

J.17-3: A motion to retire the officer of Equal Opportunities Officer and absorb their responsibilities into the Director of Wellbeing.

This SRC and SSC Notes:

1. The Equal Opportunities Officer provides leadership to the Students' Association Equal Opportunities Subcommittee.
2. The Equal Opportunities Officer gives voice to minority groups within the Students' Association and University.
3. The Director of Representation has strategic oversight of equality projects within the Students' Association.
4. The joint councils have created the new sabbatical position of Director of Wellbeing for 2017 onwards.
5. The Director of Representation is the Students' Association Officer who is invited to represent students from minority backgrounds on the University's Equality and diversity committee, Equality compliance group and Athena Swan advisory board.
6. Similar positions such as Education Officer and Wellbeing Officer have been absorbed

This SRC and SSC Believes:

1. The Equal Opportunities Officer primarily exists to manage an area which the Director of Representation has not had capacity to work effectively on.
2. The Director of Wellbeing shall have more time to manage committees and the 'Members for' than the Director of Representation previously has had.
3. The Equal Opportunities Officer will become effectively a 'middle man' role which could cause tension with a more invested and involved line manager.
4. The Director of Wellbeing will have more opportunities to represent students from minority backgrounds within the University than the Director of Representation.
5. The Equal Opportunities officer will become redundant when the Director of Wellbeing takes office.

This SRC and SSC Resolves:

1. To absorb the responsibilities of the Equal Opportunities Officer into the Remit of the Director of Wellbeing.
2. To amend the Students' Association laws to replace all references to the Equal Opportunities Officer with the Director of Wellbeing, pending a more comprehensive reviews of the laws to improve efficacy.
3. To not elect an Equal Opportunities Officer in elections 2017.

Proposed:

Robert Aston - Association Equal Opportunities Officer

Seconded:

Jack Carr - Director of Representation
Charlotte Andrew - Association President
Lewis Wood - Equal Opportunities Subcommittee