

SRA Annual General Meeting Minutes 2016

Friday 1st April 2016, Cardiff University, Cardiff CF10 3XQ, United Kingdom

Minutes conducted by:

Jonathon Chambers

In attendance:

Jonathan Usborne, Emma Bradshaw, James Kenny, Charlotte Greer-Reed, Matthew Hurst, Chris Couch, Jonathon Chambers, Dominic Stirling

Apologies:

No apologies were presented.

Housekeeping

- JU - Welcomes Delegates to the AGM and explains the format of meeting and elections, members are reminded that they must be paid members to participate in voting
 - JU - Appoints a Deputy Chair, Meira - Verve Radio
 - JU - Appoints Ryan Beake - Fly FM & Sian - XpressionFM as vote counters
 - Minutes from last year's AGM are agreed in absence of official documentation
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Officer's Reports

Emma Bradshaw - Officer's Report

- Emma comments on the hard work of content team and their work on our website, branding and podcasting.
- Emma signs off from the exec in her final year.
- There are no questions for EB

James Kenny - Officer's Report

- T&D has had a mixed year
- Training days have been mostly strong but concerns are raised over the conduct of some regional officers and their commitment to the role including the members database.
- JK, JU and EB have taken on a considerable amount of additional duties to ensure training days have gone ahead - this has put a strain on the Exec.
- New stations starting up have seen good interaction with the SRA.
- JK concludes by reminding members that commitment and obligation to the roles is paramount. JK thanks the officers team for their hard work this year
- Naomi Oiku and JU praise JK for his work as T&D officer.

Charlotte Greer-Reed - Officer's Report

- CGR begins with noting that she has had limited engagement with the SRA previously and a large part of her role initially was getting used to the SRA itself - thanks the returning officers for their support.
- CGR has found the year overall positive but frustrating at times, has been unable to achieve a discount offer for transport to SRA events but will continue this in the final months of the term.

Chris Couch - Officer's Report

- CC explains the transition from Deputy to Acting Events Officer.

- Acknowledgement is made for the amount of work the executive team put in.
- CC thanks the officers team for their support and additional duties taken during a difficult situation following LD's resignation.
- CC recognises that change may be needed in respect to the Awards - proposes consultation with members on the way forward.

Jonny Chambers - Officer's Report

Dom Stirling - Officer's Report

- DS discussed the change in mgmt structure and its positive effect on our content output

Regional Officers Reports

- There were no regional officers report.

Jonty Usborne - Officer's Report

- JU discusses the big jump from Dep Events to Exec
- "The SRA is like a well run student club," - Jonty reminds members that we are not just a club but a limited company and that the challenge faced by the directors is disproportionate at times.
- JU alludes to the 20 or so officers that make up the organisation are not necessarily the ones that make the organisation tick over day to day - this falls to a small minority.
- JU has spent most of his time firefighting and this has taken time away from other more important work.
- Reminds members that this is a lot of work and again that we are not a society.
- JU updates members on the assoc's work this year and future plans - our relationship with the Radio Academy and representations have been really positive. Creative Skillset future funding and central government support and outreach projects with education will be a big focus.
- Working with groups and commercial parties for outreach.
- JU is concerned that with the various constraints this year, the SRA is no longer a "grassroots organisation,". JU explains that financial stresses and lack of reviews for policy and consultation with external people is solidified - allowing us to work closer with members and get back to our aims as an organisation.
- A long term business strategy will be a priority for the incoming team.
- JU concludes by confirming that the SRA has had a really fun and rewarding year with many highlights and reiterates the importance of getting involved.

Matt Hurst - Finance Report

- MH explains the difficulty of developing a balance between successful events and affordable tickets for members.

- Although ticket prices have increased year on year, MH reminds members that industry events are often considerably more expensive than our current events.
 - MH confirms that attendance has peaked and started to decrease - reiterates the need to review to make sure people attend, to bring numbers back to their previous levels.
 - JU explains that the changeover of officers teams often restricts sponsorship opportunities and relationship building with industry - this takes time, and requires advance planning that is not viable with the current structure. Again JU reiterates the importance of
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Motions, Policies & Member Questioning

- There were no motions presented prior to the AGM.
 - JU opens the floor to members.
 - Tim, student member - Congrats the SRA on the Radio 1 Playlist programme, being a really exciting opportunity for members.
 - Members expressed concerns with the post awards procedure and the timeliness of receiving feedback.
 - JU comments on the much improved judging system and judging coordinators drive to get feedback to members quickly - recognises need to speedier feedback delivery.
 - Members suggested that conference timings be published earlier and that conference host applicants be provided with feedback again in a timely manner.
 - JU commits to developing a policy for conference applications and feedback.
 - Members reference the NASTA system of free entry, suggests that the SRA Awards could adopt this to attract entrants. JU explains that the cost of the awards is significant but recognises that from 2017 the need for reevaluation could arise.
 - Emma Corsham asks if the officers team have had fun - the answer from the whole team is "rewarding,".
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Elections

- Matt Hurst is appointed as Returning Officer and begins the electoral proceedings.
 - MH explains the process of election to the electors.
 - The first election round will be for Executive Officer positions.
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The Position of **Training & Development officer** is contested first.

- The only candidate is Matt Maddren - his speech is presented to the electorate.
- Electorate is given the opportunity to present a speech for RON

- JK asks MM about his future plans and his ability to carry these out with a depleted officers team.
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The Position of **Membership and Communications officer** is contested second.

- The only candidate is Dominic Stirling - his speech is presented to the electorate.
 - Electorate is given the opportunity to present a speech for RON
 - EB asks DS what his policy on penguins.
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The Position of **Chair** is contested third.

- The only candidate is Jonty Usborne - his speech is presented to the electorate.
 - Electorate is given the opportunity to present a speech for RON
 - There are no questions presented to JU
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The Position of **Events Officer** is contested fourth.

- This position was reopened prior to the start of Conference due to lack of applicants during the initial application window.
 - There are now 5 candidates for this position following a reopening of applications.
 - Hannah Randall is the first candidate to present.
 - Kate Liddiard is next to present.
 - Samantha Sutton is the next candidate for this position.
 - Sylvie Carlos presents her speech to the electorate.
 - Will Short is the final candidate to present
 - Electorate is given the opportunity to present a speech for RON
 - There are no questions for the candidates
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The Position of **Marketing Officer** is contested fifth.

- The only candidate is Alex Robinson - his speech is presented to the electorate via video as he is not in attendance for this election.
- Electorate is given the opportunity to present a speech for RON.
- JK and EB stand for RON - They raise concerns that they would not be confident in this candidate's ability to take on the role and cite the fragility of industry relationships as their main reason for opposition for this role.
- AR is unable to take member questions as he is not in attendance.

The second election round will be for Regional Officer positions.

The Position of **South West and South Wales Regional Officer** is contested first.

- Katy is the only candidate for this position - her speech is presented to the electorate.
 - Electorate is given the opportunity to present a speech for RON.
 - Members from this region pose questions to the candidate.
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The Position of **South East Regional Officer** is contested second.

- Sam Spencer is the only candidate for this position - his speech is presented to the electorate.
 - Electorate is given the opportunity to present a speech for RON.
 - Members from this region pose questions to the candidate.
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The Position of **North West and North Wales Regional Officer** is contested third

- Sam Spencer is the only candidate for this position - his speech is presented to the electorate.
 - Electorate is given the opportunity to present a speech for RON.
 - Members from this region pose questions to the candidate.
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The Position of **North East and Yorkshire** is contested fourth.

- Jack Clare is the only candidate, he is not in attendance and members are directed to the AGM documentation to view his manifesto.
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The Position of **Midlands Regional Officer** is contested fifth.

- Amy Southhall is the only candidate for this position - her speech is presented to the electorate.
- Electorate is given the opportunity to present a speech for RON.

- Members from this region pose questions to the candidate.
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The Position of **London and East Anglia** is contested sixth.

- Stephen Mitchell is the only candidate for this position - his speech is presented to the electorate.
 - Electorate is given the opportunity to present a speech for RON.
 - Members from this region pose questions to the candidate.
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Appointment of Life Members

- Jonty Usborne announces the Honorary Life Members of the Student Radio Association following a nomination process.
- The first Honorary Life Member is Tim Johns
- The second Honorary Life Member is Lee Sevenoaks
- The third Honorary Life Member is James Lloyd
- The fourth Honorary Life Member is Scott Mills

The election process begins

- Ballot papers are issued to member stations for this election.

Break

- Members leave the AGM for the final breakout block of the Student Radio Conference. Station representatives are invited to submit their completed ballot papers to the returning officer for counting.
 - The count is conducted and verified.
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Results of the SRA Election

Jonty Usborne announced the following results to the electorate:

Following a fair application and election process, the following were appointed to an Executive Officer position:

Dominic Stirling is duly elected to the role of Membership and Communications Officer for 2016/17

William Short is duly elected to the role of Events Officer for 2016/17

Jonathan Usborne is duly elected to the role of Chair for 2016/17

Matthew Maddren is duly elected to the role of Training and Development Officer for 2016/17

The role of Marketing Officer will be reopened for nominations following a vote in favour of RON.

Following a fair application and election process, the following were appointed to a Regional Officer position:

Katy Hills is duly elected to the role of South West & South Wales Regional Officer for 2016/17

Jack Clare is duly elected to the role North East and Yorkshire Regional Officer of for 2016/17

Rhys Hancock is duly elected to the role of North West and North Wales Regional Officer for 2016/17

Sam Spencer is duly elected to the role of South East Regional Officer for 2016/17

Amy Southall is duly elected to the role of Midlands Regional Officer for 2016/17

Stephen Mitchell is duly elected to the role of London and East Anglia Regional Officer for 2016/17

Following a fair application process, the following were appointed to an Administrative Officer position:

Jonathon Chambers is appointed to the role of Design Officer for 2016/17

Emma Bradshaw is appointed to the role of Content Officer for 2016/17

Scott Hastie is appointed to the role of Music Officer for 2016/17

Jamie Lee is appointed to the role of Chart Officer for 2016/17

Kieran Lewis is appointed to the role of Deputy Marketing Officer for 2016/17

Motion to reopen the vote for the vacant position of Marketing Officer

- The electorate have decided to hear applications for the role of Marketing Officer at the 2016 Annual General Meeting with the intention of conducting a vote at a later date.
- The date of this vote will be set once all candidates in the previous election have been duly notified of the result.

Four candidates have come forward to stand in this election.

- Naomi Oiku speaks first to the electorate.
 - Kieran Lewis speaks second.
 - Hannah Randall speaks third.
 - Phoenix Martins speaks fourth.
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- Candidates are invited to submit a manifesto, following this, member stations will be invited to vote in the election for Marketing Officer.

Conclusion

Jonty Usborne brought the Annual General Meeting of the Student Radio Association Ltd. to a close.