



Item 9

Received on: 06.10.14

Received by: Calum Watt

University of Lincoln Students' Union Student Council  
Monday 13th Oct 2014, 6pm - Moot Court, David Chiddick Building

## Motion: Hold a Bye Law Election for the Vice President Academic Affairs Position

### The Union Notes;

1. The appointment of Nyasha Takawira as Vice-President for Academic Affairs by the Trustee Board.
2. University of Lincoln Students' Union Articles of Association Article 29.1;

*“If a Sabbatical Trustee resigns, is disqualified or is removed from office at any time prior to the commencement of the Academic Year, the vacancy that results on the Board of Trustees shall be filled in accordance with the Bye-Laws”.*

3. Bye-Law 5.5.3., which states that in the event of an Elected Officer role becoming vacant;

*“The By-Election must be held in term time, with polls opened:-*

*5.5.3.1 Within thirty (30) working days of the Elected Officer ceasing to hold (or being deemed to cease to hold) office, taking into account any appeal under Bye-Law 5.4.4 or 5.4.7 (if applicable);*

*or*

*5.5.3.2 Within five (5) working days from the start of term, if the By-Election would fall out of term time under Bye-Law 5.5.3.1”*

### The Union Believes

1. That the constitution exists to ensure that the Union is run effectively and democratically and that member's rights are codified and protected against arbitrary governance.
2. That the appointment of an Acting Vice-President for Academic Affairs for the duration of the summer was both a practical and sensible option and would not have been in breach of the Constitution or the Trustee Board's obligations towards running a democratic Union.

3. That the decision to appoint a Sabbatical Officer for the entire year, without a by-election was in breach of the Constitution and the Trustees' obligation to running a democratic Union and that this incident threatens to bring the Union into disrepute if a by-election is not held within a reasonable time following this meeting.
4. That all members of the Union should have the right to decide who runs their Union and that elected officials need a strong democratic mandate, particularly when entering discussions with officials, the University or other external bodies.

#### The Union Resolves

1. That a by-election for the position of Vice-President for Academic Affairs must be held within thirty (30) days of Council passing this resolution.
2. That the incumbent Vice-President for Academic Affairs should remain in her role until such a time as there can be an effective handover can take place to the newly elected Vice-President for Academic Affairs following the by-election.

Proposer: Calum Watt, Societies Committee Representative

Secunder: Alexander Hall, College of Social Science Representative