



Date: Monday, 4 November 2019
Time: 18:00-20:00
Venue: Pearson G17

**Union Executive
Minutes**

Chair: Carol Paige,
Democracy, Operations and Community Officer

Members:	P	AP	AB
Aatikah Malik, Welfare and International Officer	✓		
Ashley Slanina-Davies, Education Officer		✓	
Carol Paige, Democracy Operations and Community Officer, Chair	✓		
Clara Baltay, Sports Officer (Job Share), Elected Officer from Activities Zone	✓		
D'Arcy McGuinness, Activities Officer	✓		
Jiaqi Guo, Faculty Rep for the Institute of Education (Undergraduate), Elected Officer from Education Zone	✓		
Jim Onyemenam, Postgraduate Students' Officer		✓	
Laura Dell'Antonio, Sports Officer (Job Share), Elected Officer from Activities Zone	✓		
Maë Faugère, Sustainability Officer		✓	
Max Tscheltzkoff, Trans Officer	✓		
Mihir Gupta, Union Chair	✓		
Molly Hartill, Community Relations Officer, Elected Officer from Welfare and Community Zone	✓		
Nilisha Vashist, Women's Officer	✓		
Sandy Ogundele, BME Students' Officer		✓	
Xuyi Wang, LGBTQ+ Students Officer		✓	
Zohar Mendzelevski-Steinberg, Disabled Students' Officer	✓		

In Attendance:
Alex McKee, Head of Student Engagement and Communications
Dan Fow, Societies Development Coordinator (Events)
Diana Hawk, Leadership Development Manager, minutes

1. Introductions

The Chair welcomed members to the first Union Executive and the Committee introduced themselves.

The Trans Officer and the Elected Officer from the Education Zone joined the meeting remotely.

2. Officer Accountability Reports

The Chair noted that officer reports were available to read on the website and they instructed all present sabbatical officers to provide a verbal update on any progress made since the reports were published.

The Chair explained that they had secured 6 additional microwaves and had been working on coordinating voter registration events.

The Activities Officer reported that they had been liaising with the Union's External Trustee to develop a participation fund for clubs and societies.

The Welfare & International Officer noted that they had been progressing on a sleep and wellbeing strategy with the Postgraduate Students' Officer.

The Women's Officer reported that they were working on consent training and building a women's community on campus.

The Disabled Students' Officer posed a question to the Welfare and International Officer.

Question: What is the current progress on Union policy UP1803 on mental health funding - has the £140k awarded to mental health services satisfied students' needs, and if not what next steps will the Union be taking to get the further £200k that was assessed as being needed to eliminate the waiting list?

The Welfare & International Officer noted that the funding was used on additional counsellors at Student Psychological Services and that they have a zero waitlist for triage. They were not aware of the waitlist times for regular appointments but meet frequently with the Student Support and Wellbeing Team.

The Disabled Students' Officer reported that they were working with the Disabled Students' Network to publish a manifesto of things to change on campus for disabled students and they would be collating an evidence base to present their findings at a future policy zone.

3. Report from Activities Zone

The Activities Officer reported that the first meeting of the Activities Zone had gone well. They updated the Committee on key items discussed including their priorities for the year as agreed by the Zone:

1. Increasing the efficiency of Clubs/Societies admin
2. Inclusivity
3. Increasing opportunities
4. Mental Health and Wellbeing
5. Promoting and sustaining the Union and its reputation

4. Report from Welfare & Community Zone

The Welfare & International Officer provided a report from the Welfare & Community Zone and presented the agreed priorities:

1. Decrease Accommodation prices
2. Sustainability
3. Student safety and security
4. Hall furnishing/maintenance
5. Brexit

5. Report from Education Zone

The Chair reported on behalf of the Education Officer that the Education Zone had agreed the following priorities:

1. Student engagement
2. Student Wellbeing
3. Sustainability
4. Faculty wider student led events
5. Supporting students on interruption

6. Phineas Consultation

The Chair reported that there was an open consultation for students to participate in. The consultation is open until 15 November. The findings would be brought to the next Union Executive meeting for all members to discuss.

Action: All members to participate in the Phineas Consultation and encourage other students to <http://studentsunionucl.org/mascotconsultation>

7. Elections to Vacant Committee Positions

The Chair noted that all Union Executive members had received a link to an online election portal to elect students who had put themselves forward for SU Board Committees and UCL Committees. All members of Exec should vote via the link, which would be open until midnight.

The Disabled Students' Officer reported that they no longer wished to put themselves forward for the Education Committee.

Action: All Exec members to vote online for SU Board Committee and UCL Committee vacancies.

8 Policy passed at Zone meetings

The Chair explained to the Committee that policies had been passed at Zone meetings by a simple majority and Union Exec would discuss each policy and decide whether to ratify the policy. It should also agree on steps to ensure the policy would be implemented.

1. The Activities Officer introduced the first policy: **New Ways to Affiliate Departmental Societies**. They explained that departmental societies can affiliate but the society must be open to all members. They noted, however, that it is rare for students outside of a department to join a departmental society. Some activities within the society may be restricted to certain groups as well.

The Chair asked if there were any objections to the policy. There were none. The policy was **RATIFIED**.

ACTION: The Activities Officer to discuss the workarounds for affiliating departmental societies

with the policy proposer.

2. The Activities Officer introduced the second policy: **Reduce Printing, Increase Digital Signage**. They explained that this policy would not set caps on printing as that would be difficult to implement for each society.

The Chair asked if there were any objections to the policy. There were none. The policy was **RATIFIED**.

The Chair also noted that this policy would be discussed at the Welfare & Community Zone.

ACTION: Activities Officer to consider building an incentive structure within the Societies Development Award, ensure Clubs and Societies Presidents and Treasurers are encouraged to reduce printing, and liaise with the marketing team to open up digital signage to clubs and societies.

3. The Welfare & International Officer introduced the third policy: Tumble Dryers in the Union. They explained that this policy was amended as it had originally asked for the Union to purchase dryers. This would be impractical and so the amended policy resolves to better communicate tenants' rights to do with damp and local laundrette facilities.

The Chair asked if there were any objections to the policy. There were none. The policy was **RATIFIED**.

Members noted that the Union should also be lobbying UCL accommodation to increase the amount of washers and dryers available in halls.

ACTION: Campaign for more laundry facilities in halls, develop a map of local laundry facilities and a guide outlining tenancy rights.

4. The Chair introduced the fourth policy: **Provide Subtitles for Students with Hearing Impairments**. They noted that the Union would lobby UCL to improve accessibility with subtitles including through Lecturecast.

The Chair asked if there were any objections to the policy. There were none. The policy was **RATIFIED**.

ACTION: To liaise with the digital education team at UCL to improve subtitling.

9 **AGD: Postgraduate Students' Officer addition to Activities Zone**

The Chair introduced the AGD and noted that all other constituency based officers had voting rights across Zones. They explained that the Union was committed to improving the postgraduate student experience and having a postgraduate voice on the Activities Zone would be working

towards achieving this.

There were no questions or further speeches. The Chair moved to a vote and reminded all that a 75% majority was required for the AGD to be carried.

Vote	Number
For	10
Against	0
Abstain	0

Decision: The AGD was **CARRIED**.

10 **AGD: NUS Elections**

The Chair introduced the AGD noting that previously NUS Conference Delegates were elected eight months in advance of the annual conference they attend. To improve their experience and engagement with delegates, they suggested moving the elections closer to the conference.

There were no questions or further speeches. The Chair moved to a vote and reminded all that a 75% majority was required for the AGD to be carried.

Vote	Number
For	9
Against	0
Abstain	1

Decision: The AGD was CARRIED.

11 **AGD: Introduction of Arts Representatives to Activities Zone**

The Activities Officer noted that there was an oversight in creating Activities Zone membership with solely the Arts Officer representing arts societies. They noted that the other part-time officers had multiple reps from sports and other societies. Committee members queried whether there would be interest from arts members to put themselves forward for the positions. The Activities Officer confirmed there would be students interested in taking on the roles.

There were no further questions or further speeches. The Chair moved to a vote and reminded all that a 75% majority was required for the AGD to be carried.

Vote	Number
For	10
Against	0
Abstain	0

Decision: The AGD was **CARRIED**.

12 Co-opted Zone Members

The Chair noted that there were a number of vacant positions on Education and Activities Zone that did not have candidates in the recent elections.

The Activities Officer explained that the two newly introduced Arts reps should be elected and that steps should be taken to ensure reps are joining from different societies. The Community Relations Officer explained that co-opting a rep from the political societies constituency may be problematic and an election would be preferred.

The Committee discussed the importance of elections and promotion of the roles.

ACTION: To run an election for the vacant Activities Reps as soon as possible.

The Committee also discussed how Faculty Reps are co-opted via their faculties—in an objective manner, drawing from a pool of already elected course and lead departmental reps.

DECISION: To allow Education Zone co-opted Faculty Reps to join as full-members of Education Zone.

13 Updates from/into Board of Trustees

The Chair reported that the Finance Committee had recently undergone a staffing restructure and positions were currently being recruited. The outcome of the restructure would improve efficiencies in the team and positively impact students who work with the Union's finance team.

The Chair also explained that the Union was refreshing its strategy. The Head of Student Engagement and Communication noted that the strategy document had not been previously communicated to students but they would like feedback from Union Executive members.

ACTION: Share the Union strategy and discuss at the next Union Executive meeting.

14 Any Other Business

The Trans Officer reported that they would like staff to note their pronouns in staff signatures. They would also like to see Gendered Intelligence training delivered to staff.

The Disabled Students' Officer noted that they had hoped to implement Disability Awareness training. The Welfare & International Officer explained that this was already planned.

ACTION: The Disabled Students' Officer, Welfare & International Officer and Trans Officer to work on staff training

The Trans Officer also explained that they would like to see more gender inclusive toilets around campus. The Disabled Students' Officer commented that the signage on the new 1st and 3rd floor Union toilets were very well-received.

The Chair reported that a policy idea had been submitted to the Welfare & Community Zone regarding gender inclusive toilets so this would be discussed at the next meeting.

Minutes approved as a true and accurate record

Chair:	Carol Paige , Democracy Operations and Community Officer
Signature:	
Date:	07/01/2020