**GULS Committee Meeting 16th August**

**Attendees:** Eilidh Haldane, Katie Hindle, Rebekah Patterson, Kara McLachlan, Alex Enaholo, Chloe Robertson, Ethan Darroch

**Apologies:** Fay Lightbody, Findlay Crawford, Carrie Fusco, Bilal Shahzad, Holly Marsden, Amber Collins and Marianne Colleran

[Meeting begins 20:59]

Eilidh welcomes everyone and tells us this meeting will be regarding freshers’ week.

**GULS Freshers Fair Stall**

* Katie affiliated us with the SRC
* Katie has applied for a GULS stall on freshers’ fair for both days. This will be happening on 13th and 14th September 9am-5pm. It is not confirmed yet but we will hopefully find out at least a week before.
* Katie has posted on the committee page about this and has allocated time slots so we can all take shifts at the stall and help set up and tidy up.
* If you can’t make it to your slot, please let Katie know and we can try move it around.
* Eilidh says while at the stall we should be approachable, friendly, confident, answer questions and get to know freshers. The aim is to get to try and get as many people to become members as possible. If you have any questions about this, please feel free to message Eilidh or Katie.
* Eilidh is going to try and get leaflets printed for us to hand out but this may be a hassle.
* Katie raises that last year we had merch such as GULS pens and condoms which were a hit so maybe we could look into this either as well as or instead of leaflets as people may hold onto them longer. Eilidh is going to look into this and consult with Holly.

**Membership**

* Eilidh says that we have discussed raising membership prices but it is ultimately up to Holly. Sponsorship is going well so we may not have to.
* Ethan asks about what is happening regarding SRC membership.
* Katie explains that SRC membership allows us to have a stall at freshers fair, book rooms, receive grants and mail. We spoke about it in the executive chat last week and agreed our affiliation with SRC is invaluable. However, this year the SRC want us to run membership through them which may cause problems. When affiliating Katie said that she chose for us to have a customised membership which means SRC will get in touch about this. She is waiting to hear back from them but is hoping it won’t cause too many problems in the meantime.
* Ethan asks how members usually sign up.
* Katie explains that normally at the freshers’ fair we have a sign which shows how to become a GULS member through the website and freshers can either take a picture of this and sign up later or committee can help them do it at the stall. This is easier than doing it in cash which can be confusing for committee to keep track of especially for the treasurer.
* Eilidh agrees this is the best way to do it and what we should continue to do this year.

**Committee Night Out**

* Katie tells committee that she has booked Kitty O’Sheas on 13th September at 6:30pm. It is likely than 13 committee members will be able to attend but she has booked for 14 just in case Amber can make it last minute. The plan is just to have a chill night and a few drinks nothing too crazy (we’ll see ;) since we have freshers’ fair and freshers’ drinks the next day.
* Eilidh reminds everyone this is not compulsory but should be a nice time so encourages everyone to come even just for a bit.

**Freshers Drinks**

* Eilidh apologises and lets everyone know that she will not be able to make freshers drinks.
* Ethan explains that this year we are going to combine freshers’ drinks with a freshers’ pub crawl on the 14th September. The plan is to have 1-1.5 hours in Record Factory as normal with a tab of about £250 so everyone can have a drink. Fourth years/committee members will then lead groups of around 10 freshers on a pub crawl which finishes around 9/10pm so that everyone can then go to a freshers’ event or club. He hopes that this will encourage more freshers to come. He also hopes to make group chats for the teams prior to the event.
* Team leaders will be committee members but if there is too many freshers signed up we may open the event to fourth years who would like to volunteer.
* Ethan is going to create a Facebook event soon for this.
* Eilidh is going to ask the law school to email all the new law students about this.
* Eilidh thinks that adapting freshers’ drinks to include a pub crawl has pros and cons but is ultimately a good idea.
* Katie also thinks the pub crawl is a good idea and suggests that people can even come to record factory then leave afterwards if they don’t want to do the pub crawl which is a good balance. However, she raises the issue of some freshers’ not being 18 yet and so not able to join in. She suggests going to bars that will let under 18s in but not to drink so they can still partake.
* Ethan suggests that we have a group for people who do not drink so that they all feel included and can go to separate places which accommodate.
* Rebekah raises the issue of if people only hear about the event at the freshers’ stall and then it is too late for them to sign up.
* Ethan will ensure that we make bookings which will accommodate people showing up on the night having not signed up.
* Katie suggests asking the past VP Social what normally happens with planning booking numbers.
* Eilidh suggests also hosting a raffle at record factory.
* Eilidh says no one goes home early!!! Party all night so that she can join later ☺

**Social Sponsorship**

* Ethan has asked record factory about being our social sponsor, but they have not replied.
* Ethan is going to get in touch with Sanctuary about being a club sponsor.
* Eilidh agrees this is a good idea but raises that they might not want to after the hassle last year. She is optimistic that this is not an issue anymore and we can partner with them.
* Katie has heard that Manuka is looking to sponsors societies.
* Ethan says that first choice is Sanctuary as it is our best option location wise on a Wednesday but is not opposed to also looking at other clubs if it does not work out.

**Cheese and Wine**

* Ethan understands that the Cheese and Wine is a valued GULS event but is looking to revamp it. As getting the cheese and wine is a hassle, it could be Welcome Drinks instead. It could also be held in a different venue. Another option is to push it back so it’s not so soon and also have Welcome Drinks.
* Eilidh agrees that getting the cheese and wine is a hassle and asks to use Katie’s car to transport it.
* Katie agrees but warns not to trust her driving.
* Eilidh asks if people actually eat the cheese. Katie and Rebekah thinks they do.
* Alex highlights that a good point about having it at the GUU is that under 18s can still come.
* Rebekah says that cheese and wine is iconic but could replace cheese with party rings.
* Eilidh suggests biscuits or pretzels instead of cheese.
* Katie suggests asking past presidents how valued the tradition of having the Cheese and Wine event is.
* Eilidh says we will gauge opinions, but we do not have to decide right now.

**Committee Survey**

* Ethan wants to get committee views so is arranging a survey that will go out tonight or tomorrow to committee members. It will cover topics such as new social ideas and people’s opinions on splitting law ball between years.
* Katie asks about whether he is planning to have events held on different days or stick to the same day every week.
* Ethan says that he likes the idea of sticking with a Wednesday, but he will publish an events calendar soon, hopefully by the last week in august to allow people to plan.
* Rebekah says we should switch up the dates a bit so that if someone has a commitment on the same day every week, they do not miss all the socials.
* Eilidh says that she would love for the socials not to be every Thursday as she will be unable to attend and agrees that switching it up on different days will be good.

Overall, Eilidh says that freshers’ week will be a busy week for us so if there’s an event you can’t make it to then to just let us know. However, she would love to see everyone there as much as possible.

[Rebekah Patterson leaves 21:48]

[Rebekah Patterson joins 21:50]

**Sponsorships**

* Ethan has emailed Hogan Lovells about sponsorship and is going to pass on any information to Alex once they reply.
* Alex updates us that sponsorship is looking good. We have a decent amount of sponsorship money already and that we also have money left over from last year. Latham and Watkins is our primary sponsor and they are sponsoring Family Ties. Burness Paull, CMS, Herbert Smith Freehills and DLA Piper are also confirmed sponsors. Alex also has a meeting tomorrow with another firm to discuss sponsorships.
* Ethan asks if we have any magic circle firms.
* Alex confirms that we are still in discussion with one firm.
* Eilidh is going to reach out to Addleshaw Goddard about sponsorship.
* Katie is going to reach out to Shoosmiths about sponsorship.

**Bubbles and Truffles**

* Alex confirms that Bubbles and Truffles will be on 28th September on the university campus. It is a black tie event. He is arranging catering for the event. All our sponsors will be there and we also hope to get some more firms.
* Ethan suggests getting Natwest to come.
* Katie suggests having not just law firms there so that people who do not want to go into a law firm after university can also network.
* Alex would like this but due to capacity issues we can only have 10 firms at the event.
* Alex emphasises that we need to start pushing bubbles and truffles straight away and encouraging people to attend.
* Katie suggests that Bubbles and Truffle be held online so more firms can attend. She does acknowledge this may not be popular.
* After speaking to the previous VP Academic Alex decided not to do the event on Zoom because it was very difficult to arrange and members did not feel they got their moneys worth. Instead, for any firms that can’t attend there will be separate virtual events.
* Eilidh highlights that it won’t be hard to get law firm representatives to come because it is the same day as the law fair.

**Law Fair**

* Eilidh is going to a meeting tomorrow to discuss GULS attending the law fair. She will forward any information regarding this to Alex and ensure that he can attend any other meetings about it.

**AOCB**

* No AOCB
* Waiting on correspondence from Findlay Crawford

[Meeting adjourned 21:57]