

# Leadership Team Meeting

## Exchange Green: 11/10/2016 4pm



### 1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies

Present:

LB Lisa Burton (FXU Student Voice Chair)  
CS Chris Slessor (FXU President, Falmouth)  
AW Alexa Webster (FXU President, Welfare)  
ACC Amanda Chetwynd-Cowieson (FXU President, Student Experience)  
TMR Tom Murray Richards (FXU President, Exeter)  
DP Dean Pomeroy (FXU Undergraduate Education Officer Exeter)  
EW Ellen Whitby (FXU Volunteering Officer)  
HS Hannah Smith (FXU RAD (Raise & Donate) President)  
SG Sam Green (FXU Postgraduate Research Officer Exeter)  
BH Bailey Hoare (Postgraduate Officer Exeter)  
JS Jaimin Sadiwala (FXU Sports Officer)  
EM Ernst Molo (Games)  
OM Ollie Mas (Politics)  
BH Bryony Hacker (School of Art)  
LR Lucy Rivers (School of Art)  
AT Anne Thorn (FXU Mature Students Officer)  
EF Emily Fergusson (Biosciences)  
LH Liz Hull (Geography & Environment)  
DR Dwayne Roberts (Music & Theatre Arts)  
KC Kieran Cutting (FXU Community Officer)  
SS Sienna Somers (FXU Environment & Ethics Officer)  
JC Jamal Clarke (FXU Societies Officer)

Also Present:

MRB Matt Blewett (FXU Student Voice, Minute Taker)  
GP George Perry (FXU Student Voice)  
BR Ben Rowswell (FXU Student Voice Director)

Apologies:

MH Megan Hemsworth (Fashion & Textiles)  
CF Cheila de Foncesca (Film & Television)  
CC Connor Chard (CSM)  
REC Robin Ellis-Cockcroft (Clean Energy)  
DCH Dan Cottey-Hill (Geography)  
AL Abbie Lavis (Geography)  
TR Tom Ridgeon (Biosciences)  
LG Laura Goodhead (Open Officer Exeter)  
MB Mathilda Baade (International Officer)

BF Bella Frimpong (Liberation Chair)

CA Charity Aria (FXU Widening Student Participation Officer)

## **2. Question your Presidents**

Questions were submitted anonymously via padlet.

### **How can we better engage Falmouth students in student voice/democracy?**

CS – FXU needs to be more embedded and relevant more to Falmouth students by providing opportunities that are complementary to their studies.

### **How can we improve engagement and awareness of student led projects?**

AW – we have volunteer projects that are run through FXU as well as students' own projects. We promote them through social media and we are lucky to have that wide platform. We also offer advice and support – being there for students. We leave students with skills to take forward.

ACC – all student project money was applied for last year and so I think we reach and engage with the student projects.

### **What are your plans to make the FXU website Clubs & Socs section more efficient?**

ACC- We met with the marketing/design team to make the website more streamlined. We are looking at making a resource hub for committees and make the member-facing pages easier to use.

JC – why concentrate on the website?

ACC – Because that needs the most work, and we need to make it more relevant. If it is out of date, then people will not use it.

CS – We need to make it less stagnant

AW – We also want to make it more accessible for example for dyslexic students and for deaf students, with film, etc.

### **How can we pre-empt any (semi-inevitable) problems that might occur with house-hunting this year?**

AW – We will be running a campaign #thisismyhome with an information booklet to give to students on the best way to find a place to rent. It will also include information such as the rights of tenants and tenant's duties. We will be promoted via accommodation fairs, etc.

We will be keeping eye on market and trying to make accommodation easy to find via studentpad.

We meet with mayors of both boroughs once a month and keep in the conversations about accommodation.

ACC – We have just met accommodation team who will be more proactive in helping first years into private accommodation.

CS – Cornwall Council have agreed student growth and are now working on how Cornwall will cope with more numbers.

### **Are there any plans to improve student night life? Any new and different Stannary events planned?**

ACC – I would just like to make the point that we do not run the Stannary, and we do not have the ultimate say about all events. It is difficult as Falmouth council admit it is a

problem, and it is part of their plan to see what else can be provided. Mango's will not reopen as a venue. If you have feedback about Stannary events, do send it to me.

### **Will the new café/bar at Falmouth campus be an evening venue?**

ACC – it is a bookable space, but apparently neighbours have already complained, and curfew is likely to be 6pm.

CS – FXU are keen to get students to co-create what events are going to look like.

SG – there are a lot of promoters in town and a lot of them are students. A lot of them leave flyers on campus which is wasteful. Could we have a space on the FXU website for a simple calendar?

MRB – we charge private companies to promote their events on the FXU website.

TMR – We would not know what events are student led and which are run by private companies.

ACC – We would like to promote all events but it takes a lot of time, even just uploading onto the website.

SG – There has to be a more efficient way than posters/flyers around campus.

### **How can we best mobilise the leadership team to support the FXU priorities?**

ACC – throw this back to you, the leadership team. What do you think?

LR – our students are apathetic and not easily roused. Communication - getting them interested, involved.

ACC – FXU Communications is Priority 2. If anyone has any world class ideas please let us know?

### **What one thing will you do this year?**

ACC – increase the number of students who will vote in student elections

AW – campaign to tackle drink spiking

CS – make sure FXU works effectively for each cohort of Falmouth students

TMR – get Exeter to agree on communication plan to give us parity with Exeter campuses.

## **3. UGM**

a) Please attend!

b) Topics for discussion

LR – events happen here, overcrowding is an issue at Woodlane. Gallery opening would ease the refectory, the library is overcrowded. The new build does not include any additional toilets where we have to queue now.

TMR – Making it campus parity could include all students.

LR – use the word parity and no one will turn up. It may be worth having different topics at different campuses.

ACC – What if we phrase the topic around student numbers e.g. “is campus overcrowded?”

LR – it is unrealistic to “cap the numbers” but could we talk about access to facilities and overcrowding powers that be may listen.

KC – How do you make sure it stays productive?

AW – with wording we can make sure accommodation is not on the agenda again. We have ways to work around that.

c) If anyone needs a lift to Falmouth reception please let us know asap.

#### 4. Make a Change tab referrals

##### a. [Have 2017 graduation at a venue other than campus](#)

CS – the stigma about this situation comes from the way it was communicated from the university. It will be at Penryn campus as they have checked every other venue and there are none which are suitable. I have proposed to Louise Osborne that FXU work with them to communicate better what the graduation could look like, and she has agreed to FXU proposals for graduation communication.

DR – the communication was really annoying, it could have been communicated earlier, heard about the plans but they have not been communicated well.

LR – myself and DR were talking to Lorna and their plans sound amazing but they were not communicated well.

HS – It would be better to emphasise why this venue is first choice rather than present it as a last resort.

AT – It came across in university communications that it was a cost-cutting exercise and subsequent communication needs to address that.

For 0

Against 5

Defer 16 – Exeter students abstained.

AT- Based on info given at this meeting.

##### b. [Stop expansion of Falmouth University](#)

CS – There is strategic plan of growth so this is an unrealistic expectation. A lot of changes are bigger than the 3 year student experience. The university needs to work in partnership a lot more with how this change impacts students. I think we need to strengthen our communication channels to give evidence based and targeted student voice to academic board and board of governors.

EM – I would like to see what expansion plans look like – we fill our space this year with 46 people, and there will be double this number next year – what is the university's plan for accommodating study space for them? I can't realistically see how they will make that work. Moving our year to Falmouth campus seems to be a temporary solution, implemented late and communicated after many of us had arranged accommodation near to Penryn campus.

AT – didn't this come up previously?

ACC – This came up in one form at the AGM, we know we can't stop any increase but we keep challenging universities to provide appropriate resources for students; so we are always dealing with the issues caused by rising student numbers.

For 2

Against 6

Defer 13

c. [Request for a permanent vegan-friendly food option at both campuses](#)

ACC – there is a review of hospitality going on.

LR – we tend to get 3 options – meat, meat, veg with cheese. It may be cheaper to have protein add-ons, or offer meat, veg, vegan food.

Like a cheap food option.

DP – there are options but they are not communicated in an obvious way.

EW – the campus shop has just added a big vegan section but has not communicated it widely.

For	21
Against	0
Defer	0

d. [Keep Princess Pavilion as Falmouth Graduation venue.](#)

Refer to point a, as already discussed.

For	0
Against	5
Defer	16 – Exeter students abstained

e. [Guarantee a ticket to grad ball for every graduating student.](#)

ACC – I can try to work on what we do for grad ball, but I don't run it and we can't guarantee.

TMR – we are looking at how to increase capacity. Happy to take on different wording.

EM – Norway method

SG – Say we are looking for venue that isn't the Stannary may take heat out of situation.

CS – Looking at alternative ways may ease pressure.

For	3
Against	6
Defer	12 – due to wording.

f. [Stop the changes to graduation - unfair on those forced to use ECs](#)

AW – there is move towards graduating in July. Some universities do have different times.

SG – Have friends who graduated but empty envelope. What will happen accommodation wise?

TMR – there still will be different weeks for Falmouth and Exeter graduations so accommodation should be available.

For	0
Against	10
Defer	11 – due to wording

g. [Should FXU support the NUS National Demo on 19th Nov 2016 in London?](#)

KC – If does not pass, would FXU support student groups?

ACC – no – insurance

AT – Is there soft-support or spending money?

LB – if you vote for then you are voting to get students up there.

For	4
Against	16
Defer	1

h. [Meat Free Mondays](#)

LR – what about people who want meat on Mondays at Falmouth?

EW – There is a meat alternative in the shop at Penryn.

AT – It's not a hot meal. You are forcing people to not eat meat.

JC – If you want to be vegetarian do that, but don't force me to do it. I want the option to eat what I want to eat.

SG – The whole point is to make a statement, and a powerful one. One day not having meat for lunch will not kill you. It seems reasonable as you can still get meat if you really, really want to, but eating meat is not sustainable and we are supposed to promote green living.

LR – Is there any legal obligation for the universities to provide hot meat meals?

ACC – no. If the universities provide food, they do have to provide options. We are asking them to improve their vegan options; at the moment they have meat, meat, vegetable and cheese, so perhaps moving to meat, veg, and vegan options and as part of that we could try to get the stannary to promote vegan options on Mondays.

EF – Do check the point as it was submitted.

SS – I spoke to vegan society last year and they did not want to stop people eating meat but wanted a "Meat Free Monday" promotion with flyers, etc.

For 9

Against 6

Defer 4

**Allocated to ACC to encourage better sign posting of meat free options rather than a totally meat free Monday.**

i. [U3 \(Penryn Campus- Falmouth University\) Travel Pass](#)

ACC – U1 is the most used line. While I can appreciate a discount card would be great it would not be practical. Having £1 discount fares is already the best discount.

DR – buses work better now than last year.

EM – don't understand the submitter's logic – it is cheaper to pay £2 a day using the discount fare than buying their suggestion.

ACC – Yes – I did the maths too. Its not reasonable and there are better ways to make busses better.

For 7

Against 9

Defer 3

## 5. Falmouth University issues and topics

BH – overcrowding in the library.

BH – inflation in the prices at the canteen, everything has gone up by an average of 40p at Fox café – it is cheaper to go to Harbour Lights. Emailed the head of the school of Art who replied that it was inflation which I do not think is true.

BH – We had a meeting with the deputy Vice Chancellor, Alan Murray, who said “We will have a selection of reprographics at Woodlane”. We still cannot print on A1 or acetate at Woodlane, which isn’t good enough.

BH – Dissertation deadlines have been moved for some courses and even tutors are saying they are harder timescale to meet the deadline. We were only given our briefs four weeks ago, and our drafts are due in this week. Our practise is not able to run along side it as it was designed to do, and our practise will suffer as a result of lack of time. This was brought up with Fred last year but he did not come back. If you are dyslexic, the dissertation move means you do not get enough time to complete your dissertation and some dyslexic students cannot access dyslexic support.

BH – Student support services are not there. AW – we know about this and are working on it.

BH – DSA mentor has been stopped. AW – yes – DSA has been cut. Accessibility team and the universities are working on this as well but it is a huge gap to fill. It is in FXU priorities this year to get the universities to address this.

LR – Permanent cheap food option at Woodlane: Penryn always has a £1.80 food option which is usually a small bowl of rice and quorn chilli or similar. This would be much appreciated as per Bryony's point regarding food price increases many of us cannot afford to spend £4-£4.50 on lunch every day and might want a smaller portion. I would like to see parity between campuses.

LR – Overcrowding: As attached I have personally witnessed overcrowding taking place across both campuses, as one of my cohorts said "now we have to queue for everything". I was assured by Ken that there would be a cafe in the upstairs gallery but having spoken to a foreman on Friday last week this kitchen area is actually just a space that can be transformed into a cafe or bar for events. Not a permanent cafe as was inferred in the UGM regarding the build in April. In the Leadership meeting I said that the overcrowding on food and printers should get better once the printers in the IT suite are up and running and once the cafe upstairs has been opened. When I was last in on Friday the printers were still not set up and now it turns out there will be no permanent cafe upstairs. So my point now covers not only queuing for the toilets but also queuing for print and food facilities.

LR – Builders using disabled space every day – need to call head of estates to get them to move making us late every day. I am now in touch with Anita in Accessibility regarding this but it is an ongoing concern and I would like to see Alexa take charge of this issue.

LR - Inter-course Collaboration: This is such an easy thing to integrate and something I have fed back to me non-stop. So many courses would benefit from scheduled collaboration. Creative writing could have their stories illustrated. A visiting Environmental Games Artist could also share their experiences with Illustration students. Fine Art could do set design for AMATA. Graphics could design posters for a Fashion Show. Fashion Photography and Fashion collaboration is a no-brainer yet there is no curriculum-based, scheduled interaction between courses. We the students feel this is a huge missed opportunity and one which needs discussing at a higher level to see how this could be implemented.

LR – Local Industry Engagement Across Courses: I have heard from several local businesses that Falmouth Uni is an "impenetrable fortress" I would like to see Falmouth getting involved with local industry and encouraging students to get work experience. For example Trebah Gardens have an Amphitheatre which they would love to have the AMATA students use but have had no luck offering this to Falmouth. As an Illustration student we also have little to no involvement with local galleries, studios, etc.

LR – Vending machines at top of campus: Penryn Campus has a good spread of vending machines, cafes, etc at all points on the campus, when one breaks down you can always go to another nearby. Woodlane Campus only has one area to get food and drink, at the bottom of the hill in the canteen. For those students using the library or the print rooms, Drawing, Architecture and Fine Art students could really benefit from having a drink and snack vending Machine and a hot drinks machine at the top of Campus. Ideally outside the library or reception. This would also be very helpful on open days and for visiting guests at reception. I would also like to see healthier snacks ala Penryn campus. This is now a [Make a Change tab idea](#).

LR – Events at Woodlane: Chris Slessor, Meg Fatharly and I are currently organising a Saturday Art Fair to be held at Woodlane in the new refectory space that would help students to promote their work and make extra money. Most uni-led events such as careers fairs, International Women's day, etc are held at Penryn Campus at the Compass. We would like to see parity between campuses and have some events held in the new refectory space which is now big enough and well-equipped to handle this type of event. I would also like to see Falmouth students involved in the events, whether it be holding a stall or designing promotional material.

LR – Open-access Hot Water Machine and Microwave: I think the Microwave would be more difficult to acquire but an Open Access Hot Water Machine in the refectory or upstairs in the Kitchen-looking area of the Fox Gallery would be appreciated for students who cannot afford the cafe drinks or are looking to fill up hot water bottles. Especially now that the Gallery Cafe is mysteriously not a cafe but a kitchen-esque space.

LR - Communication could still be improved: Bryony, the third year Illustration reps, Chris and I met with Alan and Ginny to discuss this. It would have been nice to know of the progress of building work before returning to uni so it wouldn't have been such a shock. Promote trust by communication - rather than just trickling down through reps and tutors. There would be no harm receiving emails from on top.

**Reprographics update:** Last year we had a large meeting with Alan Murray and Ken and Ginny with all the Illustration reps and tutors. Among the many concerns raised regarding the new build one of the biggest points raised was reprographics. The third years of the time remembered reprographics being available and how integral this was to the learning experience. We all reiterated how important it is to have this facility at Woodlane. Ken assured us that along with the new build there would be a small scale reprographics service at Woodlane. He also said there would be a photography studio to replace the one demolished in the ground floor of the Illustration building.

I have not heard or seen anything to indicate that either of these facilities have been built. To say we are disappointed is an understatement.

## 6. Exeter University issues and topics

KC – lecture capture is not happening – TMR should be working now if not let me know  
SS – difference in biosciences – EF meeting tomorrow. SG – write up is your solid bit, I'd say its better. HS people told late – so some committed to lab book. LB – meeting scheduled.  
SG – radon detectors are set really high on walls – radon is a heavy gas so nothing will get recorded even if there is Radon present.

ACC – estates know about that.

TMR – As far as I know graduation for Exeter students will be at Truro next year.

## 7. Unfilled Positions

Proposal to allow another week for nominations to officer roles (except faith committee):

For 18

Against 0

Abstain 0

**Passed.**

Faith committee:

Sebastian Mitchell – chair

Tom Crane – Pagan

Sajjad Jabarkhel – muslim

Jacob Armstrong – Christian

**Deferred – out of time – vote outside the meeting.**

## 8. AOB Next meeting and Close

- a. Student Voice Conference (UGM) Nov 22<sup>nd</sup> 2016 @ Falmouth Campus 3:00pm Lecture Theatre 2
- b. Leadership Team Meeting Dec 6<sup>th</sup> 2016 @ Falmouth Campus, 4:00pm Seminar A
- c. Launch FXU Top 10