OPEN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS ASSOCIATION

Central Executive Committee (CEC)
27 – 29 January 2017

ASSOCIATION BUSINESS BETWEEN MEETINGS

The CEC is asked to:-

i) **discuss** the points in section 2

1. **Background**

1.1 Central Executive Committee (CEC) meetings take place quarterly face to face in Milton Keynes. The meetings are a valuable opportunity for committee members who are geographically dispersed to meet with each other, members of Association staff and Open University staff and work on Student Association business. Reports, Papers and Minutes are published via the Association website and are the formal means by which members are kept informed of CEC activities and decisions.

1.2 While the face to face CEC meetings are an essential decision making forum, issues often require discussion and decision making to take place between face to face meetings of the Committee. To facilitate this, discussions between members of the CEC, University Staff and Association staff continue on an ongoing basis on a wide range of issues.

2. **Discussion Points**

2.1 Members are asked to consider and discuss ways in which we can increase engagement and awareness of the formal business of the CEC among members of the Student Association to build upon current practice in accordance with Association Bye Laws to:

- Ensure the effective and democratic representation of OU students both within the University and the wider world of Higher Education
- Work to widen the democratic nature of the Association’s decision making
- Provide a forum for students to raise and discuss issues that concern them
- Develop the Association policy in line with the Association Bye-laws
2.2. In particular you may want to consider:

- The desirability of a development of a body of Association Policy as a basis for consistent responses to emerging issues
- What we currently understand to be Association Policy and how this may be generated
- Whether there is a need to introduce a schedule of regular synchronous meetings to enable real time discussion of emerging issues between members of the CEC
- How decisions taken in the period between CEC meetings might be reported back to Student Association members

Nicola Simpson
Deputy President