



## University of Suffolk Students' Union

### [Emergency] Student Council Agenda

December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Held in A001, and via Zoom

#### Attendees:

Sam Clark (SC; Chair), Bradley Allsop (BA), Alex Gooch (AG), Amber Spalding (AS), Patrik Sramka (PS), Jamie Steele (JS), Connor O'Leary (CO), Kinga Gil (KG), Emily Betts (EB), Kym Older (KO), Nicola Robinson (NR), Leesha Daniels (LD), Donna Launt (DL), Bethan Murphy (BM), Sharon Fullilove (SF), Suzie Bowie (SB), Joe Lockwood (JL), Robert Grey (RG), Tyler Payne (TP), Lee-Ann Durrant (LDU), Henry Kiddy (HK), Shannon Pilsworth (SP), Jamie Lea (JLE), Nathan Laville-Farrant (NLF), Nicole Quinton (NQ), Hannah Skalova (HS), Boroji Rich (BR), Laura Gonzales-Martin(LG).

**Minutes:** Amber Spalding

#### 1. Welcome

**SC:** [Elected Chair] chairs emergency council. As per, those who are online, please mute mics. Any questions to put in chat or raise hands. Again, just to recap, when voting on motions, you vote FOR, AGAINST or to ABSTAIN.

We are still looking for Student Trustees to join Board [Student trustees sit on our Board of Trustees, and oversee all of the work of the Union].

#### 2. Minutes

**SC:** Please vote on the minutes from last council [9<sup>th</sup> December 2022]

#### 23 Approve minutes

#### 3. Reports

**AG:** Gave report 4 working days ago, but has had additional visits to Sabbatical Officers at Norwich University of Arts, and is continuing to work on various projects. Will update fully at next meeting.

**SC:** Any questions about Alex's report?

#### 24 Approve the President's Report

#### 4. Motions

**Proposed by:** Jamie Steele

**Seconded by:** Kinga Gil

**SC:** We are holding an emergency meeting to discuss Royal College of Nursing (RCN) strikes and the stance the SU should take on this – in favour, against or neutral.

**JS:** [HLS Officer] put the motion through. Nurses today (15<sup>th</sup> December) are striking due to poor working conditions, pay and unsafe staffing levels.

He has put the motion through for the SU to support the RCN strikes. Has had some feedback from students wanting to support and strike themselves, but they can't unless employed by NHS and RCN.

Proposes an event on the 20<sup>th</sup> December (date of next strikes) to meet, share experiences and how nursing could change in the future.

**RS:** How many nursing students are there across the university?

**JS:** There's about 70-100 in each cohort, so quite a lot.

**AG:** what support would you like from the SU? [to JS]

**JS:** Good social media – raise awareness as to why nurses are striking and what we can do to support students at the university. Maybe we could gather some feedback from students and send to RCN?

**SC:** To summarise, the Students' Union Notes that:

The RCN (Royal College of Nursing) have recently announced the result of the recent ballot which resulted in NHS trusts going on strike on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of December. The strike action is being taken due to pay, unsafe staffing levels and more support for nurses.

The Students' Union Believes...

Student nurses on all academic levels work on the frontline in various placements. Students are expected to work 37.5 hours and often are used within the staffing levels. Nursing students are a big part of the nursing profession.

The Students' Union Resolves...

The SU should take a stance in supporting RCN strike action for students. This could include social media and supporting students at RCN strike events

**24 are in favour of supporting the RCN strikes, and that the SU will take a supportive stance on the matter.**

## **5. AOB**

**AG:** Thanks everyone for attending the meeting. Merry christmas. Office closure dates out on the SU website. (23<sup>rd</sup> December – January 3<sup>rd</sup> 2023). The safeguarding email is monitored, but overall, there is quite a broad Christmas closure.

Food parcels for students in need will be left with security, so contact them for this.

**SC:** Thanks all for coming onto campus. So glad we were quorate.

## **6. Date of next meeting**

30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 4pm, HW028 and via Zoom.