Semester 2 Planning - Minutes

Location:	**Discord**
Date:	**Tuesday 17th December**
Time:	**17:00 BST**
Attendees:	**Holly Packer (HP) (Chairing), Joseph Adams (JA) (Minuting), Adi Agarwal (AA), George Barrell (GB), Sabrina Ahmed (SA), Sai (S), Sumeet Brar (SB), Rohit Jose (RJ), Matty Widdop (MW), Leonardo Bishop (LB)**

1   Apologies received from   HP
- Lee Alabaster
- Sumeet Brar
- Marcus Gustafsson
- Leonardo Bishop

2   Adoption of Previous Minutes   LA
- Unanimous adoption of previous minutes

3   **Semester 1 Recap**   All
- HP gives an overview: 14 events not including fresher's, 23 total
- HP asks how people felt about semester 1
  - JA thinks it went well; bouldering was a good chance to attract more members
  - SB says we did better better than last year; thinks we retained a lot of popularity, as shown at the Christmas meal
    - SB mentioned the bar crawl potentially needing more prep but it went fine
  - S suggests we could do more to reach out to closed off groups, though that this may not be solvable in just this term
    - S suggests possibly adding more social media for outreach
    - HP says it may be a bit much to manage, but S is happy to try and figure it out
  - AA thinks it has gone pretty well and stable; Christmas meal stands out with the rainbow lasagne being a good alternative to the mushroom wellington
  - GB thinks there was better engagement across events compared to previous years; lots of smaller events has been positive; thinks bar crawl may have worked better with more contingencies

- - - SA says it seemed well organised, though they have no point of reference being a first year
    - RJ says there were roadblocks, but committee have done well, including being a lot of events towards the event; a record number of memberships; better advertising for events this year
      - RJ says most improvements were hindsight, such as bar crawl; still did well considering the circumstances
    - "No" - MW; went as well as expected to when planned
    - HP is very happy with everything this semester; organisation after fresher's slightly behind but quickly caught up

4   CSS Ball 2025   All
- Going to be week 10 - w/c 31st March
  - Latest we can do it with least issues
  - Originally Wednesday, but not all venues are available
- **Venues**
- Responses from multiple venues since reaching out
  - Burlington is promising, but can't remember if there were qualms
- HP thinks it's looking positive
- MW did a viewing this morning, and it looked bigger than in the photos
- Timeline:
  - 5th January - Must have decided on a venue
  - 6th January - Paperwork ready
  - Teaser in Week 4
  - Tickets up in Week 5 (Guild pending)
  - Tickets should be off sale 2 weeks in advance
  - Last year, tickets on sale for 3.5 weeks
  - 19th February gives us 4 weeks
- SB suggests having tickets on sale for too long ruins the hype
- MW thinks whilst Ball tickets aren't on sale, we're losing people
- RJ thinks giving people a heads up is good; gives people a chance to encourage others and organise seating plans
  - MW doesn't think we need to worry too much about seating
  - HP suggests mentioning table size to guests
- HP brings up the "mystery Discord event" from previous years to build hype; useful for proof of interest for Guild
- Can tease at the EGM
- GB asks if we're planning on getting a sponsor like previous years
  - HP is unsure, but we could ask about the photo booth again
- AA suggests Saturday
  - HP isn't too confident in Saturday due to the holidays and people going home

5   EGM   All
- HP has heard about 4 people interested in First Year Rep
- HP suggests it would be handy to get this done early, but ensuring

within term time
- ○ HP suggests Week 2 (w/c 29th January) and can be from 2pm as it's only one role
- ● HP: we can check available rooms in room booking forms

6 SloLAN All
- ● HP wants to give enough notice to societies involved, but not too late into the term
- ● HP suggests consolidation week may be a bad move
- ● JA asks when we ran it last year; HP confirms it was later half of semester 2
  - ○ We can aim for the second half of semester 2, but can move back as needed
- ● Next steps are to reach out to societies and go from there

7 Minecraft Mod Challenge All
- ● GDS confirm it is fine outside of Week 1, 10, and 11
- ● It is proposed to be a week-long event, so HP suggests week 2 or 3 to get it done early
  - ○ RJ thinks this is fine
- ● Open it on a Monday
  - ○ RJ asks if GDS have events on Mondays
  - ○ HP says their events are usually Wednesdays
- ● Next steps are to propose it to GDS

8 Bad Film Collab All
- ● HP suggests we can be liberal, but early on, perhaps week 3 could work
- ● Cannot do Thursday due to Bad Film's event
- ● Can reach out to Bad Film suggesting week 3, asking if they have a preferred day, and go from there
- **● Action GB: Contact Bad Film to offer Week 3**

9 TNMoC All
- ● Set to run 1st March
- ● Form for non-CS students is going out (presumably) tomorrow; CS should send us information about this after closing
  - ○ Following on, we should be able to publicise ourselves
  - ○ Just need to confirm dates with Idrees and CS

10 AGM All
- ● Sometime in March due to Easter holidays
  - ○ HP thinks we won't have time in Week 11, and it will be close to exams
- ● HP suggests it will be tricky as it will clash with the Ball, but not sure if we can avoid that
- ● "If we want to be devious" - HP
  - ○ Sneak AGM on Wednesday if Ball is Thursday/Friday

- - If Ball is Wednesday, we can do the AGM the week before
  - HP suggests with Ball tickets being off-sale by the AGM, we can focus on the AGM before switching back to the Ball
    - SB suggests committee-elect at that time would get a chance to participate and help out

11   Hackathon   All
- Provisioned for 5th & 6th
  - HP wants to move it up to the 29th and 30th of March to have Ball as the last event
  - AA suggests it's a good idea to avoid too many events in one close proximity

12   Sports Day   All
- SB says we need a good time to get a shot at good weather
- SB suggests doing it after exams
  - SB mentions other society exams would need to be considered, so it would have to be completely after the exam period
  - SB says Sports Ball is also after exams, so there is likely to be an overlap with the attendees
  - HP feels it will be better after exams due to weather and attendance
- SB suggests the Sunday after exams
- HP suggests it could take place of the BBQ
  - AA suggests doing them together
- SB suggests a prize for the best society
  - Limiting number of people per society per sports event
- **Action SB: Contact societies about running after exams**

13   BBQ   All
- As above, either have it replaced by sports day or mesh them together
- HP suggests the main reason we do it is for the stickers, trapping us in doing it every year
  - Last year, we had issues with the Guild
  - HP is not sure on feasibility going forward
  - SB suggests that with more time, it could become more feasible again
- SB suggests sports day TeX stickers instead of BBQ stickers
  - HP says we can consider this if it becomes a regular event
  - SB suggests we make it regular if it goes well
- In the end, we go ahead with BBQ one more time and see how it goes

14   Other Events   All
- **Board Games Night 2: Electric Boogaloo**
  - RJ thinks it's worth considering whether we actually have time considering other events at the time
    - HP thinks it should be fine as it should only be RAs and

drinks with CS
            ■ AA says that should still take a while with those
        ○ HP suggests it will still be easy enough to run, just week 1 or week
            0
            ■ AA agrees with these dates
        ○ Date: 20th January
            ■ Can submit catering ASAP
            ■ Can preorder pizza with expected capacity from last year
        ○ Need to let TTG know in advance to avoid issues
- **Online Quiz**
    ○ AA asks about attendance
        ■ HP confirms it's usually lower, but it's a free event
    ○ AA thinks board game night should be a priority if we're worried
        about time for organisation
    ○ HP suggests considering it over the Easter holidays as a break
        from studying/revision
- **Cheese Soc**
    ○ Been messaged as they have been officially recognised
        ■ They would like us to help them get off the ground
        ■ RJ is happy to do it to help them out; not sure what we
            could do
    ○ AA suggests TeaSoc style event
        ■ AA feels like it would be an event that CheeseSoc plans,
            and we help fund
        ■ HP thinks it could be a break; event
            ● GB thinks this will work well
    ○ GB asks if they were running events yet
        ■ HP confirms it was a scavenger hunt around the Christmas
            market, as well as chill meetings
- **break;**
    ○ HP thinks it's mainly figuring out the date for least overlaps
        ■ LA mentioned on discord that Wednesday conflicted with
            SANDAM's event
    ○ Looking at the timetable, HP thinks we might have to stick with
        Wednesday 1-3pm
- **TeXTalks**
    ○ HP suggests weeks 7-8 will be pretty free
    ○ SA asks what these are
        ■ HP explains they're our version of TED Talks
    ○ AA likes TeXTalks and wants them to run, but it will be an
        organisational nightmare; need to start now
    ○ SA suggests making speakers wear something purple
        ■ HP thinks it's not particularly feasible
        ■ SA suggests "subtle encouragement"
    ○ HP mentions there was a previous spreadsheet for speakers

- - - ■ HP can reach out to someone they know
      - ■ JA can reach out to PGRs
      - ■ AA doesn't want us to repeat speakers unless they're doing something new/fun
    - ○ HP says plan for week 7 for now
  - ● **DocSoc**
    - ○ SA has reached out to DocSoc, who responded asking us to email them
    - ○ HP thinks it should be possible early in the semester, perhaps week 5 (or whatever they suggest)
    - ○ Not sure when they do their events
  - ● **Winterbourne**
    - ○ HP suggests Week 11 as a break from studying
      - ■ Usually done during the holidays, where not many people are able to attend
    - ○ JA mentions weather is usually cold when it's run
      - ■ AA mentions it's usually unpredictable but more hopeful; no rush, so we can decide closer to the time
      - ■ HP suggests a calendar reminder
  - ● **Sponsor events**
    - ○ Looks promising for a couple of sponsors
    - ○ HP provisionally suggests week 5 time

Actual start time	17:08 GMT
Actual end time	18:54 GMT
Duration	1 hour 46 minutes (Too long)