Chester Students' Union – Annual General Meeting Tuesday 1 February 2022 at 4.00pm – Microsoft Teams



1. Confirmation of Attendees

Trustees:

Jack Rankin President (Chair)

Lauren Friel Vice President Education
Jordanne Farley-Moss Vice President Activities
Sam Derbyshire Vice President Warrington
Gabrielle Abbas Vice President Shrewsbury

Students:

29 students in attendance – list of names will be held internally by CSU.

In attendance:

Matthew Webber – CEO Alison Hewitt - Administrator

Kit Garrett – Marketing & Development Lead

Observing:

Ben Hockley - Head of Finance

Chloe Anderson – Student Voice Co-ordinator Academic Representation

Amber Young – Student Engagement Co-ordinator - Chester Sites

Lauren Holmes – Student Insight & Voice Lead

Bea Fallon - Student Voice Co-ordinator Democracy & Campaigns

Toni Takova – Marketing & Sales Co-ordinator

2. Apologies

Khurrum Dar – External Trustee Jack Sanderson - Student Trustee Dale Tromans – Student Trustee

3. Ratification of Minutes of the Previous Annual General Meeting

The previous minutes were presented, and it was asked if these were an accurate representation of the AGM held on 21 April 2021. Proposed by SD and seconded by JR.

For - 15	Against - 1	Abstain - 13
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4. Trustee Report

Trustee Report within annual accounts sets out key highlights from the year of 2020/21:

- Launched our new 5-year strategic plan "Love Your Student Life".
- Increased our block grant funding by £50k.
- Invested in our Student Voice work and specific site engagement.
- First membership engagement survey to find out what students think of CSU.
- Enacted the biggest change to democratic structures in over 10 years with our student led democracy review.
- Protected students' grades by lobbying University to introduce a safety net.
- Received a record over 500 nominations in our annual 1839 Awards.
- Launched our first Staff Engagement Survey in years.

5. Union Accounts 2020/2021

The audited Union accounts of 2020/21 were presented.

Income	Expenditure	Surplus
£485,762	£478,946	£6,816

Reserves have increased to satisfy our Reserves Policy.

Students were asked for any questions or feedback. No questions were received.

6. Formal Appointment of the independent examiners 2021/22

Independent examinations are undertaken to ensure that financial records are accurate, financial processes are robust and that taxes are paid properly and on time. We had a 'clean' audit which demonstrates that we are meeting statutory requirements.

AGM members were asked to approve Dains as our independent examiners.

For - 16	Against - 0	Abstain - 13
101-10	Against - O	Abstail - 15

7. Union Affiliation for 2022/23

NUS – Vote took place to remain affiliated with NUS.

For - 16	Against - 0	Abstain - 13
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8. CSU New Democratic Structures

JR presented the new democratic structure for CSU. After a student led democracy review with an external consultant the following option was agreed alongside staff consultation:

- Elected Officers
 - President (looking after Union Development).
 - VP Education (looking after academic interests).
 - o VP Student Life (looking after welfare and social opportunities).
- Student Insights Advocates
 - Launched three LEDI networks to listen and pass on students' views.
- Student Voice Committee (would replace Student Council)
 - This Committee will seek to reflect the demographics of the students at all sites to ensure the student voice is heard with 7 paid roles.
- Other Member Interventions
 - o Questions on website, AGM, Big Ideas and benchmarking.

9. Questions from Members

There were no questions raised.

President thanked all students for attending the meeting.

The meeting was closed.