



FXU Annual General Meeting (AGM) 2017

Penryn Campus Old Chapel Lecture Theatre

Friday 17th Feb 16:00 – 18:00

Chair: Lisa Burton (Student Voice Chair) [LB]

Panel: Amanda Chetwynd-Cowieson (FXU President Student Experience) [ACC]
Alexa Webster (FXU President Community & Welfare) [AW]
Chris Slessor (FXU President Falmouth) [CS]
Tom Murray-Richard (FXU President Exeter) [TMR]

Speakers: Alan Murray, Falmouth University
Peter Cox, Falmouth University
Ruth Grimmer, University of Exeter

Attendees: 67 FXU members attended, 7 guests attended: Quorate passed.

1. Welcome & Introductions

Lisa Burton, FXU Student Voice Chair, opened the meeting and introduced the existing presidents and guests. Lisa advised the attendees that the meeting was being Live Streamed, that a report of the meeting would be available on the [FXU website](#), and that there was a live twitter feed [#FXUagm](#).

Agenda

- o Welcome & Introductions
- o Approve Previous AGM Minutes
- o Hot Topic – Can you afford your degree?
- o Approve FXU Trustees Report & Financial Accounts
- o Approve FXU Policies
- o Approve FXU Affiliations
- o Announcement of FXU Presidential Election candidates
- o Any Other Business

2. Ratification of minutes of previous AGM.

Lisa summarised the previous [AGM minutes](#), and informed students that as a result of the motion passed at the last AGM, FXU Presidents wrote formally to both universities and both universities replied. Student who wish to read the letters and replies should view item 3 of the minutes of the Leadership Team Meeting held on the [27th March 2016](#).

Student Vote: 49 Approved the minutes of the previous AGM, 0 against, 0 abstain

3. Hot topic – Can you afford your degree?

LB Introduced the FXU Presidents and asked ACC to explain why this is our hot topic.

ACC: This was chosen as a result of different types of feedback we have received from a broad range of students; our [Top10 Priorities](#) for this year, “Make a Change” suggestions, and what the presidents have had students speaking to them about. We have also had events around the Teaching Excellence Framework ([TEF](#)), NUS research on the increasing cost of living; fees are set to rise to around £9250 p.a. in the next academic year, and we receive more financial enquiries through our advice service. All of this shows that finance is an important topic for students, so we aim to answer all of the questions that were posted on our [padlet](#), an online anonymised question platform.

If we do not get to your question now, please email it to studentvoice@fxu.org.uk and we will endeavour to answer it as soon as possible.

ACC invited [Ruth Grimmer](#), Head of Professional Services for the University of Exeter, [Alan Murray](#), Deputy Vice Chancellor Academic for Falmouth University and [Peter Cox](#), Chief Operating Officer for Falmouth University to the floor to answer student questions.

1 Falmouth Additional loans/bursaries

As a mature student with a mortgage and huge responsibilities, the loan we get is no way near enough to live off and I had to work full time too in my first year. Sometimes 60 hours in a week. This year I'm living off a credit card so I can work less. Are there other loans that can be paid back in the same way/timeframe as the SF and are we told about all of the funding available to us? Is there a website that tells you what funding is available and from where? This would help and save us time.

CS – To clarify the financial help available for Falmouth Students, Falmouth University have just released their financial transparency [document](#), the final page of which has a list of financial aids for students and how you access them.

AM – There are two projects that will help with this; a retention project and Higher Education Academy project. These will help us understand students’ difficulties.

RG – We have a range of bursaries and funds/ fee waivers for certain students, you can find them [here](#), and more general financial information [here](#). FXU also runs an [advice service](#), that provides financial advice.

AW – FXU will have a welfare database available, we aim to launch on our website by the end of March, which should also link to national bodies you can apply to for funding.

2 **Falmouth** Animation costs

Animation is classed in a lower tier support band for yearly funding, we only receive £200 extra when fine arts students get the full amount. As animation students we work with a whole range of mediums from 2d drawing and painting to computerised imagery, graphics tablets and photography. To be able to purchase all necessary materials and keep up to date in the industry we need more student funding on this extremely diverse course.

Answer from Falmouth Finance: The bursary tiers were based on a survey Finance did with the course leaders 3-4 years ago (which was the most current survey at the point of writing the 2016 access agreement in Spring 2015). We then ranked each course based on total costs (all three years added together), and whilst considering student numbers, we then banded them. So we can only think that some academics didn't mention all costs at the time of being surveyed? We'll review this for future years, but as with all funding, current students will stay on the funding structure they started on, so any changes will only effect new entrants.

3 **Falmouth** Textile students and many other art students, are trying to budget for their FMP's, which we (on textiles) expect to pay as much as £1000 for. We do not get any help paying for what we have to buy to do our course.

CS – It is important that these course issues are brought up with your [course reps](#) within the SSLG structure. It is possible that students do not talk to your reps because it seems that issues may not be resolved, but with enough feedback then significant change can be achieved on your course. We aim to roll out a “Student Voice Tracker” that will include a “You said/We did” function so that you will be able to see what changes you are making. Make sure you [elect](#) the best rep.

PC – To give a point of principle, neither institution feels it is appropriate that all student success should not be dependent on financial capacity. So the principle must be that study trips, materials, portfolios are made to enhance the study experience; they must be optional not compulsory and there must be a range to suit different capacities. I checked with textiles who insisted that they are at pains at the start of the year to point out that no student should feel they have to pay £1,000 for materials. The mark is not determined by the size or expense of materials. Your mark is a result of assessment on a range of things and your final presentation is only part of it.

AM – There are exhibitions and such that use, say 8 metres of material samples but they are outside of your degree so, categorically, it is not part of your degree. What we can take away from this is a review of what trips are being offered per course to ensure that they are offering a range of trip options and appropriate alternatives. A review would also make sure the trips are offering to enhance student employability and outcomes.

4 **Falmouth** Art stuff costs so much

Especially if you want do painting or something! Paints cost so much! I dream of working on big canvases with oils, but wouldn't be able to afford it. Can we all get more funding for materials? We're all paying at least 9 grand a year ffs, and have very little contact hours

CS – I find it quite sad that these issues come to this level and are not dealt with through SSLGs and the course rep scheme. If you contacted your reps then I would be able to gather this evidence and present it to the universities. We have definitely enhanced it this year; there are significant changes that have been made. This is the first time I have been able to collate all of the SSLG information and bring it to a senior level which sounds like a simple thing but it took a lot of time to achieve.

AM – As part of the timetabling project we have a much clearer idea of staff teaching time and the hours on each module. We have an idea of all the contact hours scheduled for each course. We are now going to each department and have made changes to some timetables as a result. For us, this project helped us understand all the aspects of our education; our courses, their structures, how we deliver those contact hours, and for students it makes sure they get the contact hours they should do. The information is good for me so that we can validate it, challenge it, and make sure it shows that we are fulfilling our contract with the students.

CS – I would like to highlight the materials expenditure on the Falmouth financial [document](#). In general, Falmouth's hidden course costs are pretty good, but we are looking about how we can make that better. Can we round up costs at the end of each module to know how much students are actually spending. That is a discussion we are currently having. As costs rise, it is important that students feel that they can complete their studies. Part of retention is the cost of studying at Falmouth which we will be reviewing in the next few weeks.

5 Falmouth & Exeter Printing

So we're paying 9k a year for expensive printing. And literally 4 printers in the library, out of which at least 2 don't work half the time. Why can't we have free printing? We're paying 9000 pounds a year, is that really too much to ask for? Or if not unlimited free printing, maybe every student could get limited amount (pages) of free printing a month/a year whatever...

1 comment

1. Second this^ I've changed schools and colleges, 7 times. Every single one of them had some funding for printing. In most places we had an amount added to our balance at the start of the year. Cornwall College is in a far worse financial state than Fal, and there I even got £20 printing credit at the start of the year.

RG – We try to be a green campus so our starting position is what do we need to print out, and why do we need to do so much printing, and whether there are alternatives to printing things out? Then as institutions we should be open to exploring why things are being printed, what needs printing and a reasonable approach to that.

AM – Recurring themes in the “Make Curriculum Clearer” project are anecdotes about people wanting to print something out and make notes on it and make that their working document, as well as issues around screens and dyslexia.

PC – When we did not charge for printing there was a huge volume of waste, so being environmentally conscious we would not want to return to wasteful printing. We are not making profit on printing – the last price change was 2 years ago when we brought printing

charges down 20% as a result of conversations like this. So it is designed to cover some cost and be an incentive for people not to print unnecessarily.

TMR – just received on twitter – “I would be quite interested to know if there is any evidence of correlation between charging for printing and people printing more?”

CS – The various Falmouth projects mentioned involve improving our digital experience. Can you improve the learning space so that students do not feel the need to print? The digital experience should not replace but supplement the study experience. There will always be a need to print and one outcome would be a print subsidy.

PC – We aim for electronic receipting of work, and where we can removing the need for students to print anything, so we are aiming to reduce the need as well.

6 Exeter study trips

why does the uni pick really expensive destinations for study trips?

3 comments

1. seconded - our course was meant to have a trip each year and in both my 1st and 2nd year they've had to cancel them because no one could afford to go... we even got sent emails afterwards about how to unofficially go for hundreds of pounds LESS than the cost would've been through the course... if that's the case then what's the point organising them in the first place?
2. Same goes for ours, the animation course had a Manchester trip planned which was also cancelled due to lack of interest from poor students. Yet if planned separately away from the university it was over £100 cheaper...
3. As much as I had an amazing time on my Zoology field course to the Bahamas, I resent paying 9 grand a year then another grand (at least for a trip). Especially when I do not get £9000 worth of tuition a year when I'm only in Uni 2 hours a week.

RG – Most University of Exeter courses offer trips and the vast majority are fully inclusive, obviously you pay for extras like postcards. The exception is some of our international trips on final year courses, such as the Bahamas, Costa Rica and far flung destinations. For those we do charge the students for the flights, but then everything else is included. Even on those courses, we do offer fully funded trips with the same weighting and assessment criteria, so no student is at detriment for picking different trips that may be more affordable.

TME – Exeter has a reputation for fieldwork around the world and it is important that students are aware that there are always options to go on trips that do not cost a lot of money, but because the question is being asked we need to perhaps communicate that better.

PC – We answered before in general about trips and why we do them, that they can't be compulsory; there has got to be choices. I would like to pick up with Alan that even if it is a good trip, its justified and not compulsory, etc, its still too expensive and you could do it cheaper in another way. I can't answer it now, but I would like to investigate this as that cannot be right. We will look at that.

7 Student Experience Accommodation

How can they charge so much for halls rooms when half the time stuff doesn't work?

3 comments

1. And the private housing market is just as abusive ,, or actually more abusive OP.

2. Cough *maritime studios* cough
3. Can be. I'm really glad I skipped halls.

PC – There are processes in place to [report](#) that anything that doesn't work through the Accommodation Office. If there is anything that has been reported and not responded to, lets have the specifics and we can follow it up. [Oliver Lane](#) (oliver.lane@fxplus.ac.uk) who heads that area would take specifics, and there is an escalation process to report issues and they should be fixed and we spend money every year keeping halls up to standard. So if anything breaks – [report](#) it.

ACC – Student feedback consistently raises the issue that students' loans don't cover the rent in halls. This is not an ideal situation to be in. It's quite telling that this has been on FXU Priorities for three years, so I am asking both Universities now to jointly look at not raising the cost of rent, or if you have to then limit it to inflation as that is the maximum increase in student loans? Need to ask both Peter and Ruth why this has not been the case each year? One thing we have never been able to achieve is transparency around shared finances, like accommodation, catering, bar, etc. It has been a commitment this year to show where the money you pay in rent actually goes as it is such a large cost.

PC – In an ideal world we would like accommodation to be cheaper, but it isn't and is largely driven by market forces. We do benchmark our rent costs here and we are in the lowest quartile compared to competitive institutions, for both Exeter and Falmouth. It is not expensive in comparison with other universities. I accept that it is still more than your student loan. We are seeking to try and do more, but it is difficult in terms of the provision of alternatives. One change on this campus is that we have only one sort of room – single ensuite, which are going to be more expensive. We have put in shared rooms, partly because we had to, but partly because it does offer a less expensive alternative. We have found that students when offered the chance have preferred the financial advantage of a shared room. We are hoping that out of the various building schemes there will be a range of accommodation.

We do look at rent increases each year, and it is sometimes driven by inflation, sometimes less and sometimes more depending on particular costs. We discuss with the union about what is driving up costs each year, but again we still compare well with other institutions. Its being driven by housing prices and rents around country, in terms of supply and all of those things. So funders and developers will build student accommodation, but they will charge "market rents" to fund those developments.

I will also pick up the challenge of the Shared Services equivalent of the Falmouth Financial Transparency document over the coming year.

8 **Student Experience** Fal Mussel Card

As a local student I've found the Mussel card to be very useful. I understand that it is pricey as it covers bus, train and ferry routes, however I don't think I can afford one next year (it's around £400) and can see myself struggling to get into uni each day and to make well needed visits home to see fam.

PC – We have negotiated the discount for students – the commercial worth of one of these cards is over £2,000. If you use it every day on the bus it equates to £1.28 compared to £3.60 on the route so it is a massive discount.

RG – if people are really struggling to get from accommodation to campus then get some [financial advice](#).

PC – Both institutions have bursary arrangements and hardship funds which students can apply to for this sort of thing.

9 Student Experience Work experience costs

On our journalism degree we have to do 15 days work experience but there is no funding available. Even going to Truro for a week cost me £20 a day for petrol and parking but if I need to stay away from home then I would have to pay for travel and accommodation myself. This seems unreasonable to me as we have been told we have to do this for our degree but weren't told until the start of year 3.

1 comment

1. If you're going to Truro for the day, there are trains and busses bae! Why not get one of those week long travel tickets to save money on the bus?

RG – Peter has already mentioned travel arrangements for Falmouth, but for Exeter there is the “[Access to Internships](#)” scheme. All current students and recent graduates can access up to £1,500 a year to help you get internships.

AM – A lot of our courses suggest internships. They are not mandatory, but internships are useful work experience, and they do cost money. Initiatives to bring down the cost include:

- Hometown internships where you can stay at home, potentially saving rent and travel.
- Internships with accommodation nearby to cut travel cost.
- Varied and variable internships to increase options available; whether concentrated into 2 weeks, concentrated on a project, or more drawn out over a longer period.

CS – We are working on making clearer the expectations and options around internships in earlier years so you are not faced with an unexpected cost at the start of your final year.

TM – The lack of awareness about the Access to Internships scheme demonstrates the need to improve communication, and that is why communication was two of our priorities.

10 Student Experience Food waste

So much food gets wasted and thrown away on campus when many students are struggling for money. How can this be changed - perhaps reduced food items and advertise to students?

1 comment

1. SECONDED- Koofi chucks things out by the tonnes. (I understand there's legal complications but I would still eat free food)

RG – Most of the food on campus is sale or return, so packaged food goes back to the suppliers if it is not sold. We would welcome a review of food waste on campus, and work with FXU to see what can be improved.

PC – We do try and minimise waste; and do things like when the stannary is closing we can move food to the shop to sell. We are conscious of it but it is a good idea to look at food waste as a bit of a project.

AW – While not directly related to the question, last year FXU started a food bank of food waste. This is food which cannot be sold in shops for whatever reason, and would otherwise go to landfill, but instead is distributed among food banks throughout Cornwall & Devon.

11 Community & Welfare Deposits

I can see myself with nowhere to stay in September as due to personal reasons, I can't house share and all the flats and bedsits require at least a £500 deposit. The accommodation I was put in in Falmouth is more expensive than on campus so I have no money left for a deposit.

AW – Accommodation costs are hardship costs. If you are at risk of homelessness as a result of finances, then email advice@fxu.org.uk or presidentwelfare@fxu.org.uk there are funding sources you can apply for.

FXU is also working towards a housing booklet which will let you know your rights as a tenant, including how to get your deposits back, and how to work your finances around your home.

We bring affordable housing up at every level possible, including David Cameron when he was Prime Minister!

4. Report of the Trustees on the Union's activities since the previous AGM

The FXU Trustee Board is made of the 4 FXU Presidents, 2 student trustees (Falmouth & Exeter), 2 external trustees and 1 open trustee.

The [report](#) was presented by trustees Amanda Chetwynd Cowieson, Tom Murray Richards, Chris Slessor and Alexa Webster.

- Financial accounts - Vote of approval: For 64 Against 0 Abstain 0
- FXU Policy – Vote of approval: For 64 Against 0 Abstain 3
- Affiliations - Vote of approval: For 66 Against 0 Abstain 1

5. Announce Presidential candidates by post:

Each candidate was asked “What manifesto point are you most passionate about?” and was given 1 minute to answer.

- **President Exeter**

Dean Pomeroy – Course and department collaboration, my experience of flexible combined honours suggests that studying across departments helps my degree

Eleanor Phipps – Student Voice and what students think being heard on every level. Every level, from FXU to NUS, has to listen and has to work for students. So every student is heard, is valued and recognised.

- **President Falmouth**

Kia-Vanna Harrison – Value for Money (VFM). As a 3rd year I only get 2 hours a week for my lecture so I'd like more from that. Lets see what more we can get for people; we are spending a lot of money and I feel we are not getting enough time with our tutors. I need extra time because I am dyslexic, and as part of VFM we need more time with the dyslexic tutors too.

Laura Bailey – Across course collaboration. Get students on every course working together to make projects and outcomes within the University and community. This would include a space in the University where everyone can talk discuss and inspire each other to build something amazing for each individual.

Christopher Slessor – Build into Falmouth and FXU's working practises the same opportunities to engage with FXU for students at other campuses and other modes of studies. Its clear from the financial transparency document that every student pays £90 to FXU and every postgrad at Falmouth pays £53 and regardless of your campus, status as undergraduate or postgraduate, I will be doing the best for you and I want the same representation for you embedded within our structures.

- **President Community & Welfare**

Bella Frimpong – Mental health support in general. Specifically, I want there to be all round “on the clock” welfare, so there is support outside of office hours – e.g. nightline where students can give peer to peer support.

Harry Bishop – I am thinking about is “Student empathy volunteers” or student services – peer mentor. You can only have six sessions out of student services which is not enough and I wondered “why?” so I met a previous mentor here who explained that we cannot offer more than six because students hardly go to the ones they have. This is no secret because they are afraid, they're nervous; they don't want to be on the phone to their mentors or their counsellors when they are afraid. So what we are thinking is why don't we have student service mentors that go along with you? They make the phone calls for you, they can go along into these meetings with you so that you are not afraid; so you can learn to do that and you've got someone there who is going to support you.

Samuel Constable – Biggest point is about who knows about the information that we give at the beginning of the year about our physical and mental health. What I have found is that a large portion of staff on my course do not necessarily see that; when I needed to remove myself from lectures, they thought I was ducking out. I want students to decide not only who does not see their records, but also who does, and make sure there is awareness across the board to ensure the support systems are there.

Lucy Allen – Make welfare accessible- I was walking around Falmouth yesterday and students feel they are not being listened to there. Truro campus as well. It would be really good to have an open door policy and an open inbox policy and is available to

listen to students about what they want, because I could stand here all day and tell you what I want, but that is not necessarily what you want.

Nic Hamon – My main point is improvement of mental health support on this campus. As someone who has struggled with mental health problems I know how important it is to get the right access for you; so a clearer way of knowing what is available for you at university, but also from external charities like the Samaritans and Mind. Also better access to living support – I found it really difficult to book a Living Support appointment. It was only with my tutor I was able to book it together and I would not have been able to do it on my own, so improve Living Support access as well.

Emma Robinson – I would like to focus on Living and Life Management classes because there is always things like bills, mortgages and how to deal with landlords that I feel a lot of us don't have a clue about. Having moved out of home for the first time, there are all these grown up things that we have no idea about, and I feel we could put in place more ways of finding out that information without always calling our parents. This is something that a lot of my friends struggle with. I think it would be something that would help a vast majority of our students, and would make life easier for students inside and out of University.

P J Croad – apologies received.

- **President Student Experience**

Esther Egan – Create a marketable space, both online and physical, for skills/goods/services. We all have hobbies and things we do in our down time, and we have loads of artists, and people trying to become artists in the Falmouth campus who create all this beautiful stuff, so make a space for them to sell it. There are people who speak a second language who want to be able to offer that up, or people who aren't quite certain of a language who want to meet someone who can – so make that space where you can say “I can do this – would you like to learn?”

Jamal Clarke (Represented by Chris Aoun) – Speaking with Jamal over many years, we feel that friendship circles are switching to more sports and societies, so his most important manifesto point is to ensure that sports and societies memberships are at fair prices, so that as many people can be involved as possible to improve their whole student experience.

Sarah Redman – Make better use of our resources available on this campus, whether that is library space, car parking, studio opening hours; we need to make best use of what we already have. So this is to improve the university apps so that you can see what rooms/carparking is available. We do have some amazing resources down here in Cornwall and I think we could make better use of them.

Carol Ann Pippin – About a month/month and a half ago I sent out three different surveys. One to Falmouth students, Exeter students and society committee members, asking what their issues are. Most of the issues would be resolved by better communications and improve access on the website so clean up the website so people

can actually find the information because, to be fair, most of their issues have already been resolved – they just didn't know that. So in addition to all the societies knowledge going along with this role, I think communication is the one thing that is going to help everyone.

Cassidy Hoare – is playing in the [Bottle Match](#) in London, but says hi.

The results of the FXU Presidential Elections are [here](#).

6. Any Other Business

TMR – Use these [forums](#) to hold us to account – that is what they are there for!

Questions for Presidents

Question – Are candidates allowed to start spamming people now?

ACC – judging by my phone, most of you have already started, so go for it.

Question – Now that you have had one year in office, what would you say was the manifesto point you are most proud of? In one minute.

TMR – Raising visibility and accountability of my role – my manifesto board is outside FXU, my face is outside the stannary. It is really important for students to see all of the work that we do. If you don't communicate something you are doing well, then there is little point in doing it.

CS – Equal representation, so I spend two and a half days on each campus, Falmouth and Penryn. Through that I have been able to enhance the rep structure in collaboration with students on both campuses. I have opened the floodgates by gathering student feedback and escalating it to the senior team for the first time and I could not believe that had not happened before.

ACC – One of my original points the first time I ran was to save students money. I am bringing it back to buses because I am really proud that I was able to negotiate the £1 deal for students all year, and the cashpoint at Woodlane was massive too.

AW – Setting up a third party reporting centre for hate crimes was one, and [Tell Me](#) is now up and running. The other thing was setting up a wellbeing database on our website, which

will go live in April. This means that 24/7 you will be able to go online, book appointments, find charities and reach out and ask for help.

Question – One thing I noticed in the debate was how University authorities avoid answering questions directly. How can you make sure that those guys do answer questions, and we get the actual answers? I think only one question was actually answered.

TMR – I think it is important to get the university here and pose those questions and give them a forum to give those answers. If you aren't satisfied with those answers, it is important that you then let us know so we can take that forward.

ACC – it is frustrating when you ask a question and get an evasive answer. This was one of the things that led to University Communications being our priority this year. In general, I would say that the two universities have done a lot of work separately in their communications and been more pro-active about telling us what they are doing. Where they have not put effort into is shared communications, and I will continue to push for better shared communications. There is a commitment from both of them to be more transparent and answer questions individually but together there is still a marathon to go.

TMR - If you think this event could be structured better then that is important feedback as well. Do [let us know](#) what improvements you would like to see.

CS – I have worked with Falmouth communications team to have regular drop-ins with the Falmouth senior team which gives more opportunities to engage with them, and challenge them. Keep an eye on upcoming [events](#) for similar sessions in future, and keep asking your [course reps](#) to raise issues in SSLGs so that this is not the first forum where the universities hear about these issues. Not least because our AGM only happens once a year while SSLGs happen throughout the year, and we could identify and escalate issues sooner through the rep system.

Question – There are not enough plug sockets around lecture theatres (e.g. Peter Lanyon building) so some of us cannot use our computers. This has been raised before with you and not addressed, so I have been asked to raise it again.

CS – I talked to Chris Morris and he was going to bring it up with estates. I am happy to chase that and come back to you.

Question – the new build on Falmouth campus has left our illustration space swelteringly hot. We have had an air conditioning unit installed, which I thought was ridiculous because we are in the middle of winter. Who do we raise this heat issue with?

ACC – There are two parts to this – who to talk with and the planning of building work. Having worked at Eden Project, I pointed out that the material was not appropriate for noise and heat at every opportunity. Now, the project deals with these issues as they arise.

CS – I questioned the process with Ken Johnson of estates and pointed out that showing the plans for one week and then simply going ahead and building was not the appropriate approach. There should be student co-creation so that each re-design is commented on and we can see more and more what it looks like and the visibility of consultation is raised a bit more.

TMR – That is what is happening with the [Penryn campus 2020 plan](#), which undertook consultation last year. They have done more design work and that is now coming back for further consultation so it is important that you give your opinion.

AW – If you are overheated, do keep drinking water!

Question – If there is information about certain facets of campus and student numbers that isn't public, but should be public as it is probably in violation of some rules, what can we do to ensure that information is made public?

ACC – You are free to put in a [Freedom of Information request](#) into [Falmouth University](#) and [University of Exeter](#). With regard to student numbers, be clear about what you are asking because there are distance learners, students in Truro, so make sure you are being site specific in your questions. Do both universities have their student numbers on their websites.

TMR – [Yes](#).

CS – I believe so, but I can't find anything on that website.

KC – [Yes, but it says 4000 students](#). I managed to get 2015/16 data but it is not easily accessible. A lot of the data does not match up; if people are going to have messages then they need to know what those messages are conveying. There are four different student numbers for this campus and I don't know which is which.

ACC – that is one of those shared communication things that I mentioned earlier. I can't put into words how frustrating anything to do with shared communications is.

AW – Meetings about student numbers with Cornwall Council and the Universities are live streamed on their [website](#). They go into detail about the students there.

Question – We get a really high number of contact hours, from about 9am to 6pm. We recently had a timetable change taking away half term so we started on the 3rd January and now are not getting a break until Easter. Its affected me personally to the point where my mental health got so bad I had to take a week off this week and its been affecting other people on the course. We are not sure why this has happened – can you shed light on this?

CS – I'm not able to shed light on that immediately. Amata courses are included in the retention project because having courses that demand physical and mental effort are exhausting. I brought this up at academic board the other week and the Amata director was frustrated with the academic calendar. Reps across Amata are raising this issue – come and talk to [me](#).

AW – For anyone whose course is impacting on their mental health, do contact the [accessibility team](#) who can work with your course to make reasonable adjustments. If you are nervous, then contact [me](#) and I can help you get support.

Question – According to this [document](#), Falmouth University received £49.3million income and £46.6million expenditure which means there is £3million profit. So how do we get to Falmouth School of Art instead of Falmouth School of Profit?

CS – I am probably not the best person to answer this. I spent much of last term supporting the foundation course and dealing with studio space situation. The narrative seems to be the University against Falmouth School of Art and I escalated these issues to the board of governors the other day. It doesn't answer your question, but I will take your question forward.

TMR – Exeter also make a surplus each year, but explain on page 4 of their [financial transparency document](#) why this is not a reliable indicator of performance. We took time to ensure that the language was accessible to students so if I can understand it from a history course, hopefully most students can understand it.

LB – If you have any further questions you can email your [presidents](#). We have the first notification from bottle match that tennis has beaten RSM. Thank you to everyone who came to today's meeting.