



Student Council Meeting Minutes

Peter Lanyon Seminar 2: 01/02/2016

1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies

Present:

LA Louis Allen (History),
MB Mathilde Baade (FXU International Officer)
RB Robbie Bartlett (FXU Sports Officer)
SBS Scott Bennell-Smith (CSM UG)
JC Jamal Clarke (FXU Community Officer)
ACC Amanda Chetwynd-Cowieson (FXU President, Student Experience)
CDF Cheila Da Fonseca (Film & TV)
CD Chelsea Dawe (Liberation Chair)
GF Grace Fisher (FXU President, Exeter)
EH Ellie Healey (FXU Widening Student Participation Officer (joint))
MH Megan Hemsworth (Fashion & Textiles)
ZL Zoe Lane (CLES PG)
AL Alice Lord (Postgraduate Officer (Exeter))
FM Fred Mallin (FXU President, Falmouth)
GM Grace Marshall (FXU Societies Officer)
TMR Tom Murray-Richards (FXU Undergraduate Education Officer Exeter)
DP Dean Pomeroy (FXU Student Voice Chair)
DR Dwayne Roberts (AMATA)
LS Laura Sharps (Volunteering Officer)
AT Anne Thorn (Writing & Journalism)
RT Rebekah Trehern (FXU Widening Student Participation Officer (joint))
AW Alexa Webster (FXU President, Welfare)
JW Jack Whitear (CSM PG)
PW Philip Wilson (RAD (Raise & Donate) President (joint))

Also Present:

MRB Matt Blewett (FXU Student Voice, Minute Taker)
HP Hannah Partington (FXU Student Voice)
AN Alice Nicholls (FXU Student Voice)
BR Ben Rowswell (FXU – Student Voice Director)

Apologies:

SB Sam Bishop (English),
WE Will Elliott (FXU Undergraduate Education Officer Falmouth)
JG Jon Gausden (CGES UG co-chair)

BH Bryony Hacker (School of Art)
EM Ernst Molo (Games Academy)
EO Elizabeth Orcutt (PG Research (Falmouth))
SSO Sienna Somers (FXU Environment and Ethics Officer)

24 members present; full Council has 47 members

2. Matters arising from the Previous Meeting (2nd December)

All Council

- Have you sent ACC examples of bus problems? ACC received more feedback before Christmas than after. Meeting with buses tomorrow so any feedback is desperately needed.
- Have you sent ACC parking feedback? We do have more parking spaces than at the beginning of the year. We now have spaces in the residences area. These are offered to staff on condition they are there 8.30am to 5pm. We have an opportunity to get FXPlus' budget next year to include new parking spaces. If students can't find a space – go to reception.
- Accommodation – Both Unis refused to mass email students, so ACC announced that Montezuma and Maritime apartments have been taken for first year accommodation only on facebook after giving both universities fair warning. This takes them off the market for returning students and puts more pressure on the private sector which is already full to capacity. As ACC is constantly talking to the accommodation manager, so again feedback is desperately needed. You can email amanda.cc@fxu.org.uk and also email accommodation@fxplus.org.uk if you want help finding a house.

RB asked if both universities could not bring as many students because the private sector cannot keep up with student numbers. (ALL – Yes!) **ACC to take to both universities.**

ACC While there are plans to build more accommodation, these will take 2 years or more to build. Also, we are making sure that the universities' plans do take students who are on study abroad this year into account, etc.

We also need to find out what students feel about potentially living in Truro – would need to negotiate travel arrangements. We took director of finance & various senior people from both universities to Truro. It did open their eyes, and they are listening in terms of mitigation so please give feedback on the potential hit to live elsewhere.

RB - Universities should not be sending students to live 7 miles away.

TMR - The bus takes 25 mins, driving 15 mins, there would need to be a travel bursary for Truro students travelling to Falmouth/Penryn. Perhaps a free Muscle card would be an acceptable incentive.

RB – they should be improving accommodation here; people don't go to university in Guilford and live in Woking.

ACC Think about who you live with now, and might want to live with next year. Do

you see living mixed Falmouth/Exeter as an option? (ALL) - Yes! Need to remind both universities about their need to support year abroad students.

RB - Diff for year abroad students

CDF - Landlords are reluctant to take international students.

HP

- Carry forward invitations for outstanding council positions to the mature soc and PG soc **HP – will chase up!**

WE

- Provide examples of the difficulties with learning space – WE not here.

All presidents – has the Stannary working group started? YES!

3. AGM

- The Annual General Meeting is on the 19th Feb at Falmouth campus, Lecture theatre 1, 4.30pm
- The candidates for presidential elections will be announced.
- All executive officers are expected to present a brief update to the AGM – speak to FXU presidents and staff for any advice.
- We encourage motions to put to the AGM for students to decide on (ask for any proposals and discuss them now)
- Check with Ben if minibuses will be provided from Penryn campus – if people want them – Ben post up if need transport.

4. Make a Change tab referrals

There are no make a change tab referrals to discuss. Student council is encouraged to make use of it to get evidence for the changes you want to see happen on campus – remember the cashpoint at woodlane was stalled for years until the make a change tab made it happen so it can work!

5. Presidents' Reports & Questions

Fred Mallin, President Falmouth

- Creative Skills Exchange John to help set up the next event in January
- Rob Holmes new financial transparency document release in January. Update – 1 Week till publication, 2 weeks till handbook
- Working with Rob on “hidden” course costs with info published e.o. Dec. 1-2 weeks, should be on Falmouth website, under course fees. Info was sent to Jon Press for Dec, but late.
- FM next step find out what facilities are here, and take forward. Reprographics;

Parity for Falmouth Campus was approved. Meeting with Mark on 18 Feb with Fal reps

- FXU Woodlane fb page –do
- Meeting directors/heads of subject to discuss rep elections and role descriptors, will meet with reps to discuss
- Fal teaching award, re: email Robyn
- Campaign 1, collaboration survey coming back from design next week
- Campaign 2, study space in town, project gone to marketing dept.
- Preach to pres at WL
- 2 days a WL
- Meeting with nominees, other interested students

Grace Fisher, President Exeter

GF – Finally got through to the right person about graduation tickets. There is a capacity issue and they will probably limit allocation to 2 tickets per graduate. We are currently waiting for confirmation. Then I can push for an increase to capacity.

The Exeter teaching day runs from 8.30 to 6.30pm 2 Exeter students knew this out of 7 Exeter students present. Doing some communications about making sure this is the case on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday. On Wednesday finish at 12 and Friday finish at 5.30pm. AT – on Monday we finish late and then I have hour drive. GF feedback to your course organiser.

Exeter are working towards Lecture Capture, AW - Falmouth is waiting for Exeter to install and then they will use it. GF - Exeter will take the policy to Senate to implement in the next academic year.

In the longer term Exeter are planning a timetabling review. They are looking at how to best utilize term 3, when to assess, changing the way modules run – long across a term or shorter and more intense over a shorter period? If you have any comments about what a term should look like then please pass them to me. JC – how long to implement? GF – more than a year is the estimate.

There will be another visit by the deputy Vice Chancellor of Education on the 16th Feb hosting a drop in session in the stannary. We are looking to make some slots for subject chairs to meet up with the deputy VC, please let me know if you would like one.

Study Space: we have booked exchange for first week of term. Exchange red booked for summer term for exam revision.

Teaching awards, this year guild & FXU award. Nominate staff. Awards on 28th April.

Amanda Chetwynd Cowieson – President, Student Experience

Cashpoint progressing

Shop still working towards tampon tax. Heart building caused shop delays, so it is understandable. No start date yet.

We have covered buses – nothing strengthens the points being made more than feedback emails from students and student reps.

IT say Webprint has been installed on Exhub.

Give it a go week went well.

The library has proposed these Easter closures:

The Penryn Campus library will close at 9pm on Thursday 24th March for the Easter bank holidays.

Open 10 – 6pm, self-service (security), Good Friday, Easter Saturday, Easter Sunday and Easter Monday. Re-open Tuesday 29th March at 08.45am and then 24/7 until the end of UG academic year on Friday 10th June 2016.

From Tuesday 29th March – Friday 8th April the Helpdesk will be open with library staff Mon – Friday 9am – 5pm with self-service (security) the rest of the time. Helpdesk Library staff start back on Saturday/Sunday 9th /10th April 10-6, and Monday 11th April 08.45am – 9pm.

ACC asked if there were any problems with this proposal, council were happy with it.

AW

Connections with Mayors of both communities, monthly 1:1s All presidents are invited to civic events. They are currently working on 800 years of Penryn, & strengthening ties with FXU.

There are a lot of campaigns on the horizon: Mental Health – collecting notes about services. Need student feedback so email me.

Don't Disability next week

DSA being cut, losing note takers, help in studios and libraries. On working group for both unis. Best plan available so students don't feel loss.

No questions.

6. Executive Officer Reports and questions

Everyone was sent the executive officers' reports with their agendas and they were also posted on the facebook page. They are:

MB - International Officers Report

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.

(Keep track on progress of) changes in tuition fees for International Students

The International Society:

Working on setting up new meeting

Work together on events

Improving the overall experience for International Students

JC - FXU Community Officer

This month I have been working on my initiative on revising the bus fare between Truro and Penryn Campus. With the university expanding year on year, more students will eventually be forced to live outside of the Penryn- Falmouth zone. With this in mind, and with some students already living outside of the zone, I am proposing to extend the subsidised £1 bus fare to here as well.

It is not fair that students should have to pay up to £4.50 for a return, or feel pressured into buying a car and car sharing, so this proposal aims to treat all of our students as equals.

I am currently working with FXU President of Student Experience, Amanda in drafting a proposal for this, which we will ask both universities to approve, before we take this to First Bus Kernow. As the universities have information on every student's term time address, we hope to gain access to this, as selective reach out to the students that live outside of the £1 fare zone. From, here, we hope to create some sort of pass or permit which will indicate that these students are entitled to a £1 fare when they board buses outside of the Penryn Campus- Falmouth zone.

As time goes on, perhaps some students may be forced to live somewhere between Penryn Campus and Redruth, but Truro is the more obvious location at this moment in time, so we will start with this before we try to extend the subsidised bus fare any further.

TMR - Undergraduate Education Officer (Exeter)

Since last council meeting, I have continued to work on my main manifesto points. SID office hours are now up and running, which will hopefully continue to make the professional services transformation more open to student understanding. I am in the process of creating a survey to see how students feel about the three-week-turnaround – specifically whether they feel academics should have longer to mark work, if this equates to more/better quality feedback. The survey will also cover students' opinions on rising student numbers, and how (if they feel this is negative) those negative aspects can best be mitigated, as well as continuing to monitor teaching quality. These issues (three week turnaround, rising students numbers, teaching quality) are also monitored through subject chair working group, and SSLCs.

WE - 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 under the relevant presidential area 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.

1. Falmouth Issues and Concerns Concerning Falmouth President.

Generally positive, and little feedback - though students are worried about Uni's expansion affecting them, for example Woodlane and reprographics.

Students wary of expansion having negative impact on housing and the local community.

2. Falmouth Issues and Concerns Concerning Student Experience President.

Students would like more leisure areas.

Demand for a zebra crossing between the bus stops and the shop.

More bins around campus.

Frequency of buses/lateness of buses.

3. Falmouth Issues and Concerns Concerning Community and Welfare President.

Prices in the shop too much.

Not many community activities for halls students.

AL - Postgraduate Officer (Exeter)

Recently I have:

Spoken to post grads about travel

Some reported late/missing buses and this information has been passed on to Amanda

Set up a meeting with Alice Nicholls re the Post Graduate forum which we will be setting up

- where PGs can come and let us know any issues they have and meet and mingle with possible social events.

SS - Environment & Ethics Officer

I have been working with Olly Jamieson on organising SHED talks, a series of talks based on environmental and social justice issues by either students, lecturers or guest speakers.

Planning the first event for early march then have on going events throughout the year.

Spoke to someone from fxplus about advertising 'Meat Free Mondays' at The Stannary and potentially Koofi, in order to reduce meat consumption on campus, need to follow up and

arrange a meeting. In process of organising a 'Fashion Revolution Day' event on campus on April the 24th in order to challenge brands to improve conditions in their factories.

Hopefully, I will meet with Amanda soon to discuss my issues.

PW & PL - RAD (Raise & Donate) President (joint)

Action Plan

Aims and Targets

Increase RAD awareness and income

Establish a baseline fund

Maximise opportunities and participation across all societies, sports and volunteering

Ensure events are well publicised and run efficiently

How this will be achieved

Provide support before, during and after as many fundraising events as possible. How?

Attend team meetings, going to events assisting planning, promotion. Moral support.

Publicise events to all audiences in at least 2 weeks advance

Formulate sponsorship pack

Investigate sponsorship opportunities (contacting personal contacts)

Chief delegator – assessing team work loads and making sure tasks are covered

Possible expansion of events

Planning ahead for future years by researching past activities and comparing to other universities. Talking to students and finding out what they want.

Ensure high quality running of events

Use social media.

How to quantify

Use Facebook statistics

Obtain 1 to 1 feedback

Conducting surveys

Event attendance numbers

CD - Liberation Chair

I've just been elected the new Liberation Chair officer and my first Liberation Committee meeting took place on Monday 25th January.

RB - Sports Officer

Watersports day – planning is continuing, waiting on responses from clubs. Talked to flexi about combining with their annual beach day,

Sports relief – Meeting with Kristy and Amanda to discuss what we can do, put on FXU sport relief mile and other possible events.

Watersports social organised by Josh King was a success and has helped to bring together the clubs hopefully more joint events will follow.

Give it a go week went well with session run by many clubs and societies and lots students participating and giving things ago even in the freezing cold.

GM - Societies Officer

Since the last council meeting, I have continued to develop my manifesto points and I will be meeting with Amanda soon to discuss these further. It is currently Give it a Go week and I have visited stalls such as the Erasmus stall, FemSoc stall, and the Red Cross stalls and have chatted to them about what their society can offer students like myself and discussed any future projects they may have planned. I also intend on taking part in activities this week such as the Conservative Future society's discussion with Sarah Newton.. I have promoted Give it a Go week to students and have also gathered some feedback on how they feel Give it a Go week has benefitted them. I will continue to do this throughout the rest of the week. Using Give it a Go, which occurs during academic timetables, I hope to discover if the society taster week during Fresher's would work better if it took part during the initial Fresher's week when students are free. So far, Give it a Go week has been a success and my feedback has been entirely positive.

LS - Volunteering Officer Report

Had an initial meeting with Kristy to discuss plans whilst I'm in the role.

Key points from this:

- Increase participation of students outside biosciences and geography as these areas are well represented, possibly by creating more varied volunteering opportunities
- Development meant of the V Team scheme, make it more well-known on campus and introduce incentives for completing volunteering hours

Another meeting with Kristy planned for Wed 27th Jan to discuss creating a volunteering

committee to discuss ideas and get more people involved in decisions.

RT & EH - Widening Student Participation (Joint)

Attended first liberation committee meeting

Discussion with DSA officer about working together for disability awareness fortnight, creating events for societies and students to increase participation

Working closely with welfare president, president of student experience and widening student participation staff member to ensure that all students are included.

No questions

7. Timing of Elections / Unfilled positions

PW - I came into RAD presidency really late, and I am so far behind I have not got a clue what is going on. BR came up with plan that would solve people coming in late.

RT - RAD committee was put together last year, there were plans in place then a new president comes in without a clue what is happening.

BR – gave a [presentation](#) about the timing of the council elections and leadership development.

JW - include PG? BR – all students starting in Sept.

TMR - asked for elected dedicated reps for first years and post grads? BR said

LA – clarify student voice conference BR opportunity to present top ten, discuss pros/cons

RB – talk to person doing your role, can work to keep jobs going.

CD – include foundation? BR maybe? Freshers fair?

TMR – would you still elect 1st year reps in September.

BR – crux is training you before summer.

AT don't understand what this is proposing – BR project led rather than role led. Difference – timing, but also as elections or recruiting.

RB – important for main positions to be elected, instead of just recruiting mates.

AT – recruiting is more about picking the skills less about the number of mates who can elect you.

TMR – avoid election fatigue.

DR – may we have working group around electing/recruiting. Think the plan is good in

principle.

- **BR ask if council feel recruiting/electing before the end of academic year is good idea? For 20 against 1**

Should we elect or recruit JC – should elect b4 end of year, and recruit in September. AL Do need exec role for PG & Foundation.

- **Are council in favour of electing officer positions? Yes 17, no 1, abstain 6**

JC When training? BR – one in June, one in September

AW – would you prefer to discuss on FB? BR – need to start planning.

RB – Is there student council meeting before it goes ahead? Next student council 15th March.

DP agreed in principle, **details to be approved in March**

8. AOB Next meeting and Close

NUS: GF - over the weekend the presidents went to NUS and discussed making sure the NUS is more accountable to students. Part of this is getting more students to attend conferences. We therefore aim to get more of you to go to conferences, and put forward motions to those conferences. If you are interested come and see us! FM - if you step forward, it is not just us there supporting you. We can put you in touch with people in advance, and find support in place. ACC - more representation at these conferences mean we can get more support at national level for the campaigns we want locally. GF – anyone interested please come and contact us, or if you know anyone interested then please send them our way! There is financial support – transport and accommodation.

ACC send out info about when the conferences take place.

AW we are looking at funding to be able to send one student to hopefully all of these.

Meeting Structure: DP – we altered the structure of this meeting under the priority of FXUnity, but would you prefer the old structure of Falmouth Students issues and Exeter Students issues discussed separately?

TMR - better to have education issues, welfare issues, employability in the spirit of unity.

ACC – the plus side to discuss in AOB is that any of us can jump in, the down side is that university specific issues may just get missed out.

RB – not much of a difference, you all chip in anyway, just means we can have dedicated space to talk about issues.

RT – Have generic issues, put under AOB.

JW – how many university specific issues actually come up? In the meetings I have witnessed the only specific issue was reprographics. All other issues have affected all students in both institutions. It is logically better to categorise – e.g. academic, easier to troubleshoot by subject.

DP - All happy to share by issue then, but provide them in a timely manner!

AN – on behalf of Jack Sargent what do Post graduates feel about sharing space between PGR & PGT? Following discussion, they agreed that **so long as there is space for everybody then they are happy to share.**

Accommodation reprise: JW – Montezuma House residents found out they can't spend their final year there.

ACC - please email me with problems. amanda.cc@fxu.org.uk and also email accommodation@fxplus.org.uk if you want help finding a house.

AL - students in Killigrew street received letters informing them they will not be able to stay there as Falmouth is taking over ownership.

ACC - please give me examples of how university actions are impacting on your student experience.

JW – estate agents tell PGs they have left it too late.

ACC - encourage students to see us, tell us, email us, and particularly to tweet us. If you n

RB – Houghton Wills are not helpful.

AW – the only way to act is to email me with specific evidence amanda.cc@fxu.org.uk and also email accommodation@fxplus.org.uk if you want help finding a house. We can protest against any agencies / landlords but I need names and details. I can't act without evidence so please get in contact.

ACC - do you want a theme for AGM? – everybody in room asked for **accommodation**, discussion was that the universities are knowingly bringing more students to Falmouth/Penryn than there are even basic beds and accommodation for them.

CdF - student numbers impact on study space. Please see UGM Minutes where this was discussed.

DP - discuss theme further on the student Council facebook page. We will send out the AGM agenda on Mon 8th February.

The next student council meeting is Mar 15th 2016 @ Falmouth Campus 4:00pm Seminar A, but we hope to see everyone at the AGM on the 19th Feb.