

Liberation Committee Meeting Minutes



**Daphne Du Maurier - Seminar Room C:
31/01/2017, 6pm**

1. Welcome, Introductions, Apologies

- Welcome back everyone
- Introduce Sebastian Mitchel (Faith Committee Chairperson), Olumide Adefolaju (LGBTQA+ Officer)

Attendees: Bella Brimpong, Makinlay Ingham, Isi Daley, Alexa Webster, Cameron Harrington, Olumide Adefolaju, George Perry (Secretary)

Apologies: Megan Arthur, Seb Lewis, Charity Aria

2. Approve last meeting's minutes

Minutes approved

3. Matters arising

- LGBTQA+ officer found - welcome Olumide
- Updates on ideas discussed last meeting
- Megan's project

ID update

ID – Racial Profiling event in Exeter with BF and AW. A lot of responses, very successful event.

MI, Women's Officer update

MI - Working with Exeter and Falmouth 'Her Campus', to broaden the students that are interviewed, one student who identifies as a woman per course. 'Women in Industry Conference', lack of females on festival line ups, sexual harassment at gigs and festivals, etc. Gig in March that is being run by and performed at by only people who identify as female but open to all people to attend.

Discussion panel with women who work in the music industry about the barriers they have faced.

There has been some reported discontent with how FemSoc is being run, mainly issues around the type of feminism focused on, ie White Feminism. Also issues around Trans issues, ie gender neutral toilets. MI has tried to get in contact with them but very little response

AW – Talk to Rose about your concerns, she can have a talk with them about the concerns around intersectionality. This would be the most appropriate channel.

MI – What is happening with Women’s Week?

AW – AW and Amanda have been liaising with FemSoc on this, Int Women’s Day theme is ‘Be Brave, Make Change’, how to be an activist. Everything should be intersectional, no topic separation between the events, as happened last year.

MI – The gig will be at the end of March, a couple of weeks after Women’s week, not part of the week

AW – This timing is good because it breaks the boundaries that Liberation is allowed to exist within. These topics are relevant and should be talked about/ celebrated all year round.

Action – AW to link MI with FemSoc via email

Action – MI to write a plan for the conference, including budget to be agreed on by the Liberation Committee

MI – Disabled Students’ Officer: requests from a couple of students regarding doors in AMATA, they are not automatic before 9am.

Action - MI to email AW regarding this issue.

OA update

OA – Looking forward to working with the committee in the future, especially for Pride month

AO – Would like to run a campaign regarding Allies, maybe in February. Photo series of students who are Allies talking about why it is important to support and back-up friends and those in the LGBTQA+ community

MA update

BF – no brief on MA’s project, but the idea sounds good.

CH update

CH – Society being started slowly, still trying to get signatures, momentum is difficult to build

AW – People can join even if they are not members of that community, allies and supporters can also join and be signatories.

CH – Pagan Soc has been working with LGBTQ+ soc on a campaign regarding Queers with faith

AW – Trans 101 training being turned in to a booklet, joint with CH

BF update

BF – BF has been supporting everyone else and the projects they have been doing.

Organising the Sober Party. Spoken to a friend and they want to organise a Disney party, the event could be joint. Will keep the group updated. Could be held on either Campus.

Accessibility and timing needs to be thought out.

MI – Is Disney the best theme, considering how they portray gender?

BF – Valid concern, people need to be considerate with how they dress and approach it.

Given the circumstances this seems appropriate

AW – We could phrase it as reclaiming Disney and showing how Disney could have been done

BF – Cultural sensitivity campaign should be done via a poster campaign, working on this.
AW – Once the posters are created they can exist beyond this campaign and be ongoing.
They can be used for instant action to changes in politics/ the world.
BF – Trying to have them done in February

AW – Transgender students can officially change their names of the student systems, they can also get a free printed card with their new name.

CH – Concerns from some students about a lecturer purposefully misgendering and using students birth names, knowing they no longer go by that name.

AW – Trans survey and Race Equality survey, temporarily on hold but will be done before AW leaves. AW is getting NUS officers to help out

4. Discussion on tackling bullying/ cultural sensitivity

- Charity giving us context: anti- America oriented bullying
- How can we include this into BF's cultural sensitivity campaign

BF – CA not present so no context to give.

Action – BF will liaise with Seb Mitchell to write a press release for all committee members to sign

5. Don't Disability Week

- Mackinlay giving us context
- How can liberation support

Don't Disability Week is back! 'Spot My Difference' video has been filmed, being shown at 'Concours' to kick off the week. Will circulate marketing materials. Theme this year is 'Making the invisible visible'. 'Use your difference to make a difference' slogan, Invictus Trust and Wave Project are chosen charities. 13-17th February

Monday – Information Fayre 11-3, hopefully have a Liberation Committee presence

Tuesday (Valentine's Day) – spreading the love with free stuff

Wednesday – Panel discussion, people who are renowned in their industry that also identify as disabled will be on a panel

Thursday – Body Positivity photo shoot, 15 mins with a photographer

Friday – Info Fayre on Woodlane Campus

MI - Lots of stuff throughout the week, including society/ sports club events, please circulate to everyone you can. Petition will be circulated which asks for more pastoral and social support.

MI - Don't Disability Society is a great space for intersectionality, a lot of the members identify with various liberation groups, it is a support group as well as a society.

6. Pride

- Alexa give us context
- How can liberation support

AW – Several events, working with LGBTQA+. Liberation committee event will be a stage in Kimberley Park on Sat 20th May, named 'Pride in the Park'. Guest speakers etc in the day. Clubs in the evening organized by Cabbage Patch Kids to have a Falmouth wide LGBTQA+ night.

7. AOB Next meeting and Close

- OPEN MEETING: Tues 28th Feb, FALMOUTH CAMPUS, Sem C at 6PM

THIS DATE IS BEING CHANGED