



KE Meeting 8

Agenda

Date: 28th March 2017

Time: 18:00

Venue: KSU Tipico Careers Common Room

Attendance:

Present:

Rebecca Stoner	Martina Miggiani
Omar Shamala	Nicol Muscat
Nathan Grech	Yacapo-Luigi Baldacchino
Martina Cutajar	Gabriella Sutton
Denis Muscat	Sean Ellul
Jacob Porteli	Dirk Urpani
Patrick Gatt	Steph Dalli
Valeriya Bonkova	Alexander Claymann
Jean Claude Scicluna	

Excused:

Shanice Borg	Alexander Hili
Ryan Falzon	Michael Piccinino
Martina Camilleri	Kaitlyn Byrne
Sinclair Bugeja (PG)	Bernard Micallef
Matthew Pulis	

Absent:

James Attard (PG)	Daniel Vella
Rachel Cauchi	Mark Borg (PG)
Manuel Xuereb (PG)	Dylan Gauci
Clayton Axisa	Nicholas Karl Buttigieg
Maria Katrina Azzopardi	Bernine Caruana
Tracey Sammut	Keith Vassallo
Chantelle Abela	Dylan Mercieca
Matthew Galea (PG)	Francesco Giuseppe Refalo
David Mallia	Julian Bonello (PG)
George Zammit Montebello	Cody Galea
Anthony David Brincat	Noemi Said
Mevrick Spiteri	Amy-Christina Slater
Elizabeth Camilleri	Nicole Tabone



Isabelle Kniestedt	Tiziana Gatt
John Montebello	Nigel Xuereb Said
Deandra Cutajar	Eman Mifsud
Christian Cordina	Terry Duca
Andrew Pisani	Mark Borg
Maria Azzopardi	Neville Decelis
Anabel Muscat	Elizabeth Borg Cardona
Francesca Zammit	

1. Approval of Agenda – approved nemo con.
2. Approval of Minutes – approved nemo con.
3. Arising Matters out of Minutes – No matters arose out of minutes.
4. Student Representative Election Results

A welcome was given to the newly elected student representatives who include Bernard Micallef, Sinclair Buegja and Matthew Pulis for Theology, David Mallia for MAKs, Sean Ellul for European Studies, Yacopo Luigi Baldacchino for Sciences, Nathan Grech for Earth Systems, Amy Slater for Linguistics, Noemi Said for Small States, Tiziana Gatt for Physical Education and Maria Azzopardi and Anabel Muscat for Labour studies.

There was not much response from students during these elections – there were a lot of vacant posts and lack of initiative from students. Suggestions were asked from the KE to increase motivation of students for this role. Jacob Portelli suggested that when these posts remain vacant, an extended deadline should be allowed for nominations to be made for certain students or representatives from student organisations. Dirk Urpani suggested that this used to occur in the past, but does not anymore. Patrick Gatt suggested that we could speak to faculties individually to take it as a custom to have a student act as this role, since it is not actually stipulated in the law. Jacob reminded the KE that we had discussed in a previous meeting that since these emails are sent from the Registrar’s email which are mainly overlooked due to many emails being sent, they might be sent via the faculty itself or KSU. Omar Shamala suggested that the opportunity be brought up during Fresher’s Week talks and since they may be overloaded with information, these will be uploaded on a portal which may be accessed later on, with all the opportunities available to them. Sean Ellul pointed out that student apathy is growing and this is part of a bigger problem which we need to be focusing on. Steph pointed out that students might feel that they are actually not



being heard as a student representative, and therefore do not see the purpose of applying for this post. Jacob Portelli brought up the idea of having a defined set of roles of student representatives, so that they do know that they have an influence in decisions concerning their faculty. Martina Miggiani suggested that the Subcommittee working on the guidelines will be published soon, and these will help in this regard. Denis Muscat asks whether some kind of incentive could be offered to students to encourage them to apply. Dirk Urpani also suggested that student organisations should take the initiative when they know no one is considering running for the post, to encourage people to do so. Martina Cutajar suggests that a campaigning period be used in the small institutes before the election, before students apply to encourage students. Gabriella Sutton pointed out that it is also the faculty's responsibility to encourage students and promote the work of the student representatives. Nico Muscat asked whether a stand could be set up for student representatives during Freshers' Week, to collect information of students who are interested. Omar Shamala also suggested that the student representatives go speak to their Faculty before the elections, to let them know about it and encourage them to apply.

Steph Dalli feels that more promotion is needed in terms of student representative elections, as some students may not even know these are going on. Dirk Urpani feels that we are focusing too much on promotion, and this means that students are being more spoon fed than needs be. Student organisations must be more empowered and a strong relationship built between these and representatives. Many organisations are doing the roles of faculty representatives, so when these roles aren't filled they can help in the promotion of these posts. Valeriya Bonkova pointed out that the deadlines are so strictly enforced they might actually discourage students.

5. Patients Not Profit

Alexander Clayman introduced a new organisation called PNP, whose aims are patient centered health care system, a health care policy based on evidence and greater transparency for health care deals. On the 1st of April, a public demonstration will be held. They would like to have KE's endorsement of this organisation. Dirk Urpani asked what is the difference the organisation is promoting. PNP would like principles outlined in public, since a number of hospitals are being privatized which



has led to decreasing care in other countries. Contracts have not been published so therefore this lack of transparency must be discouraged. The medical and nursing education will be affected if this comes into effect. Members of the faculty have also raised concerns since our hospitals will now have to be shared with even more students, although already overloaded in terms of numbers of students and resources. Jean Claude Scicluna points out that assurances have been made to the MMSA also to safe guard the rights of students, which should be signed tomorrow. Dirk Urpani suggested that a working group be started which may work on ensuring that the assurances made by an authorities be stuck to.

A call will be released for a working group which will meet this week. Jean Claude Scicluna, Gabriella Sutton, Steph Dalli, Denis Muscat, Omar Shamal, Jacob Portelli, Martina Cutajar, Valeriya Bonkova and Alexander Clayman.

Alexander Clayman will bring this issue up at KPS tomorrow also. He will send an email tonight with all the information.

Alexander Clayman tabled a voted that: KE supports the 3 principles outlined by the organisation “Patients Not Profit” which include greater transparency for health care deals (full publication of contracts pertaining to health and health systems and written assurances from authorities), a patient-centered health care system and an evidence based health care policy.

A vote was taken. Motion passed nemo con.

If this motion also passes through KPS, KSU will publish a press release on its Facebook page.

6. KE Attendance

Martina Miggiani points out that attendance has remained minimal throughout the year. As outlined in the statute, any students who missed more than 3 consecutive meetings throughout the year will not be allowed to vote. Jacob Portelli suggests that it should be published clearly who attends and who does not. He also suggested to vote on a date which might be more accessible. Patrick Gatt suggested an online calendar. Sean Ellul suggested Degree Plus hours for these meetings.



7. Other Matters

None

Martina Miggiani
KSU Education Commissioner

Rebecca Stoner
KSU Education Coordinator