

The Student Summit, Cambridge 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022, 1-3pm  
Microsoft Teams & Cambridge LAB107

Item		Action																																																																														
1	<p>1.1 Attendance; Executive Committee</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="236 479 1350 1348"> <tr><td>Samantha Rothwell</td><td>Student Chair</td><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td>Shankar Sreenath</td><td>President</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Akshay Kumbalath</td><td>Vice President: Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Nithin Raj</td><td>Vice President: Business and Law</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Rahman Abdul Salam</td><td>Vice President: Science and Engineering</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Rohit Dhyani</td><td>Vice President: Health, Education, Medicine &amp; Social Care</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Sharmeen Jawad</td><td>Vice President; Health Care Practice</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Madalena Rodrigues de Carvalho</td><td>AHSS Faculty Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td>Srujith Raj Yatelly</td><td>B&amp;L Faculty Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td>Lucy Barton</td><td>HEMS Faculty Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Haritha Nair</td><td>HEMS Faculty Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Nata Senakh</td><td>S&amp;E Faculty Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td>Hephzibah Oppong</td><td>Race Equality Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td>Jade Campbell</td><td>Disabled Students' Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td>Murthy Peddinti</td><td>International Students' Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td>Paige Palframan</td><td>LGBT+ Students' Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>Ap</td></tr> <tr><td>Ramees Nazar</td><td>Mental Health Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Ridley Green</td><td>Trans Students' Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>A</td></tr> <tr><td>Swetha Malladi</td><td>Women's Rep (Cambridge)</td><td>A</td></tr> </table> <p>1.1.2 Attendance: 31 Student members attended (23 via Teams / 8 in person) 19 students submitted questions in advance via Q- Cards 1 Executive Committee Member submitted an update and discussion point by email</p> <p>1.1.3 Attendance: Observers and Guests</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="236 1639 1350 1953"> <tr><td>Emma Howes</td><td>Engagement Manager</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Fraser Luther-Yarwood</td><td>Democracy and Campaigns Coordinator (Interim Co-Chair)</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Bethan Dudas</td><td>Membership Services Director</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>John Valerkou</td><td>Chief Executive Officer</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Tony Bickley</td><td>Director of Communications and Commercial Services</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Viktorija Blumberga</td><td>Representation Coordinator</td><td>P</td></tr> <tr><td>Sara Sheriff</td><td>Representation Coordinator</td><td>P</td></tr> </table>	Samantha Rothwell	Student Chair	A	Shankar Sreenath	President	P	Akshay Kumbalath	Vice President: Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences	P	Nithin Raj	Vice President: Business and Law	P	Rahman Abdul Salam	Vice President: Science and Engineering	P	Rohit Dhyani	Vice President: Health, Education, Medicine & Social Care	P	Sharmeen Jawad	Vice President; Health Care Practice	P	Madalena Rodrigues de Carvalho	AHSS Faculty Rep (Cambridge)	A	Srujith Raj Yatelly	B&L Faculty Rep (Cambridge)	A	Lucy Barton	HEMS Faculty Rep (Cambridge)	P	Haritha Nair	HEMS Faculty Rep (Cambridge)	P	Nata Senakh	S&E Faculty Rep (Cambridge)	A	Hephzibah Oppong	Race Equality Rep (Cambridge)	A	Jade Campbell	Disabled Students' Rep (Cambridge)	A	Murthy Peddinti	International Students' Rep (Cambridge)	A	Paige Palframan	LGBT+ Students' Rep (Cambridge)	Ap	Ramees Nazar	Mental Health Rep (Cambridge)	P	Ridley Green	Trans Students' Rep (Cambridge)	A	Swetha Malladi	Women's Rep (Cambridge)	A	Emma Howes	Engagement Manager	P	Fraser Luther-Yarwood	Democracy and Campaigns Coordinator (Interim Co-Chair)	P	Bethan Dudas	Membership Services Director	P	John Valerkou	Chief Executive Officer	P	Tony Bickley	Director of Communications and Commercial Services	P	Viktorija Blumberga	Representation Coordinator	P	Sara Sheriff	Representation Coordinator	P	
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2.	SS: Welcome to the group chat. Introduces Officers.																																																																															

<p>3. 3.1</p>	<p>FLY: Introduces and opens application for the role of Chair of the Group Chat (to be taken up for April 2023) No interest is noted</p>	
<p>4.</p>	<p>FLY: Introduces 'Hot Topic'; The Cost of Living Student online: "im p/t in f/t work. So for me its cost of energy bills, mine have almost doubled" AK: Cost of living project is a major campaign for us – we are aware that accommodation, energy bills and essentials are going up. We are working with the university to reduce costs, including the £1 lunchtime meal and a review of the hardship fund application which has been made simpler and more accessible especially for those with access needs and international students. We have worked on a rental guide to increase awareness of rights and responsibilities and how to secure accommodation – this is due for release next month. We have worked with NUS and met with MPs in Chelmsford and Cambridge to push for national support for students with cost of living. We are still asking students to tell us about the issues they are facing with cost of living and accommodation.</p> <p>Student online: "I drive to work, and the cost of petrol increase has made it difficult to balance out my outgoings. I'm in p/t work, f/t student and have children to support also... so the cost of living has really hit me." SJ: We have been trying to source local travel discounts and support for Chelmsford and Cambridge commuters as we are aware this is a problem. This is an ongoing campaign and please report problems to help us evidence our campaigning.</p> <p>SS: shared NUS cost of living campaign info / links to write to MPs in the Teams chat.</p> <p>Student online: "students already have a tough time, for many their maintenance loans dont even cover their accommodation fees. So have to work anyway. Parents help out too. Cambridge was an expensive area before prices went up." Student online: "Finding accommodation is also quite challenging nowadays." RAS: I have ben working with the residential team on the accommodation concerns at ARU – this is a serious issue across the UK as well as Cambridge. We are now working on a renters guide so that students understand their rights and it will be published in December ready for the new intake in January. We have also worked with RU to support students to find temporary accommodation at Travelodges for a few days, and a small breakthrough in getting students accommodation for the next 6 months.</p> <p>SJ: You can find my officer account on instagram with a 'cost of living' highlight – shared officer handles on Teams.</p> <p>Student online: "perhaps there should be a Cambs bursary like they have in London. Just a thought for those contacting MPs" Student comment on teams: "Finding accommodation is also quite challenging nowadays." RAS: We know this issue from personal experience, and we are trying to support students with this.</p>	

	<p>Student Comment online: “lock downs meant many private landlords had to sell houses listed as HMOs.”</p> <p>SS shared on team suggestions to email local MPs and support NUS campaigns.</p>	
5.	<p>FLY: Voting for charities which will receive £2 per NSS survey completed by students at ARU. (subject to approval of funding by ARU)</p> <p>Details of each charity explained</p> <p>Student comment online “i think we should support locally i.e Jimmys”</p> <p>EH: All charities listed will be local to the campuses in Chelmsford and Cambridge.</p>	
5.1	<p>Chelmsford:</p> <p>Interact: 0 votes</p> <p>One Pound Warriors: 9 votes</p> <p>Gold Geese: 6 votes</p>	
5.2	<p>Cambridge:</p> <p>Jimmy’s: 14</p> <p>Bliss: 4</p> <p>CPSL Mind: 3</p> <p>Results will be confirmed after the vote at the Chelmsford summit tomorrow</p>	
3.1 revisited	<p>Student Chair: an expression of interest comes via Teams: Yr 1 UG student and Course Rep;</p> <p>Shees-Noor</p> <p>Online poll: 100% approve (12 votes)</p> <p>Action: FLY to arrange training and support for the new Chair ahead of the next Student Summit</p>	FLY
6. 6.1  6.2	<p>What’s going on?</p> <p>SS: We will be hosting disability history month to raise awareness.</p> <p>We are looking at options for provision over the Christmas period and what events we might be able to host for students staying on campus.</p> <p>FLY: Milestone events coming up include The Election which will open in Jan for nominations. Please consider standing or recommending a friend for these paid President and Vice President roles: President VP Business and Law, VP Arts Humanities and Social Sciences, VP Science and Engineering, VP Health, Education, Medicine and Social Care are full time paid roles. VP Health Care Practice is a part time role alongside placement courses.</p> <p>January intake and Refreshers will be happening after Christmas, there will be events to celebrate the return to campus and studies. There will be a volunteering week to celebrate our volunteers and promote opportunities.</p> <p>Global Week; SU staff will be working with student societies and students to deliver a high energy cultural week with food, dancing etc.</p> <p>Find out more on social media and the website <a href="http://angliastudent.com/whatson">angliastudent.com/whatson</a></p>	

7.	Officer Updates	
7.1	<p>SS: Currently working on campaigns to lobby for more IT training.</p> <p>Working to support students to sell / promote their own small businesses and crafts and bring money back into the student community (student marketplaces)</p> <p>SJ: How can students get involved in student marketplaces?</p> <p>SS: They can email or message us to help us develop the right formats for this work.</p>	
7.2	<p>RD: I am working on a plagiarism and misconduct campaign. Companies are targeting students to buy assignments – this is damaging to their skills development as well as committing misconduct. I am working on incubation centre promotion to encourage students to seek support to set up businesses. The Arise scheme has little resources and I want to launch the incubation centre. There are many resources from ARU such as funds for hardship and I want to promote and sign post students to the right services through videos.</p> <p>Student on Teams: Biomedical Science students have issues with our placement; we are expected to find our own placement and are not well supported.</p> <p>RAS: You can reach out to me outside of this meeting and we can look at where we can raise this.</p> <p>FLY: you can also take this to your course rep who can take this to the Student Staff Liaison Committee.</p>	
7.3	<p>NR: My main campaigns are to organise workshops and guest speakers for employability in FBL. I hope to arrange speakers for January.</p> <p>I want to promote CV skills and interview practice for outgoing students. I am working with the futures festival team to deliver this. I am working with FBL to host a jobs fair in December in Chelmsford and Cambridge</p> <p>I am looking at driving rules and awareness for international students. I am working with the international office to get videos and information shared around driving in the UK.</p>	
7.4	<p>RAS: I have worked on delivering free food items through the SU; we now have soup and porridge sachets and fruits available to support students.</p> <p>I am working on the accommodation issues which are a big concern for students. Many people don't have a secure place to stay. This is also a problem for mental health and I am promoting nightline who can talk to students – the service is free and confidential.</p> <p>I am hoping to host a 'hackathon' and a football gaming tournament, probably during Refreshers in January.</p>	
7.5	<p>AK: The cost of living campaign – we trying to tackle some of the issues; supporting the NUS campaign to raise the issue at a national level and meeting with MPs. Trying to get students support from the uni eg: the £1 meal each day and helping students address their accommodation issue. We are worried about the amount of new students joining in January and the accommodation for them, especially for Cambridge and for international students.</p> <p>Mental health campaign: post covid return has been challenging and we are planning to create a podcast with the wellbeing team to release in Jan</p> <p>I want to host a forum with course reps to discuss extra support and skills they need to benefit them on their courses.</p>	

7.6	<p>SJ: I am VP HCP and a full time student. Working on prayer spaces – they are suitable for all faiths and cultures in Cambridge, but not in Chelmsford and I’m trying to get that changed. We are in the final stages of agreeing the building works and hope to open in May.</p> <p>Transport to and from placements especially for nurses is costly and challenging and is mandatory on a course. I am trying to see what bursaries and funds might be available and I will release a page of links and support routes to help out.</p> <p>I want to make sure our community is welcoming and supports EDI. I will be reaching out to students and staff and want to grow ARUs EDI support and training.</p> <p>I would like there to be more engagement between the SU and students and want to make more students aware of the SU.</p> <p>Online student comment: Sharmeen is doing a lot well done!</p> <p>Student in the room: Are placement issues across all placement courses?</p> <p>SJ: Yes – mainly for HEMS placements there are issues about communication and placement timing, but also costs, and the number and type of placements that are available.</p> <p>Online student comment: “Placement is my matter of concern, How are the placements are being conducted? Like how many students get’s placed in company post graduation.”</p> <p>EH online “For clarity - placement (which Sharmeen is talking about) is un-paid and part of a course. This is different from post-graduation employability.”</p>	
8. 8.1  8.2	<p>Peer Wellbeing Mentors</p> <p>Introduction of the peer wellbeing mentoring scheme.</p> <p>A bridge between wellbeing services and students – based on site in SU spaces in the evenings for informal chat, some guidance and signposting. Approachable and informal chats to link students to services.</p> <p>Explained counselling service and the benefits.</p> <p>Recommended app to support mental health, wellbeing, advice, meditation.</p> <p>Events right now: Tues 2-3pm on zoom CPSL calm space (mindfulness session) which focusses on different topics each week and can help calming after a busy lecture.</p> <p>Wednesdays 12-1pm Good Mood Café in the SU . Chilled networking session</p> <p>Thursdays 11-12pm online wellbeing sessions with councillors on themes each week eg: loss and grief.</p> <p>We are developing a fitness drop in session too</p> <p>Online student question: “the University help and support is very tricky and some times hard to find and resources is also not visible what are your thoughts about it?”</p> <p>RD: ARU services can be difficult to find and that’s why I want to campaign for the resources to be linked with videos and signposting.</p> <p>SJ: As a student I agree it is hard to know where to go – there is so much information when you’re new. We want to streamline some of the information – students should let us know which things they find hard to access so we can consider this.</p> <p>SS: All student have Personal Development Tutors and we want to make sure that PDTs can signpost students to the right signposts.</p>	

	<p>Student in the room: As course reps we can direct students to you and to the services, a lot of these concerns stem from the return to campus and the newness of experience and finding things on campus.</p> <p>SJ: is there a central place where you would like to see resources? Eg: Canvas, SU website.. (email or teams info to SJ)</p>	
9.	<p>FLY: Opens the floor for questions</p>	
9.1	<p>Online student question: “I see all the officers are international students and I myself an international student; how do you handle the problems of the home students, who feel homesickness and sometimes health illness because of food.”</p> <p>FLY: For clarity; Not all of our Officers are international, Sharmeen is a UK based student.</p> <p>SJ: We focus on all students and food provision is important for all students and we are trying hard to represent all students.</p> <p>AK: Most of our campaigns will have an impact for all students not just international and home separately. Course related issues particularly are affecting everyone.</p> <p>FLY: We also have international reps as part of our campaigns rep system</p>	
9.2	<p>Online student comment: Representation is important, and I am not bothered, but we do not have a very diverse panel of officers. I have been working with Shankar to discuss rep roles and the campaign reps do not represent straight, white, UK based men. They are currently being failed and are underachieving in education. They do not always have ‘privilege’. 100% of our students should have a rep who speaks for them on the executive committee and I propose that we have 2 new reps – UK students and working class, male students.</p> <p>EH: We are currently undertaking a democracy review with an external research company, which allows students to comment and influence our representation structures. Our current structure is also based on a previous democracy review and has been changed by proposals and votes via Student Meetings, for example the Trans and Mental Health rep roles.</p> <p>SJ: I do understand that various groups may feel underrepresented – we can represent all students and work on their behalf.</p> <p>Online student comment: My issue is the campaign reps cover about 83% of the student body, but we have a gap in this representation. Why should we need to vote to create these rep roles? The lack of representation for specific groups is discriminatory. I can see the officers are working hard, but we forget that there are people who are underprivileged as they cannot access life changing education. Without the platform of campaign reps not all students have fair access and representation.</p> <p>FLY: As a charity we have to follow the procedures set out in our bye-laws and can only add roles through the appropriate processes. We can work with you to propose new roles through policy submission.</p> <p>Online student comment: Please contact me to do this.</p> <p>Action: FLY to contact the student to arrange a policy submission as required.</p> <p>RD: We all discuss all campaigns across our teams and we work on behalf of all UK and international students.</p>	FLY
10.	Executive Committee Updates	
10.1	LB: Faculty Rep for Cambridge HEMS	

10.2	<p>Working with SJ on communication issues within HEMS. I would like to host a final celebration / leavers event / ball for graduating HEMS students. I will also be hosting faculty forums to discuss issues, meet others etc.</p> <p>RN: Mental Health Rep, Cambridge I am working with AK on mental health and wellbeing support and want to support RAS with nightline promotion.</p>	
11.1 11.2 11.3	<p>AOB:</p> <p>LGBT REP Cambridge – by email.</p> <p>PP submitted a letter regarding concerns raised by The Queer Collective (society) and LGBT community about the world cup in Qatar; the lack of human rights protection and the lack of guarantees of safety for LGBT audiences. The letter made a request for the event not to be shown in SU spaces and asked for the sharing of thoughts from the wider student body.</p> <p>Student comment online: Qatar’s record is appalling, but showing the world cup is not supporting Qatar, it is supporting the team from the UK which is inclusive. There are people who won’t be able to afford to watch it anywhere and I would like to suggest we celebrate our UK team. It should not be banned.</p> <p>FLY: Note: the proposal is not to ban students from watching it on campus, just that the SU does not screen it.</p> <p>Online student comment: “could students still screen it on campus, say in academy? wouldn’t screening it and allow people to not view it be better than not screening it and depriving those who want to watch it”</p> <p>Online student comment: “Its a different experience to watch it on a big screen as a group”</p> <p>SJ: feedback I’ve heard that students feel there will be no impact of us not screening it, or that the wider politics is not relevant as they will be focussed on the football. Others feel that it shows that we support Qatar and their policies. An option could be to discuss the concerns and provide education or support for LGBT communities, whilst continuing with the screening.</p> <p>AK: We will be meeting with the LGBT+ Rep tomorrow to assess the strength of feeling and the thoughts of the officer team. We are short on time to make a decision and how we show our support for the LGBT community if we do decide to screen. Please make any suggestions as soon as possible.</p> <p>SJ: The NUS President has been dismissed based on breaches of policy which we understand were due to antisemitism. She says she found out via social media on the first day of islamophobia awareness month and as a black, Muslim women believes this was discriminatory. I would like to hear if students have any concerns about the situation at NUS and our affiliation and to raise these with me.</p> <p>EH: To clarify the case was investigated by an independent Kings Counsel investigator, not NUS.</p> <p>Online student comment: “her being a female muslim should have no bearing on the case should it? she posted a tweet with an antisemitic chant. personally, I’m against cancel culture, people should be allowed to make mistakes. but same rules should apply for everyone.”</p> <p>FLY: Thanks students for attending and sharing their opinions. Closes the meeting</p>	All Officers

Minute	Action Arising	Person Responsible
9.2	FLY to note and contact student regarding processes for the creation of new campaign rep roles.	FLY
11.1	All officer to consider views raised regarding the screening of the world cup in Qatar and to discuss options with LGBT representative.	All Officers