

HULL UNIVERSITY UNION

UNION COUNCIL MINUTES Monday 19 February 2018 – Meeting Room 1, 6:30pm

Attendance

First Name	Surname	Position	Attendance			
			16 th Oct	13 th Nov	4 th Dec	19 th Feb
Student Officers						
Osaro	Otobo	President				
Salman	Anwar	Education Officer				
Jennie	Watts	Welfare & Community Officer				
Caitlin	O'Neill	Sports Officer				Resigned
Governance Zone						
Kym	Cardona	Councillor for Scrutiny				
Welfare & Community Zone						
Tom	Barnes	LINKS Officer			Thomas Gwilliam	Matthew Ward
Connor	Massey	LGBT+ Officer (Role share)				Resigned
Georgina	Baulch					Resigned
Rayan	Shipton	LGBT+ Officer				
Hayley	Hatton	Trans* Representative				
Maria	Majekodunmi	BAME Officer				
Jacqueline	Gomes-Neves	Women's Officer				
Jessica	Clunan	Disabled Students Officer				
Ruth	Williams	Environment and Ethics Officer				
Jordan	Navarro	Councillor for Scrutiny – Welfare & Community				
Education Zone						
Ashley	Pattison	Mature Students Officer				
Adam	Clifton	Part-time Students Officer				
Lauren	Williams	Postgraduate Taught Officer				
Rebecca	Devine	Postgraduate Research Officer				
Stefan	Caluser	International Students Officer				

Steven	Storey	Faculty Rep Faculty of Science and Engineering				
Katie	Hobson	Faculty Rep FACE				
Amelia	Smallwood	Faculty Rep Faculty of Health Sciences				
Michael	Howe	Faculty Rep Business, Law and Politics	N/A			
Activities Zone						
Rayne	Goddard	Chair SEC				
		Media Representative		Megan Hammell	Connor	Megan Hammell
Tom	McNamara	Chair RAG				
Katie	Wilkie	Societies Council Rep	N/A			
Alex	Fynney	Councillor for Scrutiny - Activities			Resigned	
Sports Zone						
Natasha	Wilson	AU Secretary & Communications Officer				
Maisie	Loggie	AU Members' Rep				
Nick	Wright	AU Presidents' Rep				

In attendance:

Nicole Steele, Student Voice Manager (SVM)

Liz Pearce, Membership Services Director (MSD)

Emily Normington, Executive Support Co-ordinator (ESC, Minutes)

Election of Deputy Chair

OO advised that the Deputy Chair of Union Council has resigned from their role, OO asked for nominees for the role. Tom McNamara (Chair Rag, TM) was the only nominee. Union Council appointed TM as Deputy Chair, with 11 votes in favour.

Co-option of LGBT+ Officer

JW noted that following the resignation of both LGBT+ Officers, Rayan Shipton would like to take on the role. Rayan was co-opted as LGBT+ Officer, with 11 votes in favour.

1. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted.

2. Apologies for absence (for acceptance)

None received.

3. Minutes for previous meeting (to note) (Paper A)

The minutes were approved as a correct record.

4. Minutes for Board of Trustees (to note) (Paper B)

No questions.

5. Breakout groups led by Ruth Williams on reward & recognition of Part Time Officers

Ruth Williams (Environment & Ethics Officer, RW) led a breakout group, asking attendees for their views on the role of a PTO and what recognition should be received.

6. Breakout group led by Jennie Watts on Zero Tolerance Policy (Paper C)

JW advised that a review has begun into updating the Zero Tolerance Policy and led a breakout group asking attendees to note any areas of improvement for the policy.

RW said the policy is currently vague and should be clearer in relation to gender identity and harassment.

7. Discussion led by Salman Anwar on No Platform Review

SA summarised the current No Platform Policy and led a breakout group asking Union Council to consider any changes, this could include removing the policy, amending or enhancing the list.

A student asked whether the policy includes individuals speaking on campus; SA advised that individuals will still need to be approved by the External Speaker policy. Nick Wright (AU President Rep, NW) suggested including views and characteristics of banned groups within the policy, to ensure it remains relevant.

8. Request to amend the agenda

A request to amend the agenda was received and it was agreed that motions would be considered prior to Student Officer Objective Updates and Zone Reports.

9. New General Business

9.1 M. 1718-4 Motion to oppose strike action that affects students' teaching (Paper F)

Nathan Kett (Proposer, NK) presented a motion regarding the UCU strikes taking place in late February and early March 2018. NK noted that industrial action is detrimental to student experience and may impact on their results; urging HUU to take a stance opposing the strikes. The motion was seconded by over 100 students.

NW asked for clarity on what the motion is requesting; NK would prefer for action to impact on attendance at University meetings and office hours. A student said students should be supporting the action taken by academic staff who support students regularly; NK does not feel all avenues have been explored. It was noted that some academic staff have agreed to support students by providing lecture slides. Another student added that the dispute is between the UCU and UUK.

Union Council noted that a statement representing the stance of the Student Officer team has been published on hullstudent.com. SA ran a poll for course reps, with 73.3% of participants supporting the stance within the statement. SA added that the Student Officer team have continued to engage with students to seek their feedback and concerns regarding industrial action. OO reiterated that the officer team must represent all students, including those who are concerned about the impact strike action will have on their studies; the officer team will continue to support students and be accessible throughout the process. JW added that the threat

of industrial action has negatively impacted on the mental health of some students. Jess Clunan (Disabled Students Officer, JC) agreed that HUU should represent all students, including students with disabilities who will be hugely impacted by the disruption.

An amendment to 'put pressure on the Vice Chancellor to resolve the situation as soon as possible' was seconded, 11 voted in favour of the amendment.

A second amendment was then made by Maisie Loggie (AU Members' Rep, ML) for a 'student led petition to encourage talks between the UCU and Vice-Chancellor to resolve as amicably as possible'; the amendment was seconded. 11 voted in favour of the motion, with none against and 2 abstentions. Following further discussion around the facts of the dispute between the UCU and UUK. This amendment was later amended to 'a student led petition to pressure the Vice Chancellor to encourage meaningful negotiations between the UCU and UUK'; this amendment was seconded and passed with 13 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions.

RW proposed an amendment to HUU's stance, changing this to neutral. SA noted that a neutral stance would not be appropriate given student concerns. The amendment was not seconded.

An additional amendment was proposed to change the motion wording from 'not supporting the UCU' to 'not supporting any action that damages the experience of students at the University'; the amendment was seconded. 11 voted in favour of the motion, with no votes against and one abstention.

The amended motion was put to a vote; the motion received 5 votes in favour, 5 against and 4 abstentions. Motion not passed.

9.2 M. 1718-5 Motion to amend Standing Order 8005 Governing the Union Executive Committee (Paper G)

OO noted the key amends to SO8005, no questions were received. The motion received 14 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions. The motion passes.

Student Officer Reports – Objective Updates (Paper D)

8.1 President

OO advised that there will be a Diversity and Inclusion in the workplace event on Wednesday 21st February at 1pm; providing an opportunity for students to network with local and national employers, in addition to University alumni.

8.2 Education Officer

Report taken as read, no questions received.

8.3 Welfare & Community Officer (no report submitted)

JW welcomed questions; no questions received.

10. Zone Reports (Paper E)

9.1 Governance Zone

No questions received.

9.2 Education Zone (no report submitted)

No questions received.

9.3 Activities Zone

No questions received.

9.4 Welfare & Community Zone (no report submitted)

No questions received.

9.5 Sports Zone (no report submitted)

No questions received.

11. Your Ideas (if applicable)

OO advised that over 160 ideas were submitted during Your Ideas week, these will be allocated to Full Time and Part Time Officers as appropriate.

12. Any Other Business

Megan Hammell (Hullfire Editor, MH) advised that a Hullfire Elections Special will be available from 9th March and welcomed article contributions. OO suggested articles explaining why PTO roles are important, adding that students standing in the election would not be eligible to contribute to the newspaper.

JC asked Union Councillors to keep up to date with a number of events and campaigns taking place in the coming weeks.