



Minutes

Wednesday 21st February 2018 – 17:15, Teaching Room 7 (AEB)

Present: Alice Lagnado (AL), Alicia Paessler (AP), Cal Kenny (CK), Dan Sims (DS), George Le Bihan (GB), Harry Cross (HC), Humaid Ghorri (HG), Iain Peacock (IP), Josie Porter (JP), Kate Howell (KH), Matt Williams (MW), Rebecca Gill (RG), Ziqiao Qi (ZQ).

Apologies: Amber Moys (AM), Cal Barnes (CB), Daisy Holmes (DH), Ellie Deane (ED), Honey Manso (HM), Ibrahim Hamami (IH), James Barber (JB), Sophie Lloyd (SL), Vivien Ngo (VN),

Absent: Alex Taylor (AT), Ana Shahmiri (AS), Bradley Stewart (BS), Gabby Alexander-Harvey (GA), Joe Tan (JT), Megan Harrison (MH).

	Agenda item	Notes and actions to be taken	Person responsible
1.	Committee business		
2.	Minutes of the previous meeting	The minutes for the previous meeting held on Wednesday 7 th February 2018 were approved.	
3.	Matters arising		
3.1	Graduation Ball Update	<p>KH + AL: Post-exam gifts have all been ordered. We will assemble the bags the weekend between the 5th year OSCE and KT. They cost MedSoc £195 (£1.50 per person) and we have put in £208 from the Grad Ball budget to more than match it. Each bag will contain some post-exam goodies. We will be selling grad ball tickets as we hand out the bags after exams.</p> <p>Last exam time/ location not completely confirmed but we will need to cover both rooms. Likely that one of us will peel away when people with extra time finish.</p> <p>HC: There is no time to set up a Worldpay account for online sales so the best thing to use is Fixr which we used last year.</p> <p>KH: Can be unpopular as people have to pay extra on top of an already high ticket price. Would probably offer this online option for people not in Brighton to pay in cash or people who have to dash off after the exam.</p> <p>AL: We are starting a website for the event itself for people to upload photos to for a slideshow during the ball. We could put the payment link on there alongside table plans etc.</p> <p>KH: Had the food tasting and have selected 1 starter and 1 pudding that cater for all dietary requirements and 1 meat and 1 vegan main. Halal food cost will be absorbed by Grad Ball budget as we don't believe anyone should have to pay extra.</p>	

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	<p>KH: Last year’s Grad Ball fell on Ramadan which caused some problems as Muslims who were fasting didn’t want to have to pay for a full price ticket when they wouldn’t be eating. RG: People should never have to be charged more for their dietary requirements HC: We need a written system for this to cover all students (not just MedSoc members) KH: Non-MedSoc members already pay more for their ticket and not providing for them too would be a little discriminatory.</p> <p>MW: Targeting mature students is difficult as a lot of the time they don’t turn up to the events AS has organised anyway. HC: People have asked for walks (free) and events at the weekend as non-alcoholic events on weekday evenings are not good for those who have young children. Others have suggested a Parents group but this is easily something they could establish themselves. These events are trickier to organise as, unlike clubs, you can’t book a table for 40 people in a restaurant if only 6 turn up. MW: How about a BBQ on the beach next term with emphasis on partners and children being invited.</p> <p>HC: Also worrying is that 25% of people who did the survey felt they didn’t know who they could contact if they felt isolated or not included. AL: I think on the back of this survey we need to send out a response email recognising the problems people have put forward and offering solution. That in itself might solve some of the problems of people feeling like they have not been listened to. Put the contact details for student support on this email. MW: We are supposedly one of the best medical schools in the country for student support so we need to make people more aware that that provision is there CK: T&E has been very active this year but no one is really attending. We have tried setting up an email so people with concerns can be anonymised if they are uncomfortable speaking out in person but so far no one has sent an email. We should make it more well known that we have all signed confidentiality agreements in T&E. Something that could also be improved is that the student support contact details should be attached to the exam results sent out by the university. I was completely unaware until recently that you can request to be put in contact with other people who have failed a module so you can revise together. This is never really publicised. BSMS could also put people in contact with others resitting a year or coming back after intercalating or taking a year out. This could make a huge difference to supporting people entering a new year group.</p>	<p>RG to add to AGM agenda writing an “inclusivity budget” into the constitution</p> <p>AS to add to handover for next year that at the start of the year there should be active interaction with the older students to see which events they would attend</p> <p>HC to raise CK’s suggestions to BSMS</p>
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	<p>HC: A lot of people are requesting more sports like squash and lacrosse.</p> <p>JP: We can't afford for more sports teams when even main sports aren't getting good turn outs.</p> <p>HC: A lot of the respondents haven't stated what alternative sports they would be interested in.</p> <p>AL: Did anything get done about Sport Brighton treating us unfairly?</p> <p>JP: This weekend we weren't allowed to use any pitches because the Brighton teams had matches</p> <p>AL: This needs escalating as it's completely unfair. Our timetables are completely different and so we need teams that run to our yearly timetable.</p> <p>JP: As we have smaller teams now due to lack of engagement we have less of a case to put to Sport Brighton for using their facilities</p> <p>HC: Effort to get people engaged in sport needs to come earlier as it's almost too late for this academic year now. People need to know when practices are and be welcomed even if they are new to the sport.</p> <p>JP: We are losing money rapidly so the whole of sports needs a shake-up. We need some kind of sports constitution as at the moment it is up to me and GB to decide who gets funding for what.</p> <p>HC: Perhaps you could have a sports committee comprised of the captains and see what they want from MedSoc in a meeting next term. We could also encourage the sports captains to come to the first lecture we have in freshers' week to encourage participation.</p> <p>JP: We could set up a general sports group on Facebook to make them easy to find. People could then post training times and if they need extra players etc.</p> <p>KH: In terms of economic differences. We have tried to overcome this with Grad Ball by subsidising tickets for those in receipt of the full NHS bursary. We have set aside part of the budget and how much people receive depends on how many people apply. Last year it saved people £40 each. This could be extended to all BSMS balls.</p> <p>CK: People have complained to me about how expensive the conference are but we have more expensive conferences than other universities because they are better events. Our ticket prices include food and workshops on top of lectures.</p> <p>HC: In theory we could create more ticket options like a non-food option or without the night out included.</p> <p>HC: Some people commented that they feel excluded from certain societies. This may be the case because a lot of societies are run by groups of friends so it can seem cliquy</p>	<p>JP and GB to write a list of the problems they have for HC to tell BSMS faculty</p> <p>HC/JP/GB to come to AGM with plans for MedSport reorganisation</p> <p>IH to look at creating an online anonymous forum so we can collect feedback on MedSoc more frequently</p> <p>IH to add to handover for next year that if we do</p>
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	<p>HG: We need to ensure that all societies have an attitude of no judgement and a policy that everyone is welcome.</p> <p>HC: People generally want to feel more included in decision making and there is a general feeling that MedSoc does things behind their back.</p> <p>MW: We could try and incorporate a forum into a 15-minute slot in the timetable to get more detailed feedback about what we're doing wrong and what people want from us.</p> <p>HC: We should use the Murmur paper if it starts running to update people on what we're doing with MedSoc money and all of the things we are organising/contributing to and discussing. People also want better access to the minutes.</p> <p>DS: We could add the minutes to the end of each week's bulletin for those who want to know what we're up to.</p> <p>AL: In terms of participation I know someone who recently applied to university and she was asked at interview what she did to relax and what she did in her spare time. She then received an email saying they wanted her to come to them and attached links to all the societies she might like to join based on her interview.</p> <p>HC: A lot of respondents weren't happy with the events we put on. They suggested more clinical friendly events at the weekends</p> <p>AP: But weekend events would be more expensive as entry costs more and we wouldn't get drinks deals. This could end up excluding even more people. People also said they want more medic family events but people can organise these themselves.</p> <p>HC: So the key things we now need to do following this survey are: send out a response email acknowledging the opinions of the respondents and offering solutions</p> <p>AL: There needs to be a definite focus on publicising all the good things MedSoc do with people's money.</p> <p>HC: In week 10 of each term we can send out a list of all the things we've done and funded for that term so everyone is aware and supportive of MedSoc. We want 1st years to apply to become committee members next year so we should do a presentation to them at the beginning of threefreshers highlighting all these things. Next year we should do a similar presentation at the start of the year in freshers too rather than just introducing ourselves. We also need to make our handovers better to the new committee so everyone has access to everything they need for their role. Ideally these should be added to the handover from the previous committee so each year they get more and more detailed.</p>	<p>another survey like this we need a section asking what events people want</p> <p>MW to add the minutes to the end of the bulletin each week</p> <p>HC to suggest AL's suggestion to BSMS</p> <p>HC and RG to develop a handover template (good things, mistakes,</p>
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3.3	Fifth Year Mock OSCE Funding	<p>HC: F1s have volunteered to run the mock OSCE for the 5th years and have requested £150-200 for snacks for the volunteers.</p> <p>KH: The day is run in two sessions which are relatively short so unsure why they need snacks. If they do it definitely shouldn't cost that much.</p> <p>HC: We need more information before we can commit to that much money.</p>	<p>useful documents, jobs for the year)</p> <p>HC to suggest alternative arrangement for Mock OSCE funding</p>
4.	Any other business	None	
5.	Date of next meeting	TBC	

Minutes taken by RG