



STUDENT COUNCIL

Minutes - (09.12.2025)

Time: 17:30

Date: 9th December 2025

Chair: Nathan Welham

Vice Chair: Erika Messineo

Present

Nathan Welham (School Rep for ACE and Chair of Council) NW

Erika Messineo (School Rep for BCSS and Vice Chair of Council) EM

Freya Rowley (Activities and Opportunities Officer) FR

Bianca Holland (Education and Community Officer) BH

Iffat Jahan (Welfare and Diversity Officer) IJ

Victor Bannan (Black, Asian and ME+ Rep) VB

Tamara Storer-Rogers (Students with Disabilities Rep) TSR

Aisha Noor (International Students Rep) AN

Finley Durham (School Rep for ACE) FD

Connie Jordan (Sports Rep) CD

Adian Morris (Sports Rep) AM

Ruby Baines (Sports Rep) RB

Elled Mallard (Sports Rep) EMa

Moss Hughes (School Rep ACE) MH

Daniel Neate (Society Rep) DN

Maz Bamford (Society Rep) MB

Joshua Roden-Crabtree (Society Rep) JRC

Azeez Mustapha (School Rep BCSS) AMu

Drew Humphry (Student Voice and Campaigns Coordinator and Clerk to the Chair) DH

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

The meeting began with the election of independent student councillors for Chair and Vice Chair roles, as required by SU bylaws. Full-time officers were not eligible to stand.

- Candidates:
 - Chair: NW
 - Vice Chair: EM, FD & AN
- Statements:
 - FD emphasised equal voice for all reps.
 - EM highlighted her advocacy experience and confidence in supporting students.
 - AN shared her background in youth advocacy and commitment to inclusivity.
- Voting Results:
 - Chair: NW elected unanimously (13 votes for, 0 against, 0 abstain).
 - Vice Chair: EM elected with 10 votes (FD received 4 votes, AN 0).

Action: NW and EM to chair future meetings; DH to chair sections where both have conflicts of interest.

Officer Reports

Activities & Opportunities - FR Rowley

- Campaign: Fed Up - promoting affordable cooking and healthy eating.
 - Two successful cooking classes held; more planned for February.
 - Partnerships with local charities (Wiggly, Gloucester Feed the Hungry) and restaurants for recipe sharing and food vouchers.
- Student Leader Accreditation: First session delivered; next scheduled for February.
- Team Glos Points: Positive engagement; thresholds to be lowered before Christmas. Domino's sponsorship being finalized for additional rewards.
- Movember: Raised significant funds; UoG ranked 1st in "More Modes, More Impact" challenge and 6th in distance challenge among 27 universities.

Sub Council Themes:

- Inclusivity in clubs and societies.
- Accessibility of local venues for socials.
- Proposal for working group involving welfare, sports, and society reps to deliver inclusivity training.

Sub Council Updates

FR and DH summarised discussions from recent sub councils:

- Activities & Opportunities: See minutes for Activities and Opportunities Council
- Welfare & Diversity: See minutes for Welfare and Diversity Council
- Education & Community: See minutes for Education and Community Council

Policy Discussion - OFS Discounting Proposal

BH presented a policy opposing the OFS recommendation to remove grade discounting (currently UoG counts top 90 credits per year, allowing 30-credit leeway).

- Rationale:
 - Supports flexibility for students facing illness, disability, caring responsibilities, or employment.
 - 20% of UoG students are disabled; many are mature, parents, or carers.
 - Removing discounting risks grade inflation concerns, course closures, and reputational damage for post-92 universities.
- Union Believes:
 - Discounting is essential for fairness and accessibility.
 - OFS changes disproportionately harm smaller universities and underrepresented students.
- Union Resolves:
 - Launch petition and awareness campaign.
 - Collaborate with other universities and MPs (Gloucester MP already supportive).
 - Engage NUS and sector bodies.
 - Develop educational materials for students and staff.
- Amendments Added:
 - Highlight impact on neurodivergent students and both visible/hidden disabilities.

- Emphasise need for awareness and education for students and lecturers.
- Vote:
 - Policy with amendments passed (13 for, 0 against, 0 abstain; 3 abstentions due to conflict of interest).

Any Other Business

- Catering feedback: Request to extend hot food service hours at Oxstalls cafeteria.
- Next meeting will be held in early February after sub councils.
- Minutes to be published on SU website within 5 working days.