



**BIRKBECK STUDENTS UNION
STUDENT PARLIAMENT AGENDA
19TH OF JUNE 2024**

There will be a meeting of the Student Parliament on 19th of June 2024 from 15:00 on MS Teams.

Please follow [THIS LINK](#) for meeting access.

Please send any apologies to su-voice@bbk.ac.uk

AGENDA

1. INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME

Introduction of name, course and pronouns.

2. APOLOGIES AND PROXIES

To receive any apologies for absence

3. QUORUM

Quorum is 9 members of parliament

4. MINUTES

To declare any conflict of interest with any agenda items.

5. CO-OPT TO VACANT POSITIONS

- a. To receive nominations for vacant posts
- b. To co-opt members into vacant posts

6. ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Date:	Page/Item:	Action:	To be completed by:	Progress:
17 th January 2024	Item 2 Page 1	Raise motion regarding renewal of PREVENT policy.	William Sarenden	Ongoing

- (i) To note any actions taken since the meeting on 8th May 2024
- (ii) To note any matters arising since the meeting on 8th May 2024

7. OFFICER REPORTS

- a. To receive a report from William Sarenden
- b. To receive a report from Ellie Rivera (attached)
- c. To receive a report from Lily Boodhoo (Emily Wildash to present)
- d. To receive a report from Miriam Swan

8. PHONE USE DURING CLASS (MICHAL INDRAK) (NO PAPER)

9. INVOLVING STUDENTS WITH FULL-TIME JOBS IN CERTAIN EVENTS (MICHAL INDRAK) (NO PAPER)



10. MOTIONS SUBMITTED

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS



BIRKBECK STUDENTS' UNION
MINUTES OF STUDENT PARLIAMENT
8TH MAY 2024

Present:

Dean Ismay (DI) (Chair), Ana Ghetu (AG), Elizabeth Gilkey (EG), Michal Indrak (MI), Viki Pirani (VP), Michael Jones (MJ), Vabihav Dureja (VD), Michael Evans (ME), Davin Sindhu (DS), Luke Charles (LC), Floyd Codlin (FC), Rosalie Van Onzenoort (RVO), Emily Wildash (EW)

APOLOGIES:

Apologies submitted from: William Sarenden, Lily Boodhoo, Miriam Swan, Beth Cottrell.

QUORUM:

Quorum was not confirmed.

MINUTES:

Minutes not confirmed.

CO-OPT TO VACANT POSITIONS:

Unable to co-opt.

ACTIONS AND MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

Date:	Page/Item:	Action:	To be completed by:	Progress:
17 th January 2024	Item 2 Page 1	Raise motion regarding renewal of PREVENT policy.	William Sarenden	Ongoing

WS not in attendance.

OFFICER REPORTS:

No officers in attendance. DI requested a report next parliament session for all non-attending officers.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

LC presented a paper regarding introducing a scheme to grow vegetables on campus in order to help with students' mental health and potentially help stock the food pantry. LC stated that he understands that space at Birkbeck is limited, however a rooftop space would also work well and noted that vertical growing methods save space. DI suggested that this could be a society, it would also help with student engagement in the scheme. FC agreed with this, he is active in both the environmental society as well as the climate action society and stated that he'd be happy to discuss the scheme there. The parliament was happy for LC to set up a gardening society, and looks forward to hear about the progress.

MJ reminded parliament that the week commencing 13/05/24 is mental health week and asked for help with spreading awareness.

DI reminded parliament to complete the award nomination form.

DS discussed two issues. First that there has been inconsistent information given to her regarding mitigating circumstances and the second that she has notices that many students don't engage in seminars but still have good grades. She suggested asking the college to ensure that engagement in



class is marked. DI stated that DS should reach out to SU-Voice for signposting regarding the mitigating circumstances issue. VP stated that the lack of engagement is common across courses and she also had similar discussions as a course rep. VP conducted research and found that Birkbeck students are 300% more likely to have anxiety than the general student population. She suggested that this could be a reason for non-engagement and thus students should not be forced to contribute. DI ended the debate.

EW asked for student parliament feedback via email. VP stated that students should be given a document containing the contact email for course staff. EW agreed that this is a good idea. EW also stated that the Student Union is considering removing academic reps next year and considering all course reps as student parliament members. Parliament consensus was that this is a good idea. Finally, EW stated that parliament elections may be in June or July next year to allow parliament to start earlier. VP suggested a may election.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of student parliament will be held on June 19th at 15:00 via MSTeams.



Officer report: Ellie Rivera

Name: Ellie Rivera

Role: Education Student Leader

Term: Third

Dear Student Parliament,

This term I started by organising the airing of the University Challenge at The George where past, present, and future representatives of Birkbeck at the challenge attended and in general it was a very good turnout. I've never seen The George so full! I have attended the food pantry on several occasions and helped with the Clued up Stall which is the Student Union's Support Services. This brings student's awareness in terms of how to raise complaints and deal with mitigating circumstances and similar issues. I've attended various meetings with the Vice Chancellor, advocating for students needs in general and in line with my manifesto. This has included the commute between Malet Street and Euston Road. These same issues were presented in a very important presentation in front of all the University's Governors. I've attended cost of living meetings supporting other officers in the current financial situation of students advocating for the continued need of the food pantry and the availability of sanitary products in the women's bathrooms. I joined Lily in making a video tour of the library which I hope will give students an idea of all the facilities found in the library. I've also helped individual students who have come to me with issues in terms of mental health, cost of living, and mitigating circumstances. Lastly it was my pleasure to host the SU awards with William albeit overcoming nerves!