



KE Meeting 3

Minutes

Date: 26th September, 2016

Time: 18:00 hrs

Venue: KSU Board Room

Attendance:

Present:

Martina Miggiani	Denise Balzan
Rebecca Stoner	Ryan Falzon
Omar Shamala	Kenneth Hili
Andrew Muscat	Nico Muscat
Michael Piccinino	Manuel Xuereb
Steph Dalli	Bernine Caruana
Joshua Cortis	

Excused:

Valeriya Bonkova	Karl Galea
Rachel Cauchi	Maria Katrina Azzopardi
Martina Cutajar	Tracey Sammut
Elizabeth Borg Cardona	Gillian Asciak
Maria Azzopardi	

Absent:

Clayton Axisa	Marya Camenzuli (PG)
Francienne Muscat (PG)	Martha Marie Bartolo
Dirk Urpani (PG)	Felic Micallef
Gayle Lynn Callus	Duncan Muscat (PG)
Analise Sammut	Dalton Mangion
Duncan Muscat (PG)	Nathan Adams
Chantelle Abela	Samiro Bartolo



Brenda Lee Cutajar (PG)	Julia Aquilina
Luke Young	Andrew Pisani
Monique Dimech Genius	Christopher Mallia
Stuart Vella Bonello	Christian Cordina
Rita Catherine Mangion Bianco (PG)	Anthony David Brincat
Matthew Bonello	Meverick Spiteri
Nicholas Karl Buttigieg	Luke Mark Aquilina
Alexander Clayman	Jean Luc Portelli
Patrick Gatt	Deandra Cutajar
Robert Dingli(PG)	Robert Micallef
Francesco Refalo	Carmel Theuma
Martha Marie Bartolo	Eman Mifsud
George Zamit Montebello	Maxim Georgievich Nikitin
Neville Decelis	Gabriella Calamatta
Julian Bonello(PG)	Mark Borg
Francesca Zammit	Terry Duca

Meeting started: 18.10 hours

1. Approval of Agenda – Approved nemo con.
2. Approval of Minutes – Approved nemo con.
3. Arising Matters out of Minutes

There were no matters arising out of the minutes of the previous meeting.

4. Graduation Speeches

The university allows the KE to choose 13 undergraduate speeches. A brief explanation about how the board works was given. The board consists of 5 people. The call for the board will be sent out tomorrow morning, on a first come first serve basis. If there is a lot of interest, an interview may be held. The deadline to submit speeches is the 7th October. These will be anonymised and each marked by each member of the board. The person will then be invited to an interview, and be asked to answer a number of questions and to present the speech to them. Feedback and changes can be made. These can be written in English or Maltese.



5. Approval of Graduation Speech Guidelines – Approved nemo con.

6. Approval of Graduation Board Standing Orders

It was explained that this will consist of 5 people, 2 of whom are the Education Commissioner and Officer, and 3 others will be from the commission. Steph Dalli asked for opinions about whether previous KSU members should be allowed to submit speeches. Ryan Falzon suggested this might bring up some problems, but thinks that this should be up to the KSU executive board to decide. Steph Dalli explained that this was already discussed at the executive level, but wants to discuss it with the rest of the Education Commission. Ryan Falzon suggested that people on this current board should definitely not be able to submit. Omar Shamala pointed out that these are anonymised. However, Ryan Falzon reminded us that there is also an interview in the process. Steph Dalli also pointed out that an active student should be able to submit a speech. Ryan Falzon argued that students who are not active in student organisations, are not necessarily inactive outside the university. Ryan Falzon also pointed out people with experience outside of university, could have valuable input since they have a different point of view. Steph Dalli asks what the commission thinks the marking scheme should be. Omar Shamala suggested that should a KSU executive member submit a speech, the Education Commissioner and Officer be replaced by another 2 impartial members. Ryan Falzon suggested that in that particular case, the speech be delivered to the whole KE to be voted on. Kenneth Hili suggests that this process should not be limited to only KSU executive members, but the board should be made up by all non KSU executive members to make the process equal for everyone, with the Education Office of KSU to guide them. Andrew Muscat maintains that for transparency's sake, KSU members should not be permitted to submit speeches. Martina Miggiani asks who should be chair and the casting vote. Michael Piccinino suggests that the board themselves should agree on a deputy chair who will also have the casting vote.

The final suggestion for changes in guidelines was the whole board will be composed of KE members, excluding the Education Officer and Commissioner, and the board themselves will decide who will be the deputy chair and therefore have the casting vote. The Education Commissioner will still chair the the board. Omar Shamala asked what will happen if we do not come up with the five people. It was decided that this is unlikely.

A vote was taken for this amendment in the guidelines. Passed nemo con.

Kenneth Hili brought up a situation in 2 people from the same class apply for the same board. He suggests that if more than 5 people apply, people from different faculties should be given priority.



7. Dissertation Workshops

These will start on the 14th November, and will be held in DegreePlus hours and will be DegreePlus recognised. These will be held in collaboration with the library and with student organisations. The sessions that will be covered were listed including referencing, tips from a graduate, research, statistical analysis, academic and scientific writing. Nico Muscat gave an update from the faculty of Arts, who were interested in helping in the Department of English for academic writing.

Kenneth Hili suggested how to write and choose a proposal should also be included.

Ryan Falzon also suggested that there are currently being guidelines compiled to be open access by the library which was supposed to be released this year. The KSU education office will look into this.

8. Other Matters

a. Meeting times

- i. An online poll will be posted in the KE Facebook group about the most convenient time for the majority. Kenneth Hili suggests that since no time is convenient for everyone, this should rotate to allow a chance for everyone to attend.

b. Promotion of Student Representative Elections

- i. The KE was invited to give suggestions about how to promote the upcoming elections. Ryan Falzon suggested a cut-out board, with photos, contact details and what student representatives are. Kenneth Hili proposes that role descriptions and what can actually be achieved, needs to be promoted more. Omar Shamala suggested that we can post notices on the faculties' notice boards with photos, contact details and upcoming election dates. Manuel Xuereb suggests releasing a video about the student representatives, a short clip to explain what they are and what they do. The profile picture campaign of previous years was discussed. It was decided that this could be confusing in the case of those who were not currently applying for the representatives. Denise Balzan suggested that a cover photo with the details of the elections and how to vote might be more useful. Suggestions about how to improve motivation for students to apply for student representative posts was asked. Omar Shamala suggested notice boards be used, and Denise Balzan suggested that we promote the fact that this will be included on the transcript. Ryan Falzon brought up the idea of the video previously mentioned, that may also help in this regard. Kenneth Hili suggested that we use the organisations to promote these further. Michael Piccinino agreed that the election details be



sent out to the student organisations' representatives, to circulate with their own organisations. Kenneth Hili asked about the handover process discussed last year for the new student representatives. He suggested a shadowing period. This will be discussed with the Registrar, this could possibly involve the previous student representative to attend a faculty meeting with their successor.

- c. Placement feedback forms
 - i. A brief description about the work that will be carried out on this was given, and any suggestions requested. None were given.
- d. MATSEC exam results
 - i. A lot of discussion is currently going on about the late publication of O'level and A'level results is going on. Michael Piccinino points out that the same scenario occurs at a University level, with students having already started the scholastic term without knowing whether they are still allowed to continue or not. Kenneth Hili pointed out that this situation happens every year, while Michael Piccinino mentions that this year we started earlier making this situation more unacceptable. Steph Dalli highlights that there are decisions affecting students' future which are due to be taken in over a month's time, which is unacceptable seeing as these decisions could have been taken much earlier. It was discussed that the student representatives have a responsibility to put pressure on the faculty board to make these decisions in appropriate time.

The meeting was adjourned at 19:08hrs

Martina Miggiani, KSU Education Commissioner

Rebecca Stoner, KSU Education Coordinator