

## **Council Chair Report**

As requested at the last Union Council, I've tried to summarise some of the key discussions and decisions from Trustee Board this year:

### *Appointments and Remunerations Committee*

Appointments and Remunerations Committee has formally met once this year to interview for the Appointed Trustee position, a decision passed on to Council to ratify.

### *Communications Committee*

A major output of the Communications Committee this year has been the commissioning of an independent Felix review, which is due to begin this term. Also discussed this year has been:

- Officer Trustee Communications
  - o Reviewing existing messaging and communication strategies and developing a strategic approach to these in the future
- Crisis Communication
  - o To support student officers and staff through the communication issues around a crisis. This is for a variety of potential issues such as major political changes, technical issues or serious injury to students.
  - o Working out the roll out to staff
- Freedom of speech
  - o A broad discussion including how do we communicate legal needs, are we facilitating sufficient debate and how do we ensure a health attitude to freedom of speech

### *Finance and Risk Committee*

Finance and Risk has probably had the most substantial agenda of any subcommittee. All the minutes for these meetings are available online but they are probably not the most accessible without prior understanding so if anyone ever wants full discussion I'd be more than happy to discuss further in person or by email. Topics of discussion this year include:

- Internal Audit Report
- Management Accounts & Annual Accounts
- Matters directly relating to Union staff such as Pensions and Holiday Accrual
- White City
- Summer Ball
- Event Budgets of over £50k, or events otherwise deemed high risk

### *Governance Committee*

Governance Committee has had no formal meetings this year. The Governance Committee is currently without a chair and we are looking to recruit an alumni trustee with specific skills in the area. Governance matters are currently dealt with directly by Board.

### *Trustee Board*

The Trustee Board has met twice this year for meetings and also twice this year for strategy sessions. The outcome of the strategy sessions can be seen within the Union Strategic plan, with the sessions involving discussion of strategic risk, operating plans for the year ahead and our priorities as an organisation going forwards.

The minutes for the Trustee Board formal meetings can be found online, topics of discussion include:

- Ratification of By-Law Changes
- Strategic Risk Register
- Approval and discussion of minutes of Sub-committees
- Reports from the Managing Director, Officer Trustees and Council Chair