



KE Meeting 3 Minutes

Date: 11th October 2018

Time: 1830 hrs

Attended:

Carla Galea	Jean Claude Scicluna	Naomi Attard
Clint Meli	Kaitlyn Byrne	Gabriella Sutton
Yacopo Baldacchino	James Spiteri Cornish	Nathan Grech
Lara Attard	Eunice Bonello	Eman Haber
Gian Peratta (JCA)*	Sean Grech (GUG)*	Samuel Casha (HOASA)*
Krista Firman (MHSA)*	Edward Degabrielle*	Matthew Gauci (ASCS)*
Martina Marie Aquilina (Betapsi)*		

Excused:

Micheal Piccinino	Francesco Refalo	Yvette Farrugia
Shanice Borg	Robyn Vella	Hanien Alouzi
Matthew Pulis	Sean Ellul	Bernard Micallef
David Mallia	Yvette Farrugia	Duncan Muscat
Julian Demicoli	Nicola Kirkpatrick	Amy Christina Slater

Absent:

Alexander Hili	Nigel Micallef	Patrick Gatt
Denise Muscat	Daniel Vella	Joslyn Saliba
Martina Tabone	Kyle Mangani	Adam Pace
Laura Cuschieri	Martina Camilleri	Owen Micallef
Nathan Gatt	James Attard	Dylan Mercieca
Jason Micallef	Julian Demicoli	Matthew Vella
Jacob Daniel Portelli	Gabriel Mallia	Matthew Galea
Husam Albahlani	Damian Cuschieri	Keith Pace
Julian Bonello	Matthew Pulis	Fr. Sinclair Bugeja
Anthony David Brincat	Yolande Newton	Anthony Rizzo
John Montebello	Johann Agius	Jean Karl Micallef Grimaud
Cody Galea	Noemi Said	Nicole Tabone
Generoso Seychell	Tiziana Gatt	Deandra Cutajar
Christina Cordina	Omar Shamala	Naomi Baldacchino
Owen Grech	Eman Mifsud	Terry Duca
Andrew Pisani	Anabel Muscat	Maria Azzopardi
Mark Borg	Neville Decelis	Daniel Formosa
Owen Michael Grech		

1. Approval of Agenda



Agenda all in favour

2. Approval of Minutes
All in favour
3. Academic Officers

The Academic officers or education officers are present today in order to make them aware of an education related problems or situations. Moreover, they are able to work hand in hand with the student representatives when tackling an issue. This might also help with the issue of lack of attendance from the student representatives. This was an issue that Naomi and Jean Claude discussed with the Deans during their meeting with them. Furthermore, as stated in the standing orders, only the student representatives can vote.

Nathan: For Earth Systems we are informed from the faculty when the faculty board meeting will be set up.

James: There are no guidelines.

Yacopo: We have do not know when the meeting will be

Clint: Also, there is lack of awareness about the student representatives.

Kaitlyn: They know more about the organisation rather than the student representatives because of all the ongoing promotion with the events etc

James: people are not interested as they are not popular like an organisation

Gian*: Student representatives should be exposed more to the media as they are very hard to find, not like an organisation that has a page and sometimes an office.

Matthew*: The faculty speaks to the organisation before contacting the student representative

Nathan: We have more support from the faculty, we meet up with the first years during freshers' week, however the fact that I form part of ESA helps.

Kaitlyn: The university has a lot of apathy.

Gabriella: We should tackle the marketing issue.

Edward*: Student representatives work hand in hand with MHSA however it does not show in the PRs

Yacopo: Organisations host events, therefore if you have an issue you can find the members of the organisation there and speak to them. The situation is very different with student representatives.

Lara: It is the job of the organisation to promote the student representatives.

Gian*: Marketing officers should include them in the agenda.

Lara: It could also be done from KSU

Naomi: We will set up a meeting with our PRO to discuss the way forward Matthew*: In our faculty only one student representative attends KE.

Edward*: There should some bye laws regarding student representatives to attend KE meeting and faculty board meeting and if not abided to, there should be consequences.

Kaitlyn: sometimes the faculty makes it hard for the student to attend faculty board meetings as they schedule it on placement days.

Eman: When we spoke to our faculty, they issued the timetable and informed with all upcoming meetings.

Edward*: With regards to attendance, KSU and/or the organisation of their faculty should give them some kind of certification or acknowledgement.

Lara: Ideally it comes from the faculty.

Edward*: True, however the process for KSU to issue the certification and guidelines takes less time than asking the senate of the faculties to do it as it will be a long process.

4. Standing committee arrangements



Changes in the standing committee members according to requests received via email after call issued by the Education Office.

Change Institute of Linguistics from Humanities and Education Standing Committee to Commerce and IT Standing Committee.

All approved

Change Faculty of Social Wellbeing from Health Standing Committee to Humanities and Education Standing Committee.

All approved

5. Standing Committee Heads

The Heads of the standing committee will setup a facebook group and a meeting with all the student representatives within their committee to discuss current situations within their faculty/institute/centre and policies related to education.

6. Balanced compensation

Nathan: For Earth Systems we need to buy the gear to go on obligatory field trips and also optional field trips to Iceland. The optional are still part of the course and students are assessed on it, with people who do not attend having to to their assessed field trip on Comino.

Kaitlyn: Nursing diploma vs degree, same items to buy, course content, and yet different stipends.

Edward*: There are no clear guidelines on prescribed courses.

James: The prescribed courses are according to the need for the working field. For instance, pharmacy students gets a higher stipend as there is a need for pharmacists. They do this to attract more students, however it is not really working as the admissions are decreasing.

Naomi: If someone wants to study a particular course, they most probably will not take any note of the stipend and in this case, it is better if the extra money used for their stipend be given to those courses which need the money to buy the equipment etc.

James: If they increase the stipend, more money will be taken from research which we need for projects as they are very expensive.

Eunice: The faculty of education does not encourage us to do a part time job, in our case, the amount of money we spend on resources for our teaching practice is definitely not covered by the stipend. Therefore, we have no other choice but to work, as we cannot depend on our parents. Kaitlyn: The university needs to be more understanding that we need to have a part time job, at the end of the day, being financially stable will lead to more academic satisfaction.

Edward*: In physiotherapy, we make sure that the lecturers are not aware that some of have part time jobs.

Carla: The issue is that of you work, you will not get a stipend.

Naomi: One will only get a stipend if he or she works less than 20 hours per week.

James: We start lectures or labs at 8am till 6pm on a daily basis and we do not have time for a part time.

Carla: We all agree that students need their stipend.

Nathan: If the government reduces the stipend, they will lose votes.

Edward*: The prescribed courses should be reviewed.



Martina: Most of us can balance student life and work, but some students are not mentally capable to do a part time job.

Naomi: In that case, they can apply for extra monetary benefits. The 20 hour clause needs reviewing too, maybe increase it to 30 hours.

Lara: Agreed, or include paid internships within the course, like law. Lara paid internships

Naomi: As KSU, together with the student representatives and organisations, we will reviewing what is requested and present to the Minister of Education.

7. Amendments to the standing orders

Amendment to clause 3.10. in the standing orders stating:

3.10. Each member should make his/her utmost to attend all KE meetings. Reasoning behind an excused absence should be objective. Members absent shall duly inform the education commissioner by e-mail explaining the reasoning behind the absenteeism. It shall be at the commissioner's discretion whether a reason for absenteeism is excusable or not. If members have not informed the commissioner at least 24 hours before the meeting of a valid excuse for not attending the meeting (with the exception of terminal illnesses, being abroad or tragedy or other exceptional circumstances), they will be automatically noted as 'absent'.

The clause is amended to:

3.10. Each member should make his/her utmost to attend all KE meetings. Reasoning behind an excused absence should be objective. Members absent shall duly inform the education commissioner by e-mail explaining the reasoning behind the absenteeism. It shall be at the commissioner's discretion whether a reason for absenteeism is excusable or not. If members have not informed the commissioner at least 1 hour before the meeting of a valid excuse for not attending the meeting they will be automatically noted as 'absent'.

All in favour, clause changed.

8. Assignment submission policy

The standing committees will be meeting up to discuss the situation with assignment submission and produce a policy paper that will be discussed during KE. A universal policy will be produced and presented to the registrar with the guidelines regarding assignment submissions.

Yacopo: Not every course has the same requirements, for instance we have reports to hand in after we do our field work.

Naomi: That is why we need to discuss this during the standing committees, in order to cater for all the courses that have differences assessment methods.

9. Graduation Speeches Vacant

The education office is currently working on the graduation speeches. Unfortunately, there are some ceremonies which are still vacant, therefore if no one applies, we will kindly ask you to promote the graduation speeches within your faculty.

10. Student Faculty Representative elections

Elections will be held in November and do not hesitate to speak to students who are interested to become student representatives.



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Kaitlyn: Students within are faculty are not usually interested. I applied to be a student representative as I was in MHSA.

11. Any other matters.
None

Meeting adjourned.