

RVCSU AGM 2022

November 3, 2022 6pm

Welcome and apologies

Legend Thurman SU president, Priya Toor, VP Rep comms, Rein Hill VP welfare, Lauren Crayton, VP Activities, Gibson, Willow (SU Staff) Elizabeth Pilar AVS representatives, Emma Wyles Rag Officer, Bhat tacharya, Suryava, Esievo, Edith, Flora Foxx SU Vet Nursing Officer, Stolworthy, Christopher William, Florence

Apologies from Maddie from the Haxby, Ezrie for SU Sports, Jasmine Entertainment officer, Danielle Buttery manager,

Previous council Meeting minutes - passed

Explanation of SUPdates (SU new letter) - will be sent out at least once a month, if not every three weeks.

Updates to be sent Priya Toor SUrepcomms@rvc.ac.uk (to advertise different events, different talks etc)

Reminder – Council members can claim up to 15 pounds reimbursement for a meal or take away (form put in chat)

Chantelle – SU Treasurer, presenting the RVCSU budget 2022-23 (sharing screen)

Christopher Stolworthy, SSVCS treasurer asked - Does that affect us as a funded society at all, that that we applied for nothing? If the, you know, we're still able to charge Subs appropriately? Chantelle confirmed this is fine

Sarah Ready and Vicki Laing from External Relations - events policy, booking events, information (especially as this academic year as a lot of things are occurring on campus again)

Trustee Board has approved the budget for this academic year as long as there are no other concerns; we are assuming from this meeting onwards that the SU Budget for this year is ratified in terms of the clubs and societies

Dave- If anybody wants to see the breakdown of the rest of the budget then they are perfectly welcome to see the front page which shows all the departments which we have allocated money to

- Events sit within RVC external relations.
- They sit specifically in Vicki's area and the events manager is Ana Coates who reports to Vicki.
- Anna is our only dedicated response, so quite a lot of us do lots of other bits on events, and her role really splits into two specific areas.

- Firstly, running key RVC events and by that I mean things like graduation and as you can imagine we've sort of a handful of those, but they're quite major events that take quite a lot of time.
- And she also then dedicates the rest of her time to working on administering the RVC events process, which abides by the RVC events policy.

Laing, Vicki:

- Clarifies what they class as an event
- Calendar listing. So if you're a club or society, you have a regular gathering, a regular meeting.
- You're rehearsing for a final year of view or performing arts that is just literally a calendar listing. All we need to know is that you are doing it when you're doing it and pop it on the calendar and you will need to book spaces with ISD. So our estates team. So if you want the sports facilities or rooms you need to book those. If it's sports fixtures, I'm sure you're all aware that you list those on the calendar, but they're booked via (Paula Larkins on reception and SAWC at the moment)
- The room bookings team will talk to us and they will check if you request the room and they may not confirm the room until the event has been approved.
- You must try and use the relevant choice of booking, so there's a drop down list and it will say is it a startled event. A student LED event, a meeting? So going back to the original, what is an event? If it is just a meeting and a gathering of? Of of students and staff. Then just pick meeting and it's fine. But if it is an event then please be honest.
- First aid all events require first aid is a legal requirement and we mentioned this before that, you know during office hours there is normally a member of staff. There are students around the first aid trained and it's not really problematic. I think you it would be worth looking at the health and safety pages on the Internet because there are some new setups via teams for getting hold of first aiders.
- Out of hours, it's the event organisers responsibility to provide first aid.
- Acknowledged that the SU has been working really hard to train a lot of students, so there was an increasing number of students first aid trained and there are student ambassadors that are first aid trained to but they the student ambassador job is a paid job so it may require payment.
- And what I would say is just try and encourage people that you know to help you out, swap around, ask you know, somebody from another club and society. If they can sit in with you and you do the same for them, just to to ensure you've got somebody present.
- All external speakers on premises must be declared.
- Whenever there's an event being held and whoever is the organizer, and that's the same with staff, they have to be booked in as a visitor.

Flora asked - If it's student led talk rather than regular fixture but no external speaker, does it still count as an event?

Sarah R - a bit of a gray area as we do have situations where we have students acting as reps for organizations and they will sometimes organise events or they will organize the gathering. So if that

is that, but it doesn't have external speakers or it is simply just a gathering of students for whatever reason and it's a one off, **it's a meeting. It's not an event.** It goes into the calendar booking that first.

And sort of a category that we outlined. So if it's just students and it's got nothing strange going on like animals coming in or people using dangerous equipment and it literally is a meeting, a gathering of students, that is a calendar booking.

Vicki L - If it's a weekend and it's a symposium or something that's quite large scale, advise Events as early as possible. Even just advising the date and giving us an estimated number so it doesn't clash with another event

It was also mentioned that weekends are more difficult for the college as the ISD (Estates Team) have limited resources and aren't able to work too many weekends in a row

Laing, Vicki36:43

Emma – RAG Officer – asked about events such as bake sales on campus:

- Lightwell and the Eclipse Café are always to be booked through estates and you would need to ask the campus services manager permission to fundraiser in those areas (bake sales)
- Any type of sale in those areas need to be approved by ISD and Estates if you're just.
- It's a group of students fundraising and your booking a room, then? No, it wouldn't be an event. It would just be a gathering of students.
- I think those sort of things, it's just worth dropping an e-mail through to events

Introduction and approval of different clubs and societies for this academic year –

Sienna Mazzetti- introducing the University of London Canoe polo

- The club has been around since 1980s as part of the University of London.
- In the past we've not been really very involved in books.
- In 2020, they won the national (or the women's national League)
- Currently our numbers are not as large as they used to be just because we've been decimated due to COVID
- Due to University of London disbanding, we're looking to join RVC just because of that we really would like to stay together to continue on as a team
- Joining RVC makes sense, because in the past we've had such like a large number of students who RVC
- Out of the 20 members, 6 were RVC students and then the rest were just different students.
- So one of the reasons that we want to go to our or want to join RVC is just the number of people in the past who have come from RBC who joined Canoe Polo.
- Currently stored University of London is still lending their storage
- Looking at selling some of the kit ('but that being said, with the amount of kit that we have, we could very easily grow our club back to the size that it was in the past).
- Subs would be 60.00 pounds (30 per member would be going towards facilities that they'll use)
- Next question in the chat was from one of our staff members here. Whereabouts do train and play out of interest?
- Popular Union, London (Canary Warf)

- Dave mentioned personal injury cover (insurance) would cost £5.00 more per person, so perhaps 55 for RVC students and 60 for non RVC
- Membership for paddling orgs (leagues), they provide liability insurance as well) but Dave has advised this is different to Personal Acc insurance.
- £8000 currently of own resources (form fundraising etc)
- Bank account is with Angela UoL
- Chantelle has advised it has been difficult to get the funds over from Angela, so C/Polo need to wait before they make any big financial decisions
- Flora asked about inclusivity
- Students are asked to attend when they are able to make it (from either campus). Looking at getting pool access closer to the HH also (Furzafield)
- Mini bus email shared to chat and Chantelle provided info verbally (need to be RVC staff or Students to drive the bus)
- Dave checking with insurance, about what kind of licence is required

Council member vote – officially voted

Tramplining Club:

- Katie - trampolining.
- Gained a lot of Members recently
- 25 members and based at the Furzafield
- Started as an adult session and now almost all RVC students
- Monday, currently 8:00 - 9:00 PM.
- At the moment we're not taking, money from it at all.
- The all of the money is going to the trampolining club that that we run at, run it from and because obviously the money goes towards hiring the trampolining equipment, paying the trampolining coaches
- Non- competitive club
- Currently limited to 15 people per session.
- Try rotate it on a weekly basis so that you know people that maybe haven't made it because of rotations, you know can slot in.
- Ask members to pay on a weekly basis or have subs instead
- Chantelle (Treasurer asked) you managed to get a kind of deal with the 1st and the trampoline club? And as we are students and you'd be bringing them a regular amount of people to the club and yeah just wondering
- Cost is already 5 pounds per person/per hour already so not very expensive
- Insurance- Katie has her own insurance, as a competitive trampolinist
- They would need the Acc Injury Insurance (this will be included, once they become an affiliated SU club, they would be covered

Council member vote – officially voted

Pole and Fitness Society

Florence

- New to the RVC, but I'm coming here having already done a degree and and I want to put forward an application for pole dance and fitness.
- And so I started pole dancing fitness at my previous university and I really enjoyed it. So that's why I would like to continue that here.
- Great sport where you can improve your strength, coordination, flexibility and also your confidence and these are the areas that I definitely improved upon when I was doing it previously.
- Classes would be inclusive because they're really varied.
- Students can have like different styles of dance, different fitness styles. So for example, we can do heels as well, if that's what some people are into.
- Tailored to all abilities, so there wouldn't be any discrimination against performance, ability or skill set.
- And this is a really affordable way to do pole compared to buying lessons at studio.
- It's about £20 per lesson, well, at least in Camden, which is where I go to.
- So that's why I do that once a week. So that's £80 a month, which is quite pricey.
- So what I wanted to do is start by weekly sessions. So I guess one session would be based on fitness and trying to.
- And to brush up on the skills that we we've learned so far and that would be without a teacher. And then I was hoping that I would.
- Get a teacher for one day and they could kind of go through different moods with us and university that went to before they actually had a teacher there. And I asked and they charged 50 pounds an hour. So I think that might be the sort of price
- Questionnaire and already 90 people have shown interest in signed up.
- And so that would be the polls and 1.5k for 46 poles. That is including extension-sealing extensions if we need it.
- And then they'll also be a cost for the pole instructor, so that would be about 100 pounds a week. I think I need to do a bit more research on that.
- People who were happy to spend £40.
- Hoping we could even potentially buy more equipment for Hawkshead if people want to do that, or if there's quite a lot of interest in it.
- But that might be something we can buy through the Subs memberships as well.
- Chantelle asked - Just wondering where were you planning on running sessions?
- Planning on running them in the activities studio in Camden and because it's like a perfect setup, there's like a mirror and quite a large space.
- Studio in Hawkshead.
- Umm, so I didn't think that that would be an issue particularly.
- Option to use a facility in Camden, Ultimate Poll,, if the college can't help install the poles into existing space
- Dave advised that the Camden studio might have a suspended ceiling or lighting might get in the way.
- Sharing with Kings could be a possibility

Council member vote – officially voted

Jewish Soc

Ayala

- Looking to start a Jewish society, which we're hoping basically to do, share our culture and and holidays with like both being a place for other Jews to come and and come together, but also for education and sharing our culture with everybody, which for Jewish society mostly means food.
- A place to gather, celebrate holidays and Educate, learn
- 25 people already signed like that have signed up for it. We have a Facebook.
- We just opened like our own Facebook page for people talking.
- Legend asked about events coming up?
- Grossman, Ayala Rachel hoping November 18th to do or that we have already booked the butterfly and to have a Friday night dinner, which is every Friday night is a Jewish holiday
- December Hanukkah event

Council member vote – officially voted

African and Caribbean Society

Not attended meeting, no apologies received.

Put forward by Lauren, SU Activities, in their absence NCN

- With entrance of their culture, their music, food, education
- They simply want just join for fun. No funding requested
- Anyone can join, Education and
- They did say that they were their proposal membership fee would be approx. £10 for a year's membership

Council member vote – officially voted

Hockey Club

Celeste and Annie (president)

- Both been on committees since second year, so me for four years less for three years and every year the whole hockey chart out the air, everything we do is based on we need more money.
- How do we get more money?
- It's quite stressful, and because we're such a big club, we believe that we have such a positive impact on the uni and we fundraise so much and we also, like we went to anything.
- It's a real benefit to everyone's mental health and quite a stressful degree that we would love any help in any way. Yeah. And I think we're keen to kind of get this set up so that in the future we can avoid this stress both for ourselves within the Hockey club, but also for you guys in the SU.
- Presentation to go through our expenditure..
- Emergency application for budget funding for over through the year

- A little bit of money each, so she could carry on playing for us. So we just think it's really important for the **mental health side of things as well.**
- Cost of Pitches - £89.20 an hour, which you have to book it for two hours per match according to bucks LLSL guidelines
- £178.20 per match.
- Umpire is £30 each and 2 umpires needed per match, so that's £60.00 a match we we've got 58 home games this season for which we have to cover the costs of pitch and umpires, £13,000 pounds, £815 pounds.
- Paying that off peak fee for peak times the Furzfield for their pitches (for substantial facilities)
- Paying quite a lot money and not getting much back.
- In terms of training, we train once a week on the **MUGA, which is 1/4 of the size of our usual hockey pitch**, and each team trains for about an hour to an hour and a half per week.
- 45 members/players on the MUGA at one time, which gets cramped.
- Up to 30 women's players, we have an entire team of beginners.
- Reliant on the more senior members of the club coaching them so you know they're getting taught by their peers on a small pitch with quite a lot of people around.
- But they also kindly provided the figures on the screen here. And as you can see, we do actually pay, you know, two or three times more. Most of the kind of on campus clubs. So obviously we're not including equestrian, polo and rowing in that. But as you can probably appreciate, boats and horses are more expensive than hockey sticks. So we really shouldn't be costing as much as those societies. And yet we are encroaching on that kind of.
- Those kind of figures, so you know, we just are keen to keep hockey as accessible as possible. But you know when you're if you want to get competitive about pricing, we are just we're not in the same league as the other clubs.
- So what we're asking for is just help keep in hockey accessible and safe.
- **Of the best result for us would be a new pitch on campus**, but we understand that's not feasible and very unrealistic. Therefore, we're hoping to set up some sort of additional pitched grant or just get some extra funding to help us basically keep hockey cheap, make sure our equipment is up to up to scratch.
- And we've both been on committees since second year, so me for four years less for three years and every year the whole hockey chart out the air, everything we do is based on we need more money. How do we get more money?
- Let's find a way to get my money. It's everything is just money focused.
- It's quite stressful, and because we're such a big club, we believe that we have such a positive impact on the uni and we fundraise so much and we also, like we went to anything.
- It's a real **benefit to everyone's mental health and quite a stressful degree** that we would love any help in any way. Yeah. And I think we're keen to kind of get this set up so that in the future we can avoid this stress both for ourselves within the Hockey club, but also for you guys in the SU
- Dave asked if the club is inclusive of all cohorts – confirmed it is (lots of VNs on team as well) Dave also suggested Hockey go to ACT for more funding
- Looked at the options of schools but the times clash
- Pitch on campus - apparently Sports England wouldn't let another pitch be encroached on the football pitches, which is why the MUGA was the size it is.
- They wouldn't let it encroach on the football pitches above it. Or the rugby pitch above it.
- Cost for 3D hockey pitch is approx.. £700,000 to build

OK, I think what we're going to do is like what some of the other Members have mentioned. Take this away, discuss it more in detail at our trustee board, keep you guys in constant communication, of course, but a little bit more as a fixture to this long term issue and see what we can do to remedy some of these issues moving forward. Is that alright with the two of you?

Flora Foxx (VN)

Presenting the VN survey results –

- Sent out to VN earlier on this year, It was in October. T
- Thank you very much to Priya for all of her help in designing the questionnaire as well.
- But I was just quite just wanted to make everyone aware of the responses.
- So things like the digital skills and the advice Centre, I think are being used and access, which is great
- Bus timetabling is a bit of an issue, particularly with people with the weekends.
- Limiting some people's ability to go out and socialize from the Hawkshead campus, both nurses and vets that are based up there but I think more vets tend to have cars
- Asked VNs about HH Costa and restaurants - general comments were about sort of it being quite expensive and particularly with the cost of living crisis,
- Looking at how we can maybe make that a little bit more accessible to our students who are struggling with funding, particularly as some students do commute in for their lectures
- Lots of requests for different activities
- Flora is going to try and run some activities. Festive season - maybe some Christmas carols, just a lot more things to be kind of at the Hawkshead campus to be a bit more accessible
- The people have requested a swimming pool, but perhaps we could sort of make it clearer any sort of relationship that we do have with the first swimming pool for students to be able to go there may be a discounted price.
- Sometimes didn't feel included adequately in university life, and 1/4 did actually feel like they weren't adequately included in university life, which may be really sad.
- Interprofessional events and kind of more nursing events that I want to run throughout the year, but just any sort of additional comments or concerns that or sort of ideas that people had to kind of make sure that nurses are more included
- I think with our timetable it is very, very hard and I have been speaking to the course directors about the timetabling issues because we are a form placement so frequently.
- And that sometimes people don't feel like it's worth joining societies because they're only be able to attend for a couple of weeks at a time, or they might not be able to attend the kind of main functions I think particularly for first years.
- It's kind of overwhelming and a bit daunting joining a load of societies are only being able to do some for one term. So you sort of really don't get into the swing of them and then going off and placement in the second and third terms and kind of feeling like, oh, I don't know whether I'm gonna be able to continue them or not.

And yeah there was a sort of general feeling of UM, student nurses maybe just feeling like they are a little bit isolated out on the Hawkshead Campus, as you said. I have got some ideas which I'm happy to discuss with you either here or a later date or just get on with running myself. But as I said, some support would be really, really much appreciated, but just any ideas that you guys might have for how we can kind of make student nurses feel a little built more include

Gareth

- James and Gareth sit on transport management group and we're looking.
- We have been asking the church to a survey for the students regarding the shuttle bus service and how we can potentially improve it and what what gaps there, arc in the process.
- We tend doing it actually. Let me change tomorrow to sort of work out exact questions of that service. So I'll send it to you, Flora, so you can check it and make sure it's capturing the information you want to be able to ask the nurses and make sure we can get that information back to the college.
- Look into discount for swimming with the Furzfield (used to be available)
- Priya – I was just going to say I had an interesting conversation with the first years of the Vet Nurse Course Reps last week and she said one of the reasons her cohort didn't feel included was because they never sat in an actual lecture theatre. They always sit in those conference rooms above the cafeteria
- Emma advised VNs do not always have their lectures recorded (as vets do). Flora advised this has been brought up and hopefully been rectified

Gareth –

- Effects Bio Sci students also
- Issues, particularly in some of our smaller cohorts that needs to be looked at because you have a policy that allows material to be collected and recorded. It needs to be, it needs to be universally applied.
- Just take those courses that aren't caps in lecture halls that's been raised on our feedback
- Flora is at the meeting as well, so hopefully she can feed back to you guys and we'll be back to all the reps accordingly. Once we have the information, it's in two weeks time.

Flora – speaking about cost of living

- Affecting everyone, some of the nursing students have raised it with me when I spoke to the first years.
- Some were looking for part time jobs because they were worried about kind of costs of accommodation on campus
- If our on placement a lot, we're not necessarily we're paying a lot of money for our degrees,
- If there are any sort of funding opportunities or sort of bursaries out there really clearly highlighted to students so that we can kind of.
- Encouraging healthy work life balance and society participation, making sure that people don't feel like they're priced out of societies with more expensive Subs
- Could we look into more affordable food and travel options?

Legend President –

- There was an info booklets that went out to students this year future. So I at one point the info was included from the advice Centre in regards to the cost of living crisis and ways to combat that.

Rhian Welfare.

- But in terms of like actually communicating with them and trying to find like more specific support for students with the cost of living crisis and that will be tomorrow onwards, that's when our first meeting is in terms of stuff I'm doing myself.
- Starting free food delivery on campus from next week.

Legend President –

- There were info booklets that went out to students regarding the cost of living crisis and ways to combat via the advice centre at the beginning of the year

Rhian SU Welfare-

- But in terms of like actually communicating with them and trying to find like more specific support for students with the cost of living crisis and that will be tomorrow onwards, that's when our first meeting is in terms of stuff I'm doing myself
- Starting free food delivery on campus from next week

Emma RAG -

- All of the fundraising that is done is up to the students to come if they can, they don't have to come, they don't have to pay
- I was in talks with external relations on the Food Bank appeal and we had left it as that. Any food that did not go to the food bank, we would donate back to our students.
- Giving to charities which they have nominated themselves

Chantelle mentioned

- I think previously SU Environment did like litter picking things and try to organize like volunteering time thing things as well.
And I just think how much uptake fortunately I mean I think we all know as students it's a struggle to find the time
- Lots of students want events with animals but there are ethical issues - animals aren't really brought in for group teaching or sort of society sessions, but whether or not we can arrange a trip to an animal shelter where we go and help out with volunteer work trips and stuff like that, maybe that could be a way of doing it.
- But I think bringing them onto campus has been that used to be done as part of the teaching
- Don't get done for ethical reasons.

Legend SU President –

- One thing to keep in mind is with the holidays coming up, there may be particular events that are going on around the cities and surrounding areas, so possibly we could look into that as well.

Closing the meeting:

This meeting was minuted and recorded. It will be put in the drive and then circulated for approval at our next Council meeting. There are several meetings with the college coming up this month, particularly ALTAC Academic Board meeting with the advice Center.

It would probably join it. So any ideas, concerns that come forward, please get them to us so we can take them to the appropriate group that way our next Council meeting, our next trustee board meeting can be very impactful trustees. I'm looking for us to meet hopefully in the next two weeks. Council can be roughly three to four weeks depending on timing and with Christmas ball coming up but.

Thank you all for your hard work and all these topics we discuss. It definitely wasn't very good meanings, so any last minute comments, concerns that need no taking of at this time.

Meeting adjourned. I will see you all soon.

Meeting end

RVCSU AGM 202