

Meeting Minutes

Meeting	Trustee Board	
	Management Board	
	Executive Committee	X
	Finance & Commercial Development	
	Appointments & Remuneration	
	Compliance, Governance & Risk	
	Other: Staff Development Day	

Meeting Date	22 nd March 2024
Meeting Time	10:00-11:00
Attendance	
Present	<p>William Campbell (President) Simon Varwell (Student Engagement and Representation) Gary Souter (Vice President Education) Rebecca Bond (Perth Depute President (Activities and Welfare)) Shannon MacCallum (West Highland Depute President) Ahren Armstrong (Argyll Depute President) Harley Green (Shetland Student Intern) Holly Pearce (Inverness Depute President, Education) Rachel Burn (Chief Executive Officer) Simon Varwell (Director of Student Engagement and Representaion)</p>
Apologies	Kian McDonald, Elizabeth Keeghan, Fiona Smith, Sophie Ann Bain
Non-Attendance	

Section	Minutes
1	Welcome and Meeting Management
1.1 Apologies	As detailed above.
1.2 Minutes from 14 th February 2024	Minutes from 14 th February 2024 were approved by Committee.
1.3 Action Log from 14 th February 2024	<p>Actions were completed and closed or left open as per the action log.</p> <p>ACTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RB to add SM to SMHA work and send round an action plan to relevant individuals • All committee members to send WC any suggestions on how we can better engage with NUS Scotland going forward
2	Mental Health Agreement/SMHA
2.1	WC introduced the item and noted that he had met with EK, UHI Mental Health leads and NUS Think Positive on Wednesday 20 th March to take forward work to revise our lapsed SMHA. RB is developing an action plan related to this work with the aim of developing the new agreement this year and relaunching the SMHA in October 2024.

	<p>Students will be consulted, including via a Question of the Month. Please feed in any views to RB, EK a or WS.</p> <p>ACTION: SM expressed an interest in joining the working group. RB to add SM to the action plan correspondence.</p>
3	Elections
3.1 Elections	<p>SV provided an update on the recent main round of elections. Congratulations were given for all the hard work and that we have far fewer vacancies than last year. By elections for the remaining posts will take place in late April/early May. By election work will focus on and target specific APs rather than generic messages and will be personalised to APs.</p> <p>This work will be led by SV now that Elliot has left HISA. Elliot's role will be advertised next week with a slightly revised role focusing on insight, data analysis, democracy activities and support for Exec.</p>
4	NUS Scotland
4.1 NUS Scotland	<p>WC provided an update on the conversations that he has had this week with the outgoing NUS Scotland President and the incoming one. The incoming President, Sai, is from Aberdeen so HISA is very pleased to have a President from the north who understands our context. This is a great opportunity for us to create connections and make an impact.</p> <p>ACTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All committee members to send WC any suggestions on how we can better engage with NUS Scotland going forward
5	ASM themes – ASOS, strikes, mitigations and Moray/proposed programme changes
5.1 ASM themes	<p>WC provided an update on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ASOS and strikes – more strikes have just been announced but the good news is that UHI has now published its mitigations to support students which Elena has and will put into her advice service webpages, and which we will inform students about when we send out an update to ASM attendees. APs will correspond individually with students as and when they are affected. These are a good set of supportive mitigations like last year with the added caveat that some students might end up in a complicated situation if they carried modules from last years strikes and have subsequently failed those modules but those students will be picked up individually and supported through by UHI. 2. Moray – it was discussed and agreed that communication with UHI Moray students has not been good since their announcements were made about proposed cuts and pauses. Executive is becoming increasingly worried about the lack of communication or consultation with students and the impact decisions could have on their studies. It was therefore agreed to: <p>ACTIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree a HISA statement and position on ASOS/strikes and Moray – two separate statements. WC to work with RB to finalise these statements.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agreed that WC would write formally to the VC and Principal expressing our concerns about how the changes are being handled at UHI Moray. The letter would be shared with Exec and Aimee Cuthbert for comment before being sent.
5.2 Look ahead to next ASM in April – planning and prep	SV provided an update. The next ASM is on 24 th April. Its theme will be on ‘How do we build communities’ led by Emma Miller, but the meeting will also cover key business such as approving another Trustee, and covering our Annual Student Meeting business/obligations. The meeting will also cover the latest position on ASOS and strikes and Moray.
6	Any other Business
6.1	None