



RICHMOND

THE AMERICAN INTERNATIONAL

UNIVERSITY

IN LONDON

RAIUL SGA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Saturday, 25 March 2017

Time: 10.00 a.m. -12.00 p.m.

Location: UDH, Atlantic House, Kensington Campus

Present: Damien Ashton-Wellman (DAW); Bobby Marinov (BM); Vittorio Magliano (VM);

Alexandria Holcomb (AH); Arielle Medrano (AM).

Also Present: N/A

Apologies: Synthia Hynes (SH) and Gonzalo Diaz-Rio Varez (GDRV).

1. Approval of the Minutes of the last meeting held on 25 March 2017.

- Minutes from the previous meeting approved.

2. Matters Arising.

- N/A.

3. VP for Academics Report.

- Phil Deans stated that should the University be successful in TDAP applications, it would bring in a projected increase in 30 new students (20 HEU/10 INT) per year on top of current projections frameworks
- This would generate an additional £300,000 for the University per year, plus an additional £150,000 in savings from no longer needing to pay the OUVS.
- University targets are a 1% year on year rise in retention statistics over the next five years.
- Focus of spending to meet this will be spent on 1st year students (Freshmen and Transfer) as data shows if the University can get students into a third semester they will have the highest chances of staying for the completion of their programme.
- From 2019, the University will no longer be legally required to keep EU fees at the same rate as Home students – although no decisions have been made regarding increases until after industry consultations/article 50 negotiations have finished.
- Competitors such as LSE, UC and Imperial will likely charge EU students full international fees of £14,500+.
- The presence of the Bologna Agreement (a non EU, pan-European treaty) will also have effects which have not been determined yet.

- Micheal Keating raised that US admissions have been down 30% year on year for the last three years, MRA have promised to increase resources and staffing of the Boston office to combat this; conversion rate between offers and acceptances have increased according to University Administrators.
- Early data at this point in the admissions cycle (compared to 2016/17) show increase in US acceptances, same for International applications.
- Home/EU applications for 2017/18 are down however in the comparative cycle, though not as much as some competitors in the UKHE sector who have seen 20-30% reductions.
- Too early to comment on postgrad admissions in all categories.
- So far budget planning has seen Research Budget raised to 2015/14 levels and an additional £500 for each faculty cluster for the 2017/18 year, this is not guaranteed in the final budget though.
- Clare Loughlin-Chow and Elizabeth Robertson have mapped Rome/Florence courses to Richmond degrees to take to the OU, if successful students will be able to take classes on the both study centres, including “Freshmen Year in Florence”.
- Italian Centre moderation reports worrying to lower quality in academic standards and norms, must be dealt with my Provosts Council.
- Looking to set separate attendance policy for centres due to lack of care displayed by study abroad students there.

- Two new theatre classes focussing on employability to be launched during 2017/18 as part of the teach out. Students will need to substitute it into existing academic planners.
- The University will be launching a Minor in Fashion and a Minor in Psychology in 2017/18.
- School of General Education to be renamed “School of Liberal Arts”, subject to University Board Approval, courses will keep the GEP prefix for now.
- Increase of 50% in academic resit petitions straining resources. Recommended that they introduce a stricter medical evidence threshold for clinical depression and anxiety to include evidence of therapy.
- Martin Brown raised concerns about University Administrators placing full blame for the decision to teach out theatre on the Academic Board, while the Board had final voting say it was raised and recommended to the Board by the Dean of CASS and the University Executive (President’s Cabinet), faculty felt communication was scapegoating the Academic Board in the court of student public opinion.
- **ACTION ITEM:** SH to present end of year academic report to Academic Board with all final Programme Rep reports on Richmond degrees
- **ACTION ITEM:** SH & DAW to complete QAA HER Student Submission by end of semester.

4. Constitution review.

- No feedback from students therefore the proposed Constitution can be passed to University Board.
- If approved, it will be enacted the day that the new SGA officials take office.

5. Events Calendar.

- Easter Egg Hunt
 - i. Events Team have come up with a rough number of £200 for the day (7 April).
 - ii. Also looking at getting bunnies for a small petting zoo.
 - 1. Possibly charge students £1 to pet the bunnies.
- Boat Party
 - i. Rough cost: £1,988.40.
 - ii. Will also receive roughly £700 from AIFS for the event.
 - iii. Only names, no wristbands.
 - iv. 227 maximum on boat (not including Nicki, Anderson, SGA Exec members and four events team members).
- Spring Fest
 - i. About £200 towards food, if it costs- need to clarify.
 - ii. SGA would look at possibly hosting either paintball, a volleyball game, football game or a pie throwing contest.

- End of Term
 - i. Opal
 - 1. Roughly £1,000.
- Graduation Drinks
 - i. Hannah to come back to London to help coordinate event.

6. **Executive Board meeting scheduling.**

- Changed to Fridays 14:00.
- Meetings for the rest of the term:
 - i. 7 April at 14:00.
 - ii. 14 April- NO MEETING (Good Friday).
 - iii. 21 April at 14:00- tentative as this is Honours Night.
 - iv. 28 April at 14:00- tentative as this is Finals Week.
 - 1. Final meeting for the term.

7. **Notice Board Update.**

- BM changed board in Kensington.
- Action item for GDRV to change Richmond board.

8. **AOB**

- Finance Review:
 - i. No pie charts moving forward- too complicated.
 - 1. Exception for the Winter Ball budget.

ii. Tentative current cash: £1,827.13

1. Also waiting on income from online sales.

a. Pending Student Affairs.

2. Will also spend around £200 for Easter and £200 for Spring Fest.

- Reference for future SGA Exec members:

i. Speak to Lizzie about using students in Transitions classes who need

service learning hours for SGA events help.

1. Example: selling events tickets, etc.

9. **Date of next meeting: 7 April 2017 at 14:00.**