



Equality & Diversity Committee

11th April 2018 (13:05 – 13:25) in NH209

Present:

Rachel Simpson, VP GSBS (**Chair**)
Eilidh Fulton, Equality & Diversity Society Champion
Raven Hingley, Women's Officer

Apologies:

Adrian Lui, GCU Equality and Diversity Advisor

Absent:

Lauren Aitken, Disabled Students' Officer
Seun Babajide, Deputy B.M.E. Officer
Lauren Baigrie, Student Carers' Officer
James Chilembwe, International Students' Officer
Pelumi Daniel, Deputy B.M.E. Officer
Fraser Knight, LGBT+ Officer
Victory Nwabu-ekeoma, B.M.E. Officer

In Attendance:

Gary Kyle, Student Rep Assistant (**Clerk**)
Caroline Miller, Representation and Advice Manager

1. Apologies

As detailed above.

2. Actions from previous meeting (14/03/2018)

The responses to the previous meeting's actions are as follows:

ACTION: VP GSBS to communicate the location of gender-neutral toilet facilities to the wider student body via Student Support Booklet in Trimester B.

(COMPLETED)

RESPONSE: Gender-neutral toilet facilities have been included in the drafted Student Support Booklet but the publication has been delayed due to reviewing the Safe Taxis process (which contributes to an additional aspect of the booklet).

3. Mental Health Partnership Agreement

VP GSBS reminded the committee that this was discussed at the last meeting (11/03/2018) and that the action point remained unchanged. VP GSBS will be meeting with delegates from NUS later today to formalise the Mental Health Partnership Agreement and, when this has been achieved, the document can then be published to the wider student body.

4. GCU Equality and Diversity Update

VP GSBS has had a meeting regarding the preventing gender-based violence initiative and has also met with the new named contact for this project at GCU. Currently, discussions are taking place about how next academic year's process will operate (such as training processes). VP GSBS is also having meeting regarding the First Responder process.

5. Officer/Champion Update

- Full Time Officers

VP GSBS has received information that sanitary products will be made available from August to all staff and students at GCU (both Glasgow and London campuses). This will operate on a year-long pilot.

- Women's Officer

The Women's Officer shared with the committee that she has been trying to increase student engagement within the liberation group as this has been an ongoing challenge throughout this academic year. However, delegates from the Women's group are being sent to the NUS Women's conference taking place on 17/04/2018.

- Societies Champion

The Societies Champion stated that the Equality & Diversity policy has been adhered to for all activities and events organised by societies. The African Caribbean Society have been nominated for "Best New Society" and are delivering a Fashion Show in May alongside receiving funding from the GCU Students' Association Dragon's Den panel.

CUMSA (Caledonian University Muslim Students' Association) organised a dinner which was funded by Societies council.

6. Upcoming Campaigns

- *Gender-based Violence*

VP GSBS mentioned that GCU will be launching the Gender-based Violence Policy in May 2018 and this will be a major event so if any committee member wishes to be invited to attend the launch event, they are welcome to let her know by the end of the week.

7. AOCB

- *Committee By-Law Update*

It was noted that in previous committee meetings, there was an action to update the E&D by-laws. VP GSBS has done this and, as it was approved by the committee, it will be presented at the next Student Voice meeting (due October 2018).

- *Representative of the Year*

It was noted that Fraser Knight (LGBT+ Officer) has been shortlisted for the “Representative of the Year” award as part of the GCU Students’ Association’s STAR Awards. The winner will be announced on 19/04/2018.

**The next meeting for the Equality & Diversity Committee is scheduled to take place in
Trimester A of 2018/19**