

The Union Society at Newcastle University

**WELFARE AND CAMPAIGNS
COMMITTEE MINUTES
23rd April 2008**

Present: Rosie Duffield, Rachael Hosey, Eve Payne, Michael Harvey, Anushka Mehroata, Pete Mercer.

Apologies: Michael Oliver

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 16.04.08

a) Corrections

Noted 1: Under Item 3 Healthy Body, Healthy Mind, Noted 4 it should read the Samaritans have a stand on Tuesday.

b) No Matters Arising

2. HEALTHY BODY, HEALTHY MIND

Noted 1: Reiki sessions are all booked.

Noted 2: Monday went well; Beat manned a stall and WAC handed out bags.

Noted 3: Rosie was disappointed we didn't have many volunteers from WAC.

Noted 4: Rob Bedford has filled most of his planned appointments.

Noted 5: Tuesday; the Samaritans attended and Nightline had a stall.

Noted 6: Wednesday; Give It a Go Irish Dancing was cancelled. The sessions were not heavily attended with 15 at Yoga and 2 at Tango. Meditation was also cancelled and it was reported quite a few people went to Jitsu.

Noted 7: Pee in a pot at Richardson Road went really well with 119 people tested.

Noted 8: Pee in a pot is booked for Mens bar on Thursday.

Noted 9: On Friday so far there hasn't been any takers for money management.

Noted 10: Need volunteers for taste testing on Fri

- Action 1:** Rachael 2-3, Eve half an hour between 2 and 3. Rosie 1 till 2.
- Action 2:** The beach trip has been cancelled due to lack of responsiveness from Nexus.
- Action 3:** The Monopoly Challenge has been booked for 3 in the Mens bar.

3. SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOLARSHIP

- Noted 1: Anushka wanted to make sure that the scholarship went towards somebody who really needs it
- Noted 2: Michael Harvey emphasised that the SAS is historically unique to the Union.
- Noted 3: Pete Mercer really liked the idea of the scholarship going to recent disaster areas.
- Noted 4: Eve Payne asked if it was viable for the scholarship to change every year i.e in the case of an emergency.
- Noted 5: Michael Harvey said that there are already other charities that provide for that kind of emergency and a South African scholarship could make more of a difference to the area.
- Noted 6: Anusuka Mehrotra said the decision should be made on the country that needs the most but can also benefit.
- Noted 7: Rachael Hosey suggested we could open the discussion to Southern Africa.
- Action 1:** Vote decisions on where the scholarship should come from:
- Southern Africa – 0
South Africa – 4
Rolling countries – 1
Abstentions – 1
- Noted 8: Michael Harvey said that if it stays in one place then there is more effect on the region it goes back to.
- Noted 9: Rachel Hosey said that the scholarship should be targeting the universities to ensure it gets those most in need of help.

- Noted 10: The main reasons for the vote decision are; the South African Scholarship is historically important to the union, it would ensure continued investment in the region and why change it if it already works.
- Noted 11: It was discussed whether we should be looking at alternative funding to Arcane.
- Noted 12: If it was advertised more clearly as a charity fundraiser it might increase the numbers attending Arcane.
- Noted 13: It was discussed and thought it would be viable to cap some of the costs such as flights and warm clothing allowance.

4. SSHH CAMPAIGN

- Noted 1: It was discussed whether we should do another SSHH campaign this term.
- Noted 2: It was decided that this term is too much to rely on volunteers due to coursework and exams. It was thought people would to celebrate after finishing exams.
- Noted 3: The Freshers Week organisers have agreed to put some information about the campaign in their fresher week campaigns.
- Noted 4: Pete Mercer will carry on the campaign next year.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Stressed Out Students

- Noted 1: Rosie has organised the dates for the 12 – 23 May.
- Noted 2: We will book Reiki again the budget can afford two days.

b. Last WAC Meeting

- Noted 1: The last WAC meeting will take place on the 7th May.

There being no further business the meeting closed