

## **Union Council 2009/10**

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### **A MEETING OF UNION COUNCIL WAS HELD ON TUESDAY 4<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010, AT 7:30PM IN ROOM 1.**

#### **Apologies:**

Zoe Lloyd

913 questioned the quoracy of the last council due to a councillor leaving during the meeting.

2 sought advice from the general manager who pointed out that no one challenged it during the meeting when they had the opportunity to, so there is no issue.

901 pointed out it was challenged at the beginning at quoracy was met when Lucy Oliver Welsh arrived.

903 asked if quoracy isn't met, whether the chair can have the casting vote chair reiterated the councillors had the opportunity to challenge quoracy and didn't, but can understand procedure was not entirely followed, but at the end of the day it wasn't challenged. The minutes will be looked into.

Andy Clark: the new "multi media editor" is wrong in the last minutes.  
Chair says this will be corrected.

6: propose to change the name to editor in chief.

Chair: agree, Zoe will amend minutes, in line with what 913 has said.

#### **MATTERS ARISING**

none.

#### **CHAIRS COMMENTS**

none.

#### **STRATEGIC PLAN**

Presented by Robert Hulme.

#### **CONSTITUTIONAL MOTIONS.**

Multiple officers of the union, presented by Nick.

Oli Hiscoe appointed temporary chair of council.

OPPOSED by 131.

282 asks Nick to elaborate more on the issue.

Nick: Officer of the union shouldn't be paired with anything else. Anyone in a federation is not eligible to run for an exec position.

282: hall committees aren't part of the union.

Lucy: hall committees aren't, HSF is.

131 points out only the HSF committee would be affected by this, and therefore it should be across the board with clubs and societies as well.

Temporary chair asks Jamie morgado to state who's in the union constitution

2: association chairs and federation chairs, chair of council etc.

903 asks if this will apply to SOCFED as well and if anyone in a federation is not eligible at all or whether they will have the opportunity to resign.

Nick: they would have the option to stand out. In city councils if someone has a conflict of interest they would highlight it and then stand down, but my personal opinion is the potential for that is so great it could be happening every five minutes, that's why I suggested it the way I have.

2: 2 issues: officers of the union multiple positions: can they realistically fulfil both of the roles? Should it be general or should we split it down to just chair of council.

Oli: chair of council is the person who holds the exec to account, its an independent positions so its important that it remains that way to avoid a conflict of interest.

141: if we do split it into the two, there could be cross over, what about college issues? Its hard to split it down into all the different cases.

Chair: nick does understand there are flaws but believe the positives outweigh the negatives.

131: propose to take it away and come back with a more clearly defined proposition. Propose to refer it to a relevant committee. The committee would be governance. Vote to take it to governance.

Chair: fine with it being taken to a vote, how can it be any more defined?

131: I just think there's some ambiguity with "across the board", it is unfair unless it does it all not just HSF and chair of council, there should be more consideration taken with it.

Chair: the implications only impact on a singular individual, the impact wont be quite as great because it will be in the constitution. It is not specific as it was in the papers

as I've changed it to federations, but this can go to governance, we would need a new chair.

Vote to governance procedural motion:

For:8

Against:2

Abstention:10

### **202: RAG constitution**

Jamie morgado on behalf of Jamie oliver

282:procedual to take it to straight to vote:

For: 15

against: 1

abstain: 2

PASSED

PASSED RAG CONSTITUTION

### **401: LSU discipline committee proposed by Henry Chambers**

in summary two points Henry makes:

FIXED penalties.

LEGAL HIGHS.

Questions:

909: whats your deifintion of legal highs and how long is that going to last?

Henry: lot of discretion should be used that's why its been kept quite broad

913: time bands and fines. Is it possible to put two punishments together?

Henry: that is already the case. Aggressive behaviour for example. Its just a guideline

908: how can you ban people for having something that's legal

Henry: when the door staff are there and they find someone with substance it's not their job to know what it is, and a lot of these legal highs end up having illegal stuff fin them anyway. Meth, for example, caused a lot of deaths, so why should we be letting it happen in our union.

908: there is a lot of media hype, we should be careful were not jumping on the media bandwagon

Henry: I agree, and there has to be a bit of common sense. Drinking is a legal high for example!

913: I don't see there would be any problem with banning anyone who's under any influence except alcohol. So instead of there being a grey area its quite clear.

Vote to take it to parts:

For:3

Against: a lot

Wont be taken to parts

Henry summarises. Saves time and more effective use of time, protect students, and door staff.

MOTION PASSED.

**600: casual vacancies.**

Proposed by Jamie Morgado.

Actioned to go away and decide on the process. Workshop took place and Jamie proposes the new process for casual vacancies.

He's got huge eyebrows.

Nominations open tomorrow

Close next Tuesday.

181: propose to correct what was said in the workshop. Sat sun offline campaigning Monday tues voting

144: in the meeting it wad discussed to have a hustings, is that included?

Jamie: yes. Candidates pack don't have to go through council, but noted.

908: ask about NUS, is that happening at the same time. There was information available beforehand. There doesn't seem to be much information at the moment.

Jamie: if you like we'll do some promo work so students are making a informed decision.

144: we also said they could be proposed by any member of the union

Jamie: yep that's fine.

152: sponsorship, did we say that would be allowed?

Jamie: no sponsorship.

152: campaigning on the voting days.

Jamie: Only online voting on the voting days.

6: who is the returning officer?

Jamie: as it stands, the returning officer is probably the chair of council. nominations open tomorrow and close next Tuesday. We were conscious that if it was any later we would be disrupting students with their exams. Gives candidates a chance to have enough time to make an informed vote as well.

173: the motion earlier about the multiple officer amendment going to a governance meeting would have to be the next four and a bit hours to make it valid. what is the quoracy of the meeting right now?

#### CHALLENGE OF QUORACY

Swingers: what about the candidates pack  
Will be there tomorrow.

Tas: if they want to stand for a committee next year can they stand in the elections tomorrow.

Jamie: any student is eligible.

903: the chair of council cannot be the returning officer; didn't we decide that last year?

Chair: the elections that took place in the first place, the ruling was brought that the NUS would be the returning officer. I still understand the rationale

Jamie: its up to you. If you think there's a conflict of interest you can change it. But constitutionally it's the same. Its only if the chair of council thinks its undemocratic.

901: council voted to give it to the board of trustees to make the decision.

173: are we saying governance need to meet in the next four hours???

Chair: if this passes yes, that would have to be the case.

232: even if we do have a governance meeting, wouldn't we have to pass it as a union council?? So shouldn't we just pass the first motion now?

Chair: what we need to do is change the dates of the election in order for this to take place.

191: can I question whether governance is the right way to go about this because I think there is a conflict of interest in governance itself!

Chair: well possibly union council isn't the right place to propose the motion as half of them are HSF. Trustees?

1: trustees are meeting on Thursday.

Chair: if we were to shift the nominations to start Friday after a ruling on BOT would that be possible?

Jamie: that would raise problems, it would have to push everything a week back.

173: to we have to take it still to union council?

Chair: no.

173: BOT just choose it doesn't come back to union council.

131: ive only seen all this this morning. There's more people in union council so its more democratic. BOT; there is the same conflict of interest.

101: can you clarify what they're ruling on.

Chair: on who's eligible.

144: wouldn't the members of BOT who have a conflict of interest just step down and get replaced by union councillors.

Chair: BUT EVERYONE HAS ONE!

801: no one with a conflict of interest unless they announce it in BOT.

chair: so you're suggesting its in the constitution they HAVE to announce interests.

Chair: yes.

All those in favour in it still going to governance meeting and to push it back a week?  
NOT PASSED

go to trustees:  
NOT PASSED.

motion for it to stay as it is, as it states on the pack, with the potential for it to change on what governance decide  
for: majority  
against: 1

MOTION PASSED: IT WILL STAY AS IT IS, AND TALK AT THE NEXT GOVERNANCE MEETING.

**Other elections:**

**Welfare development officer, from august the 1st.**

906 and 902

SAM HAMPTON.

906: stands down, wanted to go for ethical and environmental.

come to the platform. Two minutes speech.

Questions to sam Hampton.

192: what would you do if you were first elected?

Sam: im not completely confident in how its done here but obvious common sense approach of not panicking students. Profile needs to be raised, they need to know there is a danger at the moment.

2: if you had £200 to spend on a welfare campaign how would you spend it?

Sam: I would have to see what rosie has set up, so I would have to check with her. Safe sex is pushed at the start of the year so I don't think that would be necessary. Raising awareness of noise pollution.

6: with the exec handover coming very soon, what is your availability going to be like for July?

Sam: fully available!

Sam goes to the den.

Majority voted on.

**SAM IS DULY ELECTED WELFARE OFFICER.**

Till the 1<sup>st</sup> of august casual vancancy

**802 ethical and environmental officer.**

905

906

910

2 minute speech.

905: Amy Jones

906: Hawua Alfa

910 Jonathan Pinto

questions

3: as vp finance I am your mentor and have taken over quite a bit. If there was one thing you would change about the union building to reduce the environmental impact what would it be.

910: cut down on electricity consumption, ie lights.

906: saving energy. Put posters around raising awareness of the issues.

905: downstairs what we have upstairs.

144: same question that morgado had about £200 and what you would do with it.

906: having champions within departments, events, raise awareness, invest in saving energy, money would go there.

905: working with the hall companies such as imago, to get more information to the students.

910: promotions, campaigns, research on energy saving companies, negotiate on their products.

908: you're only going to be the position for a couple of months. What would your message be and how would you get students to be more environmentally friendly?

905: getting involved, hall switch offs, organise FREEC reps to do more. Make it more fun and exciting.

906: tshirts, recycle, think green etc.

910: talk to past execs, and see what they did that was successful and make them even better. Show dedication to show saving energy can improve people's lives.

1: realistically the remit is done for E&E, what do you think you can actually achieve in the last two months?

910: get the word out more,

905: it would be silly for me to say I can do lots in two months. Improve the website. Filled with info.

906: improve website and do emails.

All three go into the election hut.

AMY IS DULY ELECTED E&E OFFICER until AUG 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Any other business.**

909: attacks on campus. What practical steps have you taken? What is the university's take?

Bobby: we have liaised with the university since day one on this. The problem comes that, this is a police investigation so we're not allowed to give out too much information, we didn't also want to raise too much panic. The first attack had nothing to do with the latest attacks. The university has bought mobile CCTV for the location (as the location has been the same), arrests have been made. There's not a lot we can do because of communication because it is a police investigation. We're trying to raise awareness of the night bus etc. when we sit in those meetings we sit there and lobby for CCTV and better lighting. From the unions point of view, we're doing everything we can.

### **Date of the next meeting**

Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> of May.