



Present:

- Harry Clements (*President*)
- Nieve Fay (*Vice President*)
- Ben White (*Treasurer*)
- Nicole Antoine (*Equality and Wellbeing Officer*)
- Abi Wander (*Social Secretary*)
- Nathan Langford (*Social Secretary*)
- Sam Sayan (*Communications Officer*)
- Adèle Carr (*External Opportunities Officer*)
- Liam Carty-Howe (*Alumni Representative*)

In Attendance:

- Naomi Fallon (*Secretary*)

1 - Apologies:

- None

2 - Actions Update:

- Returning Tour Money: In progress
- Workshop with Monica Young: Done
- **ACTION:** Committee members get committee fest tickets.
- **ACTION Adèle:** make a form for MTB members to see what workshops members want.
- **ACTION HARRY:** See if Durham wants to host the IUMTF competition.
- **ACTION NICOLE:** Inclusivity report by the end of July.

3 - Treasurer's Report:

- Ben: We have money, but a pretty quiet month for spending.
- We had money in and out from headfirst for Into The Woods tickets.
- The payment has been sorted for Monique's workshop.
- Another thing we paid for was the Zoom monthly subscription.
- Abi hasn't been billed for the next month yet, but will sort this with Ben.
- Still waiting on tour payments- Abi is in contact with Megan and Elin to hopefully sort out soon, but need to just wait and see!

4 - Balloon Accreditation Scheme:

- We're already doing really well!!
- Harry: Already have around 5 out of 18 and we are likely to achieve 8 by the start of term, we need 15 to achieve gold accreditation.
- **8. Collaborate with an external group, charity or organisation:** IUMTF
- **7. Collaborate with at least one other affiliated Bristol SU student group or network:** Summerfest with the Music Department.
- **9. Attend at least five non-compulsory training sessions (run by Bristol SU, SEH, Bristol HUB or another partner):** Committee members get committee fest tickets- Harry thinks it's very worthwhile to do!!
- **18. Hold contested elections for the president/captain/project coordinator, treasurer and secretary roles:** Done

- 4. Secure an external sponsor or renew an existing sponsorship contract for your group: We are keeping our sponsor percent.
- Still no sign of where the banner is yet :(

5 - Workshop Update:

- Adèle: First one wasn't as successful as we liked, due to being badly timed with exams
- The turnout wasn't the best, however Monique is happy to work with us again in the future, so a great contact for MTB to have!
- Huge thanks to Adèle for organising, those who went really enjoyed it!!
- Adèle has emailed Lauren Drew (who is currently in the SIX tour cast :o) and has enquired about what she offers and her rates for a workshop in July.
- Adèle: Would like to have a day or two that focuses on production workshops to prepare people for next year.
- **ACTION: Adèle to make a form for MTB members to see what workshops members want.**
- Harry: It is not likely that there will be a Give it a Go in person in October.
- Adèle: If it has to be virtual could do a taster session, with learning a dance routine for an hour and acting through song for an hour, then an MTB Q and A.
- Adèle: Skills bootcamp (for a week), however people may not want to be on their laptop for a week.
- Adèle: Could include an audition workshop/ technique and preparation. A basic dance session for people nervous about dance calls and also a more advanced one, which involves learning a routine from a previous show.
- Harry: First week of this year we won't have auditions unlike previous years.
- Nieve: Could hold a socially distanced workshop.
- Adèle: Would be nice to do it in real life if we can.
- Nieve: Could have open air shows and workshops on the downs and by October, we may be able to meet in bigger groups, with different workshops at different points on the downs, all social distanced.
- Adèle: Depends on weather, people might not want to be in public, just got to keep an eye on when it's possible to do things.

6 - Alumni Update:

- Liam: The first form had 12 responses including alumni from 2011, and lots of ppl from the last few years, which is exciting !!
- Liam may look through some old cast lists and contact people personally, to see what they want from an alumni network.
- Great responses so far from the form!!
- Another form was posted today for the graduates of this year.
- Ruth would be interested in holding monthly dance workshops, which is something we can look into.
- Jack Reitman who ran the alumni workshop, suggested a day of little alumni events and Leah was also interested, this could work perhaps in term 2 and have a weekend of alumni events and career workshops could be really good, as we might not be able to do an alumni reunion this side of Christmas.
- Liam is just waiting for more responses from the graduate form...
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeAyfaaF71rPqGftljXFKqt6Uo6syOp1SoGJ3MyxmP-De5sSA/viewform>

If you've recently graduated, fill out the form and get involved with the MTB alumni network!!

- A mailing list would probably work better than a members group, but Liam will talk to alumni and see what they want.

7 - IUMTF:

- We won yay!!!!
- Huge congratulations to everyone involved, everyone did amazing and a huge thank you to the cast!! <3
- BIGGGG shoutout to Nathan we all owe him drinks for his fab editing skills !!
- Also massive thanks to Felix for the teach tracks!
- It is a eurovision style contest, so we may have to host it next year?!?
- **ACTION HARRY: See if Durham wants to host lol.**
- Abi: Could be cheaper for us to host it, rather than paying for travel there.
- Ben: We would have to pay for booking venues and provide changing room spaces for other unis.
- Liam: We could do it online again??
- Nieve: A festival vibe would be nice where everyone gets at least one award.
- Ben: Theatres may not be open until March so if we host we would need to book Anson Rooms very early on.
- Liam: Trinity centre could work and we could get a small joining fee from each uni to help with the cost.
- Harry: We could get an alumni grant if we have to host it, but Durham will probably want to host. Will see what they say.

8 - Society Diversity:

- The committee all read the incredible post from Chad from Exeter Uni
- Harry: Bristol is very similar to Exeter in that there is a high percentage of white people, so it is very easy to use that as an excuse for why the society isn't more diverse, but it shouldn't be this way. We want to work out how we can make the society more diverse.
- Nicole has an equalities report in the works!
- There was a previous worry that if we put on a production with lots of BAME roles, there were not enough BAME students to fill these roles.
- Ben: We don't want to white-wash shows like The Lion King.
- MTB previously put on Aida and the society was called out for not having BAME students in certain roles, so it was cancelled.
- We need to increase diversity and tackle these problems.
- Liam: We've always been reactionary in these issues, this year we need to think diversity first then shows second.
- Last year directors had to read a document to state that they cast colour blind.
- Nicole: We want to eradicate any false perceptions before the term starts to make MTB look positive and welcoming.
- Abi: We could organise a skill swap between MTB and a Music Society like gospel choir, which does attract more BAME students to enrich us with their skills to diffuse that unwelcoming aspect and make new friends and connections. We can do more intersociety things to open the door to whoever wants to join.

- Nathan, Abi and Nicole are happy to organise a collaborative workshop.
- Harry: More workshops run by BAME performers in the industry would be great.
- Nieve: Q and A with them of how they felt discriminated against in the industry.
- Nathan: We could do that internally with PAF societies within the Bristol network?
- Adèle mentioned that dance soc have shared stories from BAME dancers throughout history on their story every couple of days.
- Nieve: One day in the week we could share an inspirational story of a BAME performer.
- Liam: We did the blackout square on insta, need to do more than a blackout square, need to amplify black voices as it's so important.
- Nicole: We could have posts about stories of BAME performers in industry and the challenges they've overcome due to their race, so we acknowledge them.
- Harry: This is a great year to increase diversity in the society and is our main goal.
- Nicole is learning sign language (wow!!) and plans to make a video in sign language, to say MTB welcomes everyone. The race issue is hugely important and we also want MTB to be inclusive to people with disabilities.
- Harry: We can put the video on the tik tok!
- There are no posts on the tik tok yet :(
- Abi didn't know we had it and she's so on it !!
- We currently have quite a diverse committee, which is a positive!
- Sam: If a BAME student sees a diverse committee they are more likely to join and will feel more comfortable, rather than a completely white committee.
- **ACTION NICOLE: END OF JULY TO GET OUT INCLUSIVITY REPORT!!**
- Aim is for 80 responses, so we will keep telling people to fill it out and tell them it's very important to us.

9 - Plans for the year:

9.1 First Term

- Harry's ideas: First term will be very different this year, no showcase in first term and Main Show will be sacrificed, which is annoying, but we want the largest number of people to be able to perform on the Winston Stage. Showcase will be moved to Term 2.
- Nieve: People won't be working on a main show so more cabarets rather than one main show, so more people can be involved.
- Abi: More opportunities and that's what it's all about!
- Harry: Also gives good experience for people who want to be in prod teams in the future.
- Harry: STA have suggested a virtual show, e.g. an online musical or cabaret.
- Ben: Pantosoc has made a radio drama on their youtube channel, we could do something similar and STA could help with editing.
- 48 hour in First Term- We can reduce audience size and have two performances and make the show shorter, but get the same number of people watching.
- Newbie and Christmas cabaret in TB1.

9.2 Second Term

- Another 48 hour and Showcase V (not 5, Harry wants it branded as V lol), another cabaret for refreshers.
- Abi: Some feedback last year suggested some auditioned cabaret rather than all auditioned.
- Ben: We had 3 auditioned shows last year, why should the cabarets be auditioned?

- Nieve: 48 hour shows should be auditioned, cabarets, and auditioned cabarets, can be good for audition practise.
- Ben: People still get audition practise from unaduditioned cabarets.
- Nicole: People wanted to make sure cabaret has the same hype as main show, we should boost to do that even if they're unauditioned.
- Nathan: Main worry for auditioning cabarets is that people compare them and that is the opposite of what we want.
- Ben: Pressure of Main Show auditions puts people off anyway and even with relaxed auditions with a guaranteed part, people were nervous.
- We agree to keep all cabarets un-auditioned.

9.3 Third Term

- After easter- Another 48 hour, we will definitely be going to Fringe and IUMTF.

10 Audition Feedback:

- Nicole: Would be nice to ask previous directors what they were looking for.
- Abi: Would be a good idea for Nicole to draft a document for all casting teams.
- Harry: A casting handbook that directors have to read.
- Ben: There is already a bit for casting on the proposals document.
- Nieve: Would be nice to have feedback from auditions.
- Ben: Hard to do detailed notes on each person, especially Showcase auditions.
- Liam: I agree feedback is important to develop, but maybe not from peers.
- Abi: MTB members are not industry professions, so the feedback is more if you fit the roll or you don't.
- Nieve: If they do want feedback to improve, leave it up to the person to ask if they want to know.
- Adèle: In the audition workshop, we could have a whole day where you can do a mock audition, get an external, completely impartial alumni perhaps to give feedback.
- Harry: Day of mock auditions, so no roles involved, so it's about how you perform, not if you were right for a role.

11 - Into The Woods:

- RESERVED

12 - Student Council Motion about the Winston:

- Voting closes today at 10 for a decision.
- They already have access to the Winston Theatre, but they are just not happy with dates and times.
- There is also an issue of the SU not having enough space, so the motion has actually opened up problems with the SU choosing profit over its students.
- We will see what happens, can't say anything yet.
- We could make the Showcase set simpler if we had one less day in the Winston.
- UPDATE: The motion was rejected, so we can sort out show slots soon!!

13 - AOB:

13.1 Socials

- Abi: We need to sort a date for the fundraising quiz, will just be asking for a donation to enter.
- There will be raffle prizes, so you get something for your money.

- Could get a one on one with an industry professional, or a Cameo??
- First term will be sprinkled with workshops, socials, open mic nights and we really want the wellbeing walk with Dog soc to happen!!!
- Also board game cafe social!!

13.2 Production Teams and Cabarets

- Sam: We need to have a universal rule for whether or not production teams can participate in Cabarets or not.
- Committee agreed that it's fair for Showcase directors and choreographers to be in other shows as it's auditioned, as long as it is not their piece.
- All of the committee agreed that production teams can't also be in their own cabarets.

13.3 Merch and Mascot

- No merch this year, so a definite for next year!!
- Harry: MTB mascot - perhaps an MTBee ;)

13.4 Floor run of the show with the Band

- Nieve: Really useful last year with legally so would like to do this again.

14 - Musical of the Week:

- Hamilton - it's on Disney plus next week!!