

Students For Co-operation Founding Conference 2014

Minutes

Agenda Points

Relationship with SU
Strategy
Systems/ Web/ IT
Finances
Links with other groups
Democratic structure
Communications
Staff roles
Ethical policy
Terms of membership
Support SFC provides
Education
Constitution/ manifesto

(break into groups to discuss each point and then feeding back to the group)

Relationships with SU

- Identifying supportive SU staff
- Get funding and communications from SU
- Providing space on campus

Strategy

- What should SFC be achieving over the next year?
- Long term aims
- Shorter term aims - prioritise a structure that could oversee SFC and the employees
- Proposal: Another meeting for establishing a structure and strategy, setting up committees etc. Meeting of delegates to discuss these issues, soon.

Comms/ IT/ systems

- Proposal: Mailing list - rise up? Problems with inclusivity and accessibility?
- Website - internal and external source of info. One person to manage site?
- Social media - linkdin, facebook. Standard format for each group. Working group to manage social group?
- Online forum instead of mailing list?
- Proposal: set up a group for managing online stuff

Links to other groups

- Proposal: SFC has a list of criteria for acceptable groups for coops to work with
- Proposal: good groups for SFC to work with/ suggestions for local coops to work with
- Proposal: differentiate between long term and short term groups
- Proposal: discuss in regards to the constitution

Democratic Structures

- Delegates from each coop - how many times one person can be delegate
- Proposal: Working groups for democratic structures
- Proposal: Need for minutes and recording all meetings - online blogs - how

accessible?

Staff Roles

- Who are staff - everyone involved/ elected/ paid?
- Democratically deciding where funding goes
- Roles - outreach, knowledge, starting up new coops
- Mike Shaw to be start to be paid by a coop in Scotland to work on SFC - accountable to them?
- Proposal: Session this afternoon on how to manage Mike Shaw
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PROPOSAL: NEED FOR TRANSITIONAL STRUCTURE AND CHANGES TO BE RATIFIED AT THE NEXT CONFERENCE.

Constitution/ ethics

- Sustainability
- Inclusive
- Solidarity with other coops
- Accountability
- Going beyond economic structures
- Proposal: website of fair trade/ ethical companies that can be shared - CONSENSUS
- Proposal: web space for ethical ideas to be discussed to be put in the constitution - open and accessible (wiki?) - CONSENSUS
- Proposal: Meeting with delegates from each coop about terms of membership - TODAY
- What are the principles behind the ethics?

Support SFC provides/ education

- Promote coops in university curriculum's/ in schools
- Promote to people outside market structures - disabled people?
- Proposal: Forum where different types of coops can be supported in different ways

Strategy and Structures

- Proposal - a meeting to discuss strategy and structures
- Delegates from each coop, but with input from working groups?

Mike's Job

- Discuss how it is going to work/ accountability
- Volunteers for that group agreed to meet today to present proposals to the meeting at the end.
- Proposal: network co-ordinator - day to day running, minutes, up to date with emails, finances, facilitating education and groups, bottom-lining social media and outreach etc. Accountability is not possible, but only six months long - CONSENSUS
- Proposal: If Sean's funding comes through, he will take the same role, to be ratified at the next meeting - CONSENSUS

Working groups:

- IT/ communications - internal (Jamie)
- Social media/ outreach - external X
- Democratic structures/ constitution/ membership - people this working group should also take into account criteria for partnerships and terms of membership (Finn)
- Events - next meeting/ conference (Alpha)

- Education and support (Lucy)
- Strategy X
- Temporary staff roles

Caveat - recognition that this is a transitional phase and these will be reviewed