



UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION
Student Council - Monday 17th November at 6pm in Moot Court

Present:

Chair Alexandrya-Carmen Mbu.

Key
 ✓ = Attended
 NF = Position not filled
 A = Apologises sent to Chair
 ✗ = Did not attend or send apologies

Volunteer Members

	13 th Oct	28 th Oct	17 th Nov	5 th Dec	16 th Mar	20 th Apr
College of Art Officer – Mark Sowden	A	✗	✓			
College of Science Officer - Connor Muir	✓	✓	✓			
College of Social Sciences Officer - Jake Baker	✓	✓	✓			
Societies Officer - Sophia Bishell	✓	A	✓			
Sports Officer - Sammi Storey	✓	✓	A			
Disabled Students Officer - Tasnim Hassan	✓	✓	✓			
International Students Officer - Angeline McCall	✓	✓	A			
LGBT Students Officer - Holly Marriott	✓	✗	✓			
Mature Students Officer - Mutani Yangwe	✓	✗	✗			
Women's Students Officer Natasha Chapman	✓	✓	✓			

School Representatives

	13 th Oct	28 th Oct	17 th Nov	5 th Dec	16 th Mar	20 th Apr
Business - Gee Mattison	✓	✗	A			
Chemistry – Paul Logan	NF	NF	✗			
Computer Science - Jacob Carse	✓	✓	✓			
Design and Architecture – Daniel Orford	A	✓	✓			
Design and Architecture – Sara Killelay	A	✗	✗			
Engineering – Matthew Knott	NF	✓	✓			
English and Journalism - Eleanor Bryan	✓	✓	✓			
English and Journalism - John-Paul Dickie	✓	✓	✓			
Film and Media - Wade Baverstock	✓	✓	✓			
Fine and Performing Arts - Alys Brown	✓	A	✓			
History and Heritage – Nicole Sheanon	NF	✗	A			
Law - Thomas Mitchell	✓	✓	✓			
Life Science - Ellie Burroughs	✓	✓	✓			
Pharmacy – Tamjit Singh Rama	NF	✗	✓			
Psychology - Daniel Richardson	✓	✓	✓			
Sport and Political Science – Megan Nolloth	A	✓	✓			

Sport and Exercise Science – Jess Darnell	✓	A	✓			
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Representatives of Societies and Sports Council

	13 th Oct	28 th Oct	17 th Nov	5 th Dec	16 th Mar	20 th Apr
Societies Committee Rep - Calum Watt	✓	✓	✓			
Societies Committee Rep - Rebecca Fowler			*			
Sports Committee Representative - Will Fry	✓	✓	A			
Sports Committee Representative – Thomas Pendle			*			

Non-Voting Students in attendance

Michael Daniell, Liam Wilson, Navid Kiaran, Alex Hall, Michael Toze, Alexandra Lafar, Hannah Konarski, Reece Horsley, Laura Palmer, Lewis Smith, Matt Smeeth, Jack Maddock, Marc Anthony Ingatius-Pataro.

Also Present:

Brian Alcorn - President, Hayley Jayne Wilkinson - VP Activities, Nyasha Takawira, VP - Academic Affairs, Olivia Hill -VP Welfare and Community.

James Brooks - Chief Executive, Aidan Mersh - Head of Membership Services and Marketing, Scott McGinn - Communications Co-ordinator, Lindsay Westgarth - Student Voice Administrator, Liz Smy - Course Representation Worker, Megan Graham – Administrative Support Worker and Mary Padden - Administrative Support Worker.

1.1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Sports Officer - Sammi Storey, International Students Officer - Angeline McCall, History and Heritage – Nicole Sheanon, Sports Committee Representative – Will Fry, Course Representation Co-Ordinator - Kirsty Barnes.

2 Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Agreed:

- Minutes from the previous meetings on Monday 28th April and Monday 13th October 2014 were approved subject to amendments.

3. Matters Arising

Noted:

- 'Guide and support the School Reps in their role' was added to the description of what a College Rep does in the Standing Order 4001.
- The quoracy level of the decision making ability of the Academic Representation Committee was changed to 50% plus 1.
- The amendments proposed by the Union to Byelaw 3 were made.
- The amendment to 3.7.2 was made.
- The amendment to byelaw 5 including amendment to Byelaw 5.5.1.1 was made.
- Article 4 Directive interview was circulated to Student Council.
- Article 4 Directive petition was mentioned at Sports and Societies Councils.
- The Article 4 Directive link was not circulated to Student Council.

4. Reports

a. Presidential Report

Noted:

- The "Article 4 Directive" was discussed at the City of Lincoln Council's Policy Scrutiny Meeting.
- Many people attended and spoke supporting the Union including John Plumridge - Director of Estates & Commercial Facilities at the University of Lincoln, Bishop Grosseteste University representatives and Bishop Grosseteste Students' Union Representatives.
- No representatives of the Union spoke negatively about residents of Lincoln however there were many people speaking against the "Article 4 Directive" who were not representing the Union.
- The petition given to the council against the "Article 4 Directive" received 1626 signatures, that submitted by WERA only received around 1100.
- 10 demographically representative students are now on the panel for the Democracy Review Working Group.
- The "Always Skint?" campaign has begun, with a strong partnership with Vice-President Academic Affairs "Hidden Course Costs" campaign.
- University of Lincoln Masters Student Alice Carter won the Sports Volunteer of the Year award and Jade Etherington won the Sportswoman of the Year and the overall prize of Lincolnshire Sports Personality of the Year at the Lincolnshire Sports Awards.

Agreed:

- Motion to award Jade Etherington an Honorary Lifetime Membership to the Union passed by ascent.

b. Vice-President Activities Report

Noted:

- The Activities Survey received over 400 respondents.
- An Open Forum was held at the last Sports and Societies Councils; this gave clear areas of development for the Activities department.
- More Committee by-elections are scheduled, resulting in all Committee positions being filled.
- Hayley has met with various kit suppliers to look at a centralised sports kit.
- Once kit suppliers have been shortlisted the names will be taken to Sports and Societies Council to get a recommendation for Exec on who they prefer the kit supplier to be.
- Societies will also be able to access this kit.

Agreed:

- Update on the Activities Survey, Open Forum actions and kit suppliers to be included in the report for next Student Council.

c. Vice-President Academic Affairs Report

Noted:

- A full Senior Rep Team have been elected and were highly commended for their support in the Rep Forum, with a turn out of 148, and other various campaigns.
- The KICKSTART conference was successful in terms of content and turnout.
- The AQR has been sent to all Colleges and central departments.
- The Hidden Course Costs – printing in the College of Arts has received a lot of interest, this suggests it is an area that students feel strongly about.
- The School of Psychology won the School of the Month Award; this School successfully implemented the feedback scheme, which is receiving interest from other departments within the University, and have plans for a Dissertation Fayre and other events that will help students in the School of Psychology.
- The Executive Committee at the Students' Union decide which school wins the award.

Agreed:

- The School of The Month photograph to be circulated to Student Council.

Confirmed

d. Vice-President Welfare and Community

Noted:

- A meeting with Lighthouse allowed the reason for the boycott to be explained and the way Lighthouse can improve and measure the improvement was discussed.
- Lighthouse will now be met with monthly.
- Lighthouse has a new process of giving information to new tenants.
- The “Women in Leadership” conference aims to empower women and the issues faced on campus, this is for women and those who self define as women. Attendees are to deliver training at the Union after the event.
- The Executive Committee were in agreement for co-opting Community Reps, allowing them to start as soon as possible, and having February elections for September positions.
- Elizabeth Lunn would like to be the Community Rep for the West End; Elizabeth is a third year who has previously taken part in Meet The Street, Litter Picks and the Brayford Clean Up. Elizabeth has lived in the West End in two different areas and is willing to stand up for vulnerable people.
- Rosa Milan has lived in the Sincil Bank area for 2 years and is interested in being the Community Rep for this area. Rosa took part in the litter picks and other community action days and was interviewed for Radio Lincolnshire where the work done in the area was promoted.
- The Community Rep position for the Monks Road ward is vacant.
- Voting would be across campus with members voting for each ward.

Discussed:

- Community Reps should be voted in through Student Council as they get a vote.
- Co-opting the Community Reps would dictate they have a vote in Student Council due to the Standing Order.
- Sabbatical Officers rerunning for a Sabbatical position can still attend the “Women in Leadership” conference.
- There have been previous discussions about encouraging students to run in local elections; The Union can support students running but not promote any particular political party.
- It is important to support the West End Residents and carry on building and maintaining the relationship with WERA.
- The Union contacted many different people and companies regarding the “Article 4 Directive”, with the University of Lincoln, Bishop Grosseteste University and Bishop Grosseteste Students’ Union all strongly supporting the Union in the petition.

Agreed:

- Lighthouse new process for new tenants to be circulated to Student Council.
- An update of the progress with Lighthouse to be given at the next Student Council.
- Information on how to run in local elections to be circulated to Student Council.
- The motion to Co-opt Community Reps passed by ascent.
- The motion for Nyasha Takawira, Hayley Jayne Wilkinson, Olivia Hill and Natasha Chapman to attend “Women in Leadership” passed by ascent.

e. Societies Council Report

Noted:

- Sunday Social Sessions are running monthly, various Societies have been involved.
- A Society Showcase will take place 1st February; Societies will have the option to showcase projects in the Engine Shed.
- There is a push for inter-society events.

f. Sports Council Report

- There was nothing to note.

g. Liberation Report

Noted:

- Some Liberation Officers have had personal issues so were unable to provide a report prior to Student Council.

International Officer

- A successful International event was held for Halloween and a film night.
- The Monks Road Working Group are creating an event for World Hello Day.
- There will be a campaign in Term 2 about coexistence and education.

Women's Officer

- Currently working with the Savi campaign which provides workshops training people on how to support someone witnessing gender based hatred.
- If this programme is successful it will allow attendees to then train people the following year.
- On 4th December a stall in the Atrium with information on gender based violence.
- A campaign is being run alongside Avon to raise money for domestic violence shelter.

Disabled Officer

- An Icon has been created aimed to make help and support more visible and accessible, the icon was designed in collaboration with the Arts Society.
- A Student Wellbeing Awareness Day will help to promote the work of the Disabled officer and Disabled Liberation Group.
- There have been collaborations with the Bishop Grosseteste Liberation Officer on how they can collaborate and improve the work at both Unions.

LGBT Office

- The nationwide campaign is "Gay Blood UK" helping to raise awareness of the limits for gay men giving blood, with collaborators including Bishop Grosseteste Union.
- The community campaign is focussing on homophobia and transphobia in night life, where clubs are being contacted to sign a contract about homo-and transphobia.
- The campus campaign is promoting the Gender Neutral Society.

h. College Officer Reports

Noted:

College of Social Science

- Focusing on divisional representation, which is an Agenda Item for debate and decision, allowing the appropriate representation where it is needed.
- The School of Psychology and School of Sport and Exercise Science have shared best practice.
- Sarah Owen and key staff members have been consulted to get a social event organised allowing feedback on big issues.

College of Arts

- The main focus has been the Printing costs campaign with Nyasha.
- An Alumni event is also being organised.
- The "Hidden Course Costs" campaign received the help of all Senior Reps and Sabbatical Officers.

College of Science

- Investigating where students require extra access to laboratories and other areas.
- Conor has met with nearly all the Senior Reps.
- School of Sport and Exercise Science has been a source for development ideas.

5. Motion: Establish a Trans and Gender Non-Binary Liberation Committee

Discussed:

- There was a speech for establishing a Trans and Gender Non-Binary Liberation Committee

Agreed:

- The motion to establish a Trans and Gender Non-Binary Liberation Committee passed by ascent.
- The Executive Committee to Approve the Trans and Gender Non-Binary Liberation Committee.

6. Motion: Academic Representation Development Fund

Noted/Discussed:

- There was a speech for the Academic Representation Development Fund.
- This motion is to investigate the idea of an Academic Representation Development Fund.
- The School and College Officers are to decide where the money is spent, like with the Sports and Society Councils apply for and deciding who gets Development Funds.
- There is a Democratic Process Review, where a development fund was suggested.
- VP Academic Affairs has a budget for Academic Representation and the school or college can be approached regarding funding, more awareness should be raised on these areas of accessing funding.
- The Academic Representation committee would ensure that this money is only available for Course Reps.
- Suggested that the amount of money available from the Union is limited and a better option would be to collaborate with the School.
- If the School does not allocate money to Course Reps they would get no funding, and some schools instead give money to Societies.
- Sports and Societies have their own constitutions which is why they are allocated separate funding. Course Reps follow the constitution of the Union which is why funding is allocated differently.

Agreed:

- Motion to investigate an Academic Representation Development Fund passed by Secret Ballot vote; **Yes: 15, No: 6, Abstained:1.**

7. Motion: Divisional Representation within the School of Health and Social Care and Lincoln Business School

Noted/Discussed:

- Divisional representation would create an addition layer to the Rep system to include Divisional Reps.
- In certain Schools the staffing structure has been changed creating divisions this includes the Business School and the School of Health and Social Care.
- Divisional Reps would not have a vote at council but could have a greater role on subject committees.
- This motion was already raised once but was declined by the Board of Trustees.
- This time the motion has received the support of two trustees.
- This system will allow the structure of these schools to be brought in line with the other School systems.
- The Divisional Reps would not be by per course.
- Divisional Reps would be elected out of the elected Course Reps, with consultation of the College and VP Academic Affairs. This election system would require clarification from the constitution.

- The Board of Trustees may not approve the item if other Schools are involved, it would be more appropriate to keep the motion specifically to the Schools mentioned.
- Amendment to add to resolves "Look at the possibility of having this structure in other schools that have a divisional structure" was passed by ascent and then deleted.

Agreed:

- Constitution to be consulted for the formalised system of electing Divisional Reps.
- The motion to Change the way representation is run within the School of Health and Social Care & Lincoln Business School passed by ascent.

8. Emergency Motion: Black and Minority Ethnicity (BME) Liberation Group

Discussed:

- This emergency motion was put in due to a printing deadline for elections.
- This is a motion and a standing order for the creation of a Black and Minority Ethnicity Liberation Group.
- All students should be treated equally but there is a gap for BME students to receive support.
- In other Unions the Afro Caribbean Society (ACS) and BME work in collaboration.
- The Full membership will be open to all BME students, and an associate membership will be open to all BME students who are associate members.
- The ACS does not only have Afro Caribbean students, all students should be able to join the BME liberation group.
- ACS does a variety of social events primarily and celebrates Black History Month.
- NUS definition of BME includes mixed race students and those outside of afro-Caribbean background.
- There should be a "safe-space" got BME students to speak openly and freely, with events for all students.
- The exclusivity of the group may cause division, but this is not the case with the Women's Group.
- A student knows their own heritage so when running in elections will know if they are a BME eligible candidate.
- A campaign is stronger if the minority group is leading, but non-minorities can still campaign for minority groups.
- Non-minorities tend to take leadership or make points that make groups feel less safe.
- The self definition is an element for most liberation campaign, so someone can self define as a BME student.
- The amendment to include "those who identify as" can reduce the self distinction and decrease the autonomy of the liberation campaigns.
- Amendment of the group being "open to those with an interest in BME issues" was not passed; For: 6, Against: 13.
- Procedural Motion for Black and Minority Liberation Group to be agreed in principle with membership being discussed at the next council; For: 8, Against: 9, Abstained: 2 did not pass.
- New amendment change 1.2 to read "people who are, or identify as, someone of BME." Was voted for: 9, against: 8, Abstained: 1. The Chairs vote is against so the amendment fails.
- The motion for Black and Minority Liberation Group passed by secret ballot vote; **Yes: 15, No: 2, Abstain: 1.**

12. Student Open Session

Noted:

- There was no discussion.

13. Election Briefing

Noted:

- BA gave a briefing on the responsibility of council members to support people who could fill their positions in the February elections.

14. Date of Next Meeting: 5th December 2015

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Chair

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Date

Confirmed