



**Date:** Monday, 16 November 2020  
**Time:** 14:00-16:00  
**Venue:** Zoom

**Union Executive  
Minutes**

**Chair:** Carol Paige,  
Democracy, Operations and Community Officer

<b>Members:</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>AP</b>	<b>AB</b>
Aarushi Menon, Women's Officer	✓		
Alex Skliros, Welfare & Community Zone Representative	✓		
Amal Idris, Trans Officer	✓		
Ayman Benmati, Education Officer	✓		
Carol Paige, Democracy, Operations and Community Officer, Chair	✓		
Eliza Lawless, Sustainability Officer	✓		
Ilyas Benmouna, Activities Officer	✓		
Jemima Barnes, LGBTQ+ Officer	✓		
Jim Onyemenam, Postgraduate Students' Officer	✓		
Laure Montangerand, Education Zone Representative	✓		
Sam Jones, Activities Zone Representative	✓		
Sandy Ogundele, BME Students' Officer		✓	
Yasmeen Daoud, Welfare & International Officer	✓		
Zohar Mendzelevski-Steinberg/ Abi Smith, Disabled Students' Officer (Job Share)		✓	

<b>In Attendance:</b>
Aimee Connolly, Representation and Democracy Coordinator, minutes
John Dubber, Chief Executive Officer

**1. Preliminary Matters**

The Chair thanked everyone for attending and noted that the meeting would be recorded. Members briefly introduced themselves as there were four new members.

There were no corrections to the minutes of the previous meeting and so they were unanimously APPROVED.

The Chair reported on the actions from the previous meeting noting that all actions from the previous meeting were completed. They gave an update on one outstanding action from UE20X1 noting that this meeting will take place within the first six weeks of the Provost's term.

**2. Announcement – Co-opted Zone Members**

The Chair welcomed the new Union Executive members and introduced them to the committee.

**3. Announcement: Reports from Policy Zones**

The Chairs from the Policy Zones gave brief reports on the meetings, noting items discussed as follows:

Activities Zone:

- COVID- 19 update, society affiliations, electing a Representative to Union Executive, the Welcome Fair platform, membership refund policy and modest alternatives for sports uniforms

Education Zone:

- Board and committee vacancies, electing a Representative to Union Executive, priorities for the year, face to face education and passing a policy proposal related to decolonising the curriculum

Welfare and Community Zone:

- Electing a Representative to Union Executive, modest alternatives for sports uniforms, Halls issues

#### 4. **Announcement: UCL/Board of Trustee Committee Elections**

The Chair noted that all members have received a link to vote for who should sit on the SU's Board of Trustee Sub-Committees. Members have until Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> November at midday to vote and the appointees will be circulated with the minutes, alongside the appointees to UCL committees.

**ACTION:** Officers to vote who should represent students on Union Board of Trustees Sub-Committees

#### 5. **Announcements: UCL Shop and Funding**

The Chair noted that the Union will be taking over the UCL shop and that this will be a service for students to utilise. They also informed members that the Union has recently been granted £295,000 from UCL for activities.

#### 5. **Amendment to Governing Documents: Welfare & Community Zone**

The Welfare and International Officer outlined the AGD and the rationale behind it. Support was offered from members and queries were raised about whether quoracy would be too big and if there were still too many Hall Representatives on the Zone.

Members voted on the AGD and it passed.

For	11
Against	0
Abstain	1

**DECISION:** The AGD passed and Club and Society Welfare Representatives will be elected to Welfare and Community Zone.

**ACTION:** Welfare and International Officer to work with Leadership Development and Change team to elect Club and Society Welfare Reps to Welfare and Community Zone

**ACTION:** Union Executive to return to considering the Welfare and Community membership at the end of the academic year

#### 6. **Policy Proposal: Champion Inclusive Education and a Decolonised Curriculum**

The Education Officer presented the proposal, noting the two amendments passed at Education Zone. There was support given for the policy by Union Executive. Members voted and it passed.

For	11
Against	0
Abstain	0

**DECISION:** Policy was ratified and will be added to the Union's policy database. The Lead Sabbatical Officers will be the BME Students' Officer and the Education Officer.

#### 7. **Matter for Discussion: Support for Officer Events**

The Chair opened the discussion, asking members what kind of events they want to run and what support they need from the Union to do so. Comments were made about needing to run smaller events online in order to be able to engage with people, the difficulty in coming up with new digital event ideas that aren't already being done and advertising the events. It was agreed that the Union sharing events, putting events into their newsletters and Officers sharing idea with each other would be helpful.

**ACTION:** The Chair is to raise the comments made about support for Officer events with the Head of Student Engagement and Communications at the Union

#### 8. **Matter for Discussion: Student Experience During Lockdown**

Members agreed that there are mixed opinions from students about the current student experience. Comments were made about LGBT+ students being more disproportionately affected, online learning being different between departments, the motivation to learn being low and students still wanting some in-person teaching. Suggestions were made that further mental health check-ins could be run by Student Support and Wellbeing and that a priority when restrictions end will be to ensure that Lecturecast continues to be used across UCL.

**ACTION:** Sabbatical Officers to highlight discussed issues at relevant UCL committees

#### 9. **Matter for Discussion: Honorary Life Membership Nomination**

The Chair informed members that they wish to nominate the Provost, Michael Arthur, for Honorary Life Membership, focusing largely on his emphasis on EDI matters. They also explained what this award entitles the awardee to.

A discussion was had about the pros and cons of awarding the membership. Members voted and

the Provost was awarded Honorary Life Membership to the Students' Union.

**DECISION:** The Provost, Michael Arthur, was awarded Honorary Life Membership to Students' Union UCL

For	10
Against	0
Abstain	1

**ACTION:** The Chair is to award the Provost with Honorary Life Membership

**10. Officer Portfolio Review Update**

The Chair informed members that a Consultant had been appointed and that they will be in touch with members soon, either to engage in an interview or focus group.

**10. Questions to Officers**

One question was received for the Welfare and International Officer about mental health support for students in the current academic year. They noted that the Union and UCL are trying to be proactive rather than reactive in their approach, focusing on supporting student wellbeing and that there are a number of services in place when issues escalate further.

**11. Any Other Business**

Two items of AOB were raised.

First, the Trans Officer noted that they wish to set up a Trans Network as an independent subset of the LGBT+ Network and queried the process for this. They are to meet with the Leadership Development and Change team to progress with this.

Second, the Welfare and Community Zone Representative stated that many students in Halls have moved home for the lockdown period and queried what the break clause protocol is in this case. The Chair answered, commenting that if students formally vacate they can submit a notice to quit and stop paying from the day they leave, however if they have an intent to return to their room, they cannot pause their payment.

**ACTION:** Trans Officer to meet with Representation and Democracy Coordinator and Leadership Development Manager to discuss the creation of the Trans Network

<b>Minutes approved as a true and accurate record</b>	
Chair:	Carol Paige, Democracy Operations and Community Officer
Signature:	
Date:	