In Attendance

Chair: Charlotte Beaumont-Oates (OBU)

Minutes: Rowan Fisher (OBU)

Lynda **Whitby-Eastwood** (University of Sussex), **Fiona Watkins** (OBU), **Krishna Maroo** (University of West London), **Stephen Petty** (University of Portsmouth), **Nicola Turner** (UCAS), **Sasha Leek** (Bucks New University), **Kevin McMullan** (Student Finance England), **Gareth Packham** (Head of Information Security, OBU).

No amends to previous minutes

KM Action Points

- Disabled Student Allowance applications is 78,000 as of 23/02/2018. 10,000 applications up from this time last year- applications coming in earlier (from 1600 to 16,000)
- With the increase in early applications more can be done to help students. Although there is an expectation of more cancelled and lapsed applications (within the online application there are only three additional questions)
- Applications are taking longer to processes. However, with paper applications the evidence is often submitted in conjunction with the form. The increased early electronic applications arriving without the evidence has caused an increase wait
- The bulk of analysis regarding Disability Support applications will come at the end of the application year
- 2018/19 policy wise no changes will be made in terms of decision making and eligibility

News on PGT health courses

- 2017/18 funding will continue beyond the interim year. Confirmation last week that students starting in 2018/19 will be eligible for UGT loan as part of the package (same as PGCE funding).
- Graeme Tranter from Student Finance has left his role at Student Finance
- Student support notification: non-medical helpers (for those not registered (see hand out)). Underlined the continuation of funding till the end of the course

GP GDPR Presentation (slides attached)

Key information

- What is Personal Data? Anything that can identity a single human (eg student number)
- What is Data Processing? Anything done with personal data- catch all term of when using data

- EU legislation enshrined into UK law after Brexit
- Fines of 4% organisational turnover (£8m for OBU)
- Effective 25th May 2018
- All public institutions will need to appoint a Data Protection Officer (semi-independent)
- Controller (university determines means and processes)
- Processers (turnit, google) service on behalf of university
- Any personal data (you need a lawful process to hold the data)

Implications

- Will require a separate form that deals with things like making an application (via UCAS) as other things are not covered in this.
- Clearing (use of GDPR) collection of data (read it over the phone)
- Working with young people (age of consent age 13, under 13 will need parent permission)
- Expansion of rights (the right to be forgotten)
- Right of subject records (40 to 30 days). The £10 charge has been removed.
- Right to amend information so it is correct
- Need explicit consent (signature, affirmative, not unticking, clicking a link etc)
- Graduation (casts doubt on methods such as alumni screening of who is donating to charity and likely to earn enough to donate to a university)

- How can we make GDPR assessable to students- what methods are used? Perhaps a visual shortcut guide
- Discussion of direct marketing in UCAS (can there be consent through UCAS about direct marketing)
- Privacy notice when collecting and when one receives the data

National Updates

CBO

- Conference summit on the 15th March in Manchester by NEON. Enabling Access in HE for Disabled Learners. They are low on sign ups but a very good line up
- Conference by Kingston w/ London Aim Higher about mental health. Aimed at teachers and looked at transition and applying for DSA. Case studies of two students who talked about mental health. They discussed their issues and the DSA support that they have received through things like mentoring. Another girl with high functioning autism attended an open day and felt the team was very condescending. This was because they didn't acknowledge or seek to understand her specific needs.

LWE

- NEON symposium held at University of Sussex 21st-22nd June - workshops and the full programme are on the website.

KM

- HELOA conference quite limited on disability. Working with a number of universities to pitch for a session on disability.
- First disabled learners welcome day. 3 day event for firm offer holders. CBO spoke to Michael from Manchester Met/NCOP who runs similar events (involves talking to teachers to see which students would benefit from a day on campus)

FW

- Working with careers for 3rd year students with learning difficulties. Considering how they would inform an employer about their specific learning difficulty.

SP

- Roadshow mentioned in the previous meeting about local partnership colleges now forming a local group. Aim is to talk about the advantage of applying to DSA earlier. Although there is a big cost for students to get all the dialogistic tests (£300-500) universities often cover most/all now. This is more complex when students move from home or students who have complex needs.
- Upskilled some SAs (32) about sign posting disability support when talking to students. It was also discussed that Greenwich University has disabled student ambassadors trained for certain projects. Transition event in the summer for disabled students aimed to be a familiarisation day of the university.

NT

- UCAS for disabled students- new page up for a couple of months now. The website includes useful FAQs for students. Also a web page for estranged students in HE with the aim to increase awareness that there is help available- even if you are not disabled (eg health and wellbeing section).There is a HELOA event in November on the topic of estranged students. Both of these are a step towards a bigger toolkit for advisers and learners
- UCAS is to include more about the student voice (case studies, videos and honest experiences).
- New questions in the application form to identify estranged students, carers, parental responsibilities, refugees and asylum. Talking more about this at the admissions conferences 26-28th March
- Looking at/if UCAS can work to support transition after results day. Students have no other interaction with UCAS once results day has passed. Discussion about how the handover from UCAS to universities is delivered (could there be a smoother transition?)

SL

- Trial a parent session during an open day geared at student support for parents. It was very successful at allowing parents to open up about their child's needs- relating to other parents when their child is not in the room. A variety of concerns emerged from their child not cooking to more serious worries.

Next meeting

- themed meeting on parental expectations
- mature learners with disability