Jan/Feb – meeting on Tuesday with suggestions for both campuses – extra desks, extra computers, power sockets in stannary, comfier chairs in stannary. Advertise timetables of empty seminar rooms and what they would be used for, and on screens / apps / social media, both campuses. Use partitioned space in silent study.

BR & GF – presentation on Green Paper. The survey for existing students is [here](#), please read and respond! The survey has gone out in the newsletter, and will be posted on social media as well, please give your thoughts and share with your networks!

Next meeting Feb 1st 2016 @ Penryn Campus, Peter Lanyon Seminar 2

Meeting closed at 5.58pm