

Motion to Reverse the Change of Titles to Officer Trustee Positions

A motion proposed by Christopher Kaye and Seconded by Abigail de Bruin

1. This Union Notes

- Last year as a result of the 'Role Review' a paper was presented to Council and to Trustee Board to change the Bye Laws of the Union
 - This change affected the descriptions of all the Officer Trustee Roles and the titles of two roles for the 2015-16 academic year:
 - Deputy President (Finance & Services) to change to Deputy President (Activities & Finance)
 - Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) to change to Deputy President (Activities & Development)
- A paper was brought to Council this year and Council has voted to recommend to the Trustee Board to overturn this decision

2. This Union Believes

- There have been a number of people that have raised concerns about the new names – particularly their lack of clarity in terms of how responsibilities are divided
- Workload is not a good reason to shift the responsibilities of an Officer Trustee
 - Officer Trustees are supposed to have an oversight role
 - If operational and administrative duties in a particular area or role are too high the Union should respond to this demand by shifting staff responsibilities not by increasing the responsibility of a second Officer Trustee to the detriment of other areas of the organisation
- Last year it was felt that 'Services' was unclear since many parts of the Union are a service
 - It should be made clear that 'Services' relates primarily to Commercial Services and Retail in particular
- Role names do not uniquely define the role
 - Overlap is possible and even encouraged where sensible
 - Officers may take on projects outside of their role particularly if it is not clear who should have primary responsibility
- The titles rather than the job description are the most visible descriptor of the role

3. Trustee Board Resolves

- To accept Council's recommendation that the names of Officer Trustee Positions be reinstated as Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) and Deputy President (Finance & Services) in time for the Big Elections for 2015-16