



OPEN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Student Leadership Team (SLT)

10 – 12 February 2023

REPORT OF THE AFFILIATED SOCIETIES

The C E C is asked to:-

- i) **note** the information provided in this report and appendix

The purpose of this paper is to give an overview of the members and the financial position of each Affiliated Society.

The appendix provides information on the state of OU Students Association's Affiliated Societies, showing the number of societies affiliated, the position of their members and financial information regarding their accounts and grant payments.

The data included on this report is taken from information held on the OU Students Association Office database and financial information provided by the Resources team within the Association office.

In the event of any inaccuracies, omissions or errors being noted, you are asked to advise the OU Students Association Office of these as soon as possible following the CEC Meeting.

The Society Committee met on 25 June 2022 with twelve societies represented. This was the committee's AGM at which Nigel Patterson was re-elected as Chair. Additionally this was the last Society Committee Meeting that Anca Seaton would attend as VP Community, she expressed her thanks to all and this was reciprocated by warm applause from attendees for Anca's dedication and commitment to the committee. The date for the next Society Committee Meeting is 5 November 2022 to be held on-line.

Reports were received from all societies in attendance and there is a great deal of work and a large number of events for OU students planned including conferences, revision events, field trips and newsletters publications – many societies reported an increase of engagement during the lockdowns and are hoping to build on this as we open up once again.

There was consensus that in addition to the many on-line sessions run as part of Sept/Oct Freshers that an in-person event would be welcome. After much discussion and planning this is now scheduled to run on 8 October 2022 in the OU Library, report to follow.

There was a hiatus in the affiliation of new clubs and societies as the Clubs Review was ongoing, but we are once again accepting applications. Three new clubs are about to be enrolled and the admin for this is underway. On a more negative note as a part of the clubs review process we are also about to lose a number of clubs who are either dormant or unresponsive to communications.

The Clubs Review recommended that the Club Leads for all new clubs affiliated after 1st Aug 2022 be trained and registered as forma Association volunteers and the process for this is currently being finalised with the Volunteering and Representation Team.

Head of Student Community met with new Vice President Administration for an initial discussion of the state of clubs and societies, specifically around their good governance and risk. A further meeting has been scheduled to look in more depth at the current picture of societies and to form a course of action to support current, engage new or remove dormant societies.

As of 7 October 2022 there are 16 societies currently listed as affiliated on the Association website with a new application in the process of being approved (OU Women Engineers Society). In addition there are 60 current clubs listed with a combined total membership of 12,591 students.

Cazz Flowers
VP Community

Pete Turner
Head of Student Community