



Governance Sub-Committee Meeting

Date: 5th April 2023

Time: 16:30

Location: Online

Members:

Dan Doyle (DD)

Chair / External Trustee

Gioia Scazza (GS)

Vice Chair / Sabbatical Trustee

In attendance:

Jack Wright (JW)

DRO

Charlotte Morris-Davis (CMD)

Student Engagement Manager

Irfan Zaman (IZ)

CEO

Apologies:

Ekabali Ghosh (EG)

RSA Student Trustee

No	Item
1	Welcome, Introductions and Apologies
1.1 The committee NOTED EG absence.	
2	Conflicts of Interest
2.1 The committee NOTED no conflicts of interests.	
3	Minutes of the Previous Meeting
3.1 The committee APPROVED the minutes from the previous meeting.	
4	Summer Term Preferenda 2022/23
<p>4.1 CMD introduced the Preferenda proposal.</p> <p>4.2 The committee DISCUSSED the proposed timeline.</p> <p>4.3 The committee APPROVED extending the time period that an idea is 'live' for from one month, to the idea's deadline.</p> <p>4.4 The committee APPROVED the proposed administrative functions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Campaigning Rules 2. Manifesto Submission Form 3. Delegation of Manifesto Booklet to the Student Engagement Manager 4. Amendments Process 5. Process for implementation 	
6	Amendments to the Preferenda Process
<p>5.1 CMD introduced the proposals to amend the preferenda process outlining three main areas for review.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the number of votes required to be taken forward to a Union Forum or extending the time period that an idea can be 'live' for. • Reducing the time between the Union Forums and the results of the Preferenda. • Reviewing procedural elements such as the process for Union Forums, manifesto's and bringing forward alternative solutions. <p>5.2 The committee DISCUSSED the proposed areas for review. The committee agreed that the one-month time frame should be revised, GS suggested that this is done termly instead. The committee agreed that the quorum of 25 votes should be lowered with suggestions ranging between 2 and 10 votes.</p>	

5.3 The committee **AGREED** that further discussions should take place between CMD, GS and the Executive Committee and that a firm proposal should be presented at a future Governance Committee and at a subsequent Trustee Board where amendments to the Schedules would be approved.

6 | Returning Officer Election Report

6.1 CMD presented the NUS RO report highlighting the recommendations to review the DRO as a member of University Staff and that the RO's be responsible for hearing appeals.

6.2 The committee **DISCUSSED** the report and agreed that the appeals process should be streamlined, and appeals dealt with by the RO. The committee proposed that the recommendations are adopted and are approved at a subsequent Trustee Board and Executive Committee as it will require an amendment to the Schedules.

7 | AOB

7.1 IZ gave thanks to JW for acting as the DRO.

7.2 DD requested that the newly elected Co-Presidents manifestos are shared with the Trustees.