



**UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION**  
**Student Council - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015 at 6pm in Moot Court**

**Present:**

Chair: Alexandrya-Carmen Mbu (Agenda Items 1-3, 5 8 and 9)

Calum Watt (Agenda Items 6, 7 and Procedural Motion to Challenge the Chair)

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

Volunteer Members

	13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	20 <sup>th</sup> Apr
College of Art Officer – Mark Sowden	A	✗	✓	✓	A	
College of Science Officer - Connor Muir	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
College of Social Sciences Officer - Jake Baker	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Societies Officer - Sophia Bishell	✓	✗	✓	✓	A	
Sports Officer - Sammi Storey	✓	✓	A	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	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Carholme Community Rep	NF	NF	✓	✓	A	
Park Community Rep	NF	NF	✓	✓	A	

School Representatives

	13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	20 <sup>th</sup> Apr
Business - Gee Mattison	✓	✗	A	✓	✓	
Chemistry – Frasier Kelly	NF	NF	✗	✓	✓	
Computer Science - Jacob Carse	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Design and Architecture – Daniel Orford	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Design and Architecture – Sara Killelay	A	✗	✗	✗		
Engineering – Matthew Knott	NF	✓	✓	A	✓	
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	✓	✓	NF	NF	
Sport and Exercise Science – Jess Darnell	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	

#### Representatives of Societies and Sports Council

	13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	20 <sup>th</sup> Apr
Societies Committee Rep - Calum Watt	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Societies Committee Rep - Rebecca Fowler	NF	NF	*	✓	A	
Sports Committee Representative - Will Fry	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	
Sports Committee Representative – Thomas Pendle	NF	NF	*	*	*	

#### Non-Voting Students in attendance

Sam Gilbert, Brandan Cathall, Russell Blake, Stephanie Nock, Hollie Mansfield, Conor Delany, Sarah Hewerdine, Jessica Leggett, Holly Band, Sophie Lock, Holly Jacklin, Joshua Riddick, Erin Cook, Jack Maddock, Scott Bonner, Reece Horsley, Abigail Ans, Scott Swell, Katie Ellis, Ben Higgott, Paige Carleman, Danyal Khun, Jessica Bartholomew, Michael Daniell, Aigerim Kuanysh, Grace Richards, Natasha Wainaina, Marc Oatard.

#### **Also Present:**

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

James Brooks - Chief Executive, Hannah Coleman – HR and Office Manage, Scott McGinn - Communications Co-ordinator, Elizabeth Smy – Course Representation Worker, and Megan Graham – Administrative Support Worker.

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Aidan Mersh - Head of Membership Services and Marketing, Mark Sowden – College of Art Officer, Beth Lunn – Carholme Community Rep, Rosa Milan - Park Community Rep, Daniel Richardson – Psychology School Rep, Rebecca Fowler - Societies Committee Rep and Societies Officer – Sophia Bishell.

#### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved with amendments.

#### **3. Matters Arising**

##### **Noted:**

- Brian Alcorn fed back on the motions passed at the previous council which had been taken to the Board of Trustees for approval; Divisional Reps were approved with the amendments that elections would be voted on by Course Reps and the Academic Development Fund will be discussed at the next Board of Trustees (BoT) with further research into the funding being recommended.
- Alexandria-Carmen Mbu circulated the deadlines for reports and motions.
- Hayley Jayne Wilkinson sent out an email saying that the activity dashboard has now been launched for all activities.
- The Sports and Societies Officers and Representatives were invited to the Executive Committee meeting to discuss the Kit Supplier.
- The No Platform Policy was added to the operational plans to be reviewed annually.
- Brian Alcorn created an action plan of the Democracy Report.

- The Communications plans were circulated to Student Council prior to approval.
- The proposal for ratifying new Sports and Societies at the Representative meeting and creating additional Volunteer Officer positions are both agenda items at the next Sports and Societies Committee meetings.

***Procedural Motion: To challenge the Chairs ruling of an emergency motion being rejected.***

***Noted:***

- An emergency motion was submitted which was rejected by the Chair.
- The motion was to amend Bye-law 3 which states that if a vote takes place over the summer period and does not meet quoracy it is automatically approved.
- Speech for the Procedural Motion: The motion was proposed as an emergency motion due to the time sensitive nature of Bye-law 3.2.2 needing to be implemented before the summer period and only limited numbers of Student Council and BoT meetings it was important to discuss the issue at this Student Council.
- Speech against the Procedural Motion: Bye-law 3.12.1.2 states that emergency motions shall not be discussed unless the matter is of such urgency that the conduct of the business of the Union would be impaired by the delaying if discussion until the following Student Members meeting.
- The Chair would have accepted the motion if it was submitted before the deadline. Bye-law 3.12 defines an emergency motion and the Chair felt it did not qualify as an emergency motion. The BoT can discuss this issue online before the BoT in June.
- The motion passed.

***Emergency Motion: Amend Bye-law 3***

***Noted:***

- It was suggested to amend Bye-law 3.2.2 to implement a 24 hour discussion period where amendments can be made to any proposed decisions, then after this 24 hour discussion period a 72 hour voting period would then commence.
- Additionally, if the decision is to be binding then a quoracy of 50% of those eligible to vote should be implemented, or the decision should be passed provisionally with it being taken to the first Student Council of the year to vote upon.
- It was raised that some decisions would be irreversible, so voting at the next Student Council may not be feasible.
- Speech against the Emergency Motion: this Bye-law was discussed thoroughly by the BoT who were adamant that if the Executive Committee makes a decision which requires ratification later on it would leave the Union in a state of limbo. This Bye-law would only be used for business critical issues that could not wait. The Sabbatical Officers in the Executive Committee have been voted in by students to represent them and if students are not happy they can be removed from office.
- Brian Alcorn apologised for the poor communication of the amendment made by the Board of Trustees.
- An amendment was suggested to delete the line stating that if quoracy was not met that the decision would be automatically approved, the decision as a whole needs to pass or fail without uncertainties.
- A point of information was given that a Sabbatical Officer could get 35 people to vote online to have the motion passed rather than having the uncertainty.
- Jake Baker interrupted the speech against to say that the automatic passing of the decision is the problem, there is very little transparency within the organisation and the speaker did not care what the Trustees say. Another speaker asked if the Trustees may react differently to the amendment the second time.

- Trustee minutes are soon to be given freely; these are not currently available because they have not been confirmed at the next board of trustees yet.
- It was to be noted that on the Board of Trustees there are 6 student Trustees and 4 Sabbatical Officer Trustees so adequate student representation.
- As Trustees they are financially and by law responsible for 7 years after decisions are made and would not make decisions which would put anyone in danger.

**Agreed:**

- Amendment: To change the motion to include full members of the Union are able to take part in the discussion period.
  - Passed by ascension.
- Vote to amend the motion to change the automatic passing of decisions:
  - Vote did not pass: Yes – 9; No – 11; Abstain - 2.
- Vote on the Motion:
  - Vote Passed: Yes – 12; No – 6; Abstain - 0.

**Procedural Motion: To bring forward the School of the Month award.**

- Passed by ascension.

**4. Reports:**

- The reports were taken as read and not presented.

**5. Motion: The chair of Sabbatical Question Time (During Election Week) should be selected by Student Council.**

**Noted:**

- It was to be decided if the Chair of Sabbatical Officer Question Time, which takes place during Election Week, should be agreed by Student Council rather than the Executive Committee.
- There was discussion on who decides the Chair of Sabbatical Question Time currently.
- Any decision regarding the Elections would be taken through the Elections Sub-Committee to be ratified; a member of Secretariat is a member.

**Agreed:**

- Motion: The chair of Sabbatical Question Time to be chosen by Student Council:
  - Motion passed by ascension.

**6. Motion: Caution against Voting Members who have missed two Councils in a row.**

**Noted:**

- The current Bye-law 3.8.2 does not give the Chair opportunity to discuss any problems with the member of Student Council and not attending two Student Councils in one academic year does not prevent them from doing their job effectively.
- The amendment will allow the Chair to start a formal investigation into the situation and after the third unattended meeting the person will be deemed to have resigned.
- Alexandria-Carmen Mbu also requested to speak to all members of Student Council missing two Student Councils in a row; Mutani Yangwe (Mature Student Officer), Sara Killelay (Design and Architecture School Representative) and Thomas Pendle (Sports Committee Representative).
- It was clarified that this motion does not affect anyone who sends apologies to the meeting.

- An amendment was suggested for the investigation to be made after the first Student Council missed and resignation after the second.
- It was stated that if someone was unable to send apologies due to extenuating circumstances then this would be discussed after the investigation by the Chair.
- It was suggested that an amendment should be made to include the principle that the Chair may carry out a formal investigation and through the Chair's action make a decision
- It was suggested that the Chair should start an investigation with all people currently motioned to receive a caution, as they have not had a chance to discuss this yet.
- It should be noted that attendance has never previously been monitored. It was suggested that Student Council follow the work in practice and keep the current people elected in and use this motion from this point onwards.
- The current Bye-laws state that those members due to receive a caution are no longer members of Student Council and cannot be reinstated, so the motion changed to agree the process in the Bye-law going forward.

**Agreed:**

- Amendment: to change the investigation to after the first missed Student Council meeting and resignation after the second:
  - Amendment passed by ascension.
- Amendment: investigate the problem after each missed attendance with an outcome which can be agreed by Student Council:
  - Amendment passed by ascension.
- Amendment: To remove resolves one and two
  - Vote Passed:
- Motion: change Bye-law to state that after the first missed Student Council meeting the Chair will start a formal investigation and the automatic resignation of members is at the Chairs discretion:
  - Vote Passed: Yes – 14; No – 7; Abs – 1.

**7. Motion of Caution against Members not sending reports on time**

**Noted:**

- If the papers are not submitted on time then the documents cannot be distributed to Council abiding by the Bye-laws.
- The Mature Student Officer is no longer a member of Student Council due to the previous motion.
- Natasha Chapman's name to be spelled correctly.
- These members have been given a warning at the last Student Council: 72 hour warning, a warning on the day, and a warning 2 hours before the deadline.

**Agreed:**

- Procedural Motion: Add Mark Sowden to the list:
  - Motion Passed by ascension.
- Motion: Caution against Members not sending reports in on time:
  - Motion Passed by ascension.

**8. Motion of caution against School Representative for Lincoln Business School (LBS)**

**Noted:**

- Speech For: feedback has been given to the College Officer whose role is to bring these issues to Student Council. There has been feedback that students are disengaging from the system due to the bureaucratic role of the School Rep for LBS and poor attendance at key meetings at School, College and Institutional levels. It was noted that the College Officer said that he did not care if the motion passed as

it was a step in the right direction to get the School Rep for LBS to be more engaged

- There was discussion on if this has been discussed in a professional manner with the School Rep for LBS directly.
- It was stated that as the LBS is very large, with over 80 Course Reps only 4 or 5 Course Reps having problems was not a large proportion.
- Not attending meetings does not mean you are not fulfilling the role of a Rep.
- VP Academic Affairs has spoken to the School Rep for LBS and has received apologies to every meeting that the LBS School Rep did not attend and the VPAA attended.
- There was also a discussion about the word 'discouraged' and whether students felt overwhelmed by being the new School Rep for LBS and not necessarily the fact they were told they would be good or not
- There were discussions on the correct forum for this motion to be presented at.
- Speech Against: There were personal issues which the University and VP Academic Affairs were aware of. The School Rep for LBS represents 4,500 students and oversees 80 Reps and drop in sessions are held for Reps to attend. The Council was presented with positive correspondence from 5 members of staff and 16 Course Reps. 60 Reps are met with regularly and around 35 reps are spoken to on a daily basis.
- It was noted that the School Rep for LBS told people what the role consisted of and made sure that they knew exactly what they were getting into in terms of meetings, reporting to people and dealing with issues from, 4,500 students.
- It was also noted that the School Rep for LBS has attended most meetings in the first semester and sent apologies when she did not attend. In the second semester, however, she didn't always send apologies but she always encouraged people who wanted to run for the role to attend so they should shadow her and get a feel for the role. The School Rep for LBS had 30 minute – 60 minute conversations with people who wanted the role to explain what it entitles

**Agreed:**

- Amendment: to remove the 'alternative: to encourage an effective handover to the LBS Rep-Elect':
  - Amendment passed by ascension.
- Motion: caution against School Representative for Lincoln Business School:
  - Motion Failed: Yes – 11; No – 6; Abs – 2.

**9. Democracy Report Action Plan**

**Noted:**

- College Officer reports will include each School within them and in the new zone structure these reports will be sent to council as read.

**Agreed:**

- President to bring the Democracy Commission report to the last Student Council of the year or hold an emergency council

**10. Presentation of Findings from Pound in Your Pocket Research**

**Agreed:**

- Findings from the Pound in Your Pocket Research to be circulated to Student Council.

**11. Student Open Session**

**Noted:**

- The minutes from the last Board of Trustees meeting have yet to be approved, once approved they will be published on the website.
- In April 2012 a catering Sub-Group was approved but never implemented however there is consultation happening at the minute with students regarding the Isaac Newton Building.
- Mens' Football are competing on Wednesday in Leicester, there will be coach for supporters at £2 per ticket. Promotion of this event was requested.
- Course Rep Nominations close on Friday.
- The date of the All Members Meeting is to be sent out with the minutes

**Date of Next Meeting:** 20<sup>th</sup> April 2015

Chair..... Date.....

Unconfirmed