

AGENDA

General Meeting

3rd October 2019



There will be a meeting of the Students' Union General Meeting on **Thursday 3rd October 2019** from **5:00pm in Lecture Theatre A3.**

IN ATTENDANCE

- 1.1 Members Present
- 1.2 In Attendance
 - Josh Muirhead JM VP Communities
 - Amy Smith AS VP Education
 - Gill Thayne GT Sports President
 - Rowan Johnston RJ Sports Union Communications Officer
 - Craig Stephen CS Sports Union Participation and Engagement Officer
 - Cian Ireland CI Housing Officer
 - Sonny Bailey SB Equalities Officer (Disabled)
 - James Douglas JD Engagement Officer
 - Svea Horn SH Co-Curricular Officer & Uniboob
 - Marie Stadtler MS International Officer
 - Hope Murray HM Health and Wellbeing Officer
 - Sam Ormiston SO Media Officer
 - Hannah Dry HD Sustainability Officer
 - Ordinary members OM Attendance Sheet available on request
- 1.3 Observers
 - Nick Manton Communications Manager
 - Matthew Woodthorpe Environmental Development Coordinator
 - Elaine Shepherd Activities and Volunteer Coordinator
 - Rosamund Vickers Democracy and Representation Coordinator
- 1.4 Apologies
 - Elijah Graham EG Equalities Officer (LGBTQ+)
 - Laura Kerr LK Equalities Officer (Women)
- 1.5 Absent without Apologies

MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Adopting minutes from previous meeting (AGM)

JM Proposes we adopt the minutes
Finlay Allmond Seconded

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

CHALLENGES TO ORDER OF PAPER

JM A challenge to the order of the paper was submitted before the meeting, but it was rejected by the chair

DATES TO NOTE

- 5.1 By-elections Nominations close 4th Oct, and voting open 14th & 15th Oct
- 5.2 Education Zone 17th Oct
- 5.3 Black History Month October 2019

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- 5.4 Climate Week 7th Oct – 6th Oct
- 5.5 World Mental Health Day 10th Oct
- 5.6 Communities Zone 31st Oct
- 5.7 Transgender Day of Remembrance 20th Nov

ELECTIONS & RESIGNATIONS

- 6.1 Resignation of Union President, Nelson Acquah
- 6.2 Resignation of Non-traditional Students Officer- Education Zone
- 6.3 Union by-elections (dates above)
- 6.4 Elections Committee (x3)

Jess Ried, Elena Semple, Mary-Kate Ross put themselves forward as candidates
All 3 candidates elected

- 6.5 Elections of CZEC Lay Members

President Positions (x2): Euan, Daniel, Emily Hencher run as candidates
Elected: Emily and Euan both elected as presidential members on CZEC

Lay member (x3): Maren Toft, Charlene, Lily, Daniel, Clemens Ziesk run as candidates
Elected: Daniel, Charlene, Clemens elected as lay members of CZEC

REPORTS / PRESENTATIONS

- 7.1 VP Education

AS Great to see module reps and faculty officers here, their training has been over the past couple of weeks which all went well and had a great turnout. Remaining faculty officer positions open for applications. I am on the working group for our ELIR which is a big uni review. We need lots of student engagement in this so we will be reaching out. Working on Learn to learn. Working on embedding SDGs in the curriculum. I am also on the student finance NUS action group with fellow Student Officers. Working to ensure more sanitary products are available but feedback is always helpful. I am also working with the university to ensure campus central is accessible as possible during their construction work.

- 7.2 VP Communities

JM Working on NUS groups in relation to sustainability issues and students with disabilities. We have 8 new societies. We are also working with well established societies to help them to progress. We are at most 1000 members which is brilliant. Any questions please feel free to come chat at the end.

- 7.4 Sports Union President

GT Lots of training going on. BUCS started last week super exciting. Already working with various sports groups and this is running smoothly. We have a new app which is great for technical support. The disability and inclusion training has been up and running, helping create empowerment in sport to ensure inclusive environments. 1400 memberships. presidents forum upcoming, redevelopment at ganacy on time

DISCUSSION AND DECISION TOPICS

- 8.1 Strengthen our NUS Delegation Elections Motion
CI Spoke in favour of the motion

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Finlay Allmond Invited to oppose motion
CI Spoke again in favour of the motion
FA Responded again against the motion.
CI Closing summary
Voting Commences

Motion is passed

8.2 Union Meeting Participation Motion

CI The motion waved and so will no longer be proposed

8.3 Motion for Directly Elected Student Trustees

Daniel Deery This motion is to directly elect student trustees to the Union board. The board oversee the student union. Currently has 3 elected student officers in the form of sabbatical officer. The Union should be a democratic institution, therefore the motion holds the remaining student trustee should be elected by the student body. We should maintain the shortlisting of candidates so as to ensure they are eligible and competent, but then the shortlist will be sent to students for a vote.

OM This has been looked at by the student body before. They used to be elected and then a previous VP Ed passed a motion at a GM to hire instead as this a technical, not political position. The union has vigorous interviews to choose best candidate, this is not an issue of democracy it is an issue of competence.

OM Regardless of being a technical role, the role should be elected as they have control over union so should be student elected.

OM This was changed by students as it didn't work in past. The officers are elected as student reps by student body and so we already have elected student representation on the board. The student trustee is also appointed by not only union staff but executive council, so they are vetted by students also.

DD Closing statement

Motion is not passed

8.4 Climate Emergency Motion

AS The Climate fund bid has reached the second round which is great. We bring this motion to declare a climate emergency so as a Union we can support staff and students who wish to stand in support of change to stop climate change.

OM You mentioned a peoples' assembly, what does this mean.

AS A peoples' assembly is an open group for decision making.

OM Will students marked present in class if they are at a climate strike so as not to harm attendance, as other unis have done?

AS We will try but cannot guarantee

JM Argument against? No

AS Closing summary

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Motion Passed

8.5 Parking Motion

Laura Firth Drivers have seen state of car parking, it is impossible to park after 9am, it is difficult to get here by public transport during to living very far away. Many drive from Stirling but would be more environmentally friendly not to and passed should be handed out on a form of weighted system.

OM Does this motion put emphasis on sabs, particularly amy?

LF Yes, I think this is an important area they must work on.

OM Student parents need car for kids but live closer so might need a car.

LF Yes, appreciate circumstances, so accessibility issues also considered not just distance, taking peoples circumstances into account

OM I understand but I think this is dictating what people should do, but rather people should have a choice so they have flexibility in case they work after even if they live near by.

LF Yes in certain situations this will be problematic, but many do not need car for transport to uni and yet still do, making it hard for others to park.

OM What if everyone gives a genuine reason?

LF Well if so we will need to find another solution

JM anyone else against?

OM I do realise parking is very bad, but this motion is problematic as union has no say over parking, so it is something we can pressure uni to do, but motion directs sabbs to act, rather than advises them to lobby and as such this motion requires work. Also First bus is a poor service, so driving is actually a lot easier for other people.

OM Other unis like Strathclyde operate a similar policy of weighted needs, I think for people who require car should be given a degree of thought put towards their needs.

JM One more against?

OM motion has made clear not trying to attack students who drive, but I do not think it is fair to penalise students who need easy access but cannot use first bus which is very poor.

LF Closing statement

Motion is not passed

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 21st November 2019 at 5pm in Lecture Theatre A3

RESERVED BUSINESS