



ULSTUDENTS' UNION
www.lincolnsu.com

University of Lincoln Students' Union
Minutes of a meeting of the Student Council

held on Friday 12th October 2012 at 12.00pm
in The Platform, The Engine Shed

Present:

Chair

John Fernandez

Council Members

Jennine Fox (President)	Wesley Wells (VP Academic Affairs)
Dan Sam (VP Activities)	Andrew Twagira (VP Welfare & Diversity)
Daniel Sparrow (Sports Council Rep)	Angelica Fyfe (SLR Life Sciences)
Charlotte Greenley (SLR Psychology)	Joseph Hartley (SLR Sport)
Calum Watt (Deputy Societies Council Rep)	Stacey Addison (SLR Health & Social Care)
Gareth Salter (Societies Council Rep)	Nicola MT Sole (SLR Architecture)
Katie Willmot (Deputy Sports Council Rep)	Lindsay Westgarth (College of Social Sciences Officer)
Francesca Anderson (Officer for Students)	Beth Burr (SLR Art & Design)
Sophie Rayment (SLR Law)	Victoria Hackett (SLR Business)
Hugh Lound (Officer for Students)	Thomas Candy (College of Science Officer)
Charlotte Hurrell (SLR Media)	Tom Briggs (SLR Performance)
Emma Farry (SLR Social Sciences)	Joshua Leafe (SLR Computing)
Gooleswari Seeburn (Societies Officer)	Jade Snedeker (Sports Officer)

Students' Union Members

Connor Burton	Brian Alcorn
Oliver Bottomley	Chris Whitwood
Charlotte Smith	Sophia Smyth
Grace Townsend	Komal Ramasawmy
Linford Butler	Patrick Lewis
Maria East	James Nichols
Kayleigh Coddington	Rupert Walker
Elliott Davies	
Adam Spivey	

Also in Attendance

James Brooks (Chief Executive Officer, Students' Union)
Mike Neary (Dean of Teaching & Learning)
Rebecca Pocock, Democracy Worker

1. Welcome from the Chair

Noted:

- John Fernandez welcomed Students to the first Council of the year and expressed a hope that Council would move away from being a 'talking shop' taking positive actions this year on behalf of Students.

2. Apologies for Absence

Noted:

- Voting members were reminded of the importance of sending their deputy to meetings in order to maintain quoracy and ensure Students are represented on Council.
- Apologies were received from Scott Davidson and Loryn Good.

3. Approval of Minutes

Agreed:

- The minutes of the Student Council meeting held on the 23rd April 2012 were confirmed as an accurate record of the meeting.

4. Summary of Key Union Meetings

Sports Council

Noted:

- Given by Dan Sam on behalf of Jade Snedeker .
- Jade will be working to increase awareness of Union Sports Teams both on and off Campus.
- Sports teams are being encouraged to work collaboratively rather than against each other.
- Jade is increasing the visibility of the role of Sports Officer to ensure Students recognise her around Campus.

Societies Council

Noted:

- 10 new societies were ratified at Societies Council
- Societies Officer (Gooleswari Seeburn) is undertaking partnership working with Bishop Grosseteste and the University of Lincoln to promote society events.

5. Matters Arising

Nothing to note

6. Officer Update

Wesley Wells (VP Academic Affairs)

Noted:

- Collaborative working has been undertaken with the Careers service around enhancing graduate employability through improvement of transferable skills.
- Exploring the possibility of introducing ted.com to Lincoln to enhance lectures and live-feed data from Students via text to reps to comment on lectures.
- Academics achievements should be promoted more widely around the University so their knowledge and skills can be better shared by all Students.

Andrew Twagira (VP Welfare & Diversity)

Noted:

- Focussing on increasing entrepreneur activity across the University starting with an Art event at the end of November for students to showcase work.
- House of Horrors campaign to highlight sub-standard accommodation will be taking place at the end of October.
- A show of hands indicated that the vast majority of students present had experienced problems with their accommodation.
- A new website is to be launched soon which enables students to rate their landlord via a survey. These ratings would then be available for potential tenants to view.

- Student Buddy system designed for students to help students is being launched soon. Training for this scheme starts on the 26th October.

Daniel Sam (VP Activities)

Noted:

- PEP Rally had the largest number of participants this year in its history.
- Students are confusing the Engine Shed venue with the Students' Union when the two are entirely separate.
- Tynchy Strider is playing at the Snowflake Ball this year. Early Bird tickets are £14, standard tickets are £17.
- Negotiation is continuing around the use of cricket pitches on Burton Road which will prevent the cricket team from travelling to Nottingham to play home games. This pitch will also be utilised for rounders, softball and baseball.
- Grad Ball and Freshers were both successful events with good attendance.

Jennine Fox (President)

Noted:

- The President's remit covers marketing, communication and governance.
- On 1st July 2012 the Students' Union became a totally separate entity from the Union with the transfer of Union Staff to Union Employment.
- James Brooks was welcomed as the new Chief Executive Officer. James was originally based at Hull Students' Union which won Union of the year last year and has been awarded a SUIE Gold Award.
- Rebecca Rock left during the summer period following a job offer from the Church in Edinburgh.
- Aidan Merish will be joining the Welfare and Representation Department. Aidan is also from Hull where he was the President of the Students' Union. He sits on the NUS Block committee.
- Emily Hill has joined the Activities Department as the new Activities Worker.
- Volunteering is currently recruiting for a new Support Worker.
- The new SU website will be launched in January 2013.
- Following a Student Council meeting last February it was apparent that Students had many concerns around the careers service. Officers are currently investigating careers service provision for Students, however it is felt that 3 full-time and 1 part-time staff member is inadequate for 12,000 students.

Noted:

- The Chief Executive Officer acts mostly in an advisory capacity both to the Officers and the Board of Trustees and has oversight of the operational elements of the Students' Union, ensuring the organisation is run sustainably and responsibly.
- James Brooks intends to delegate more financial control to Officers so that they are able to sign off for items on the budget.

Action:

- Rebecca Pocock is to circulate the full Executive Report to Council.
- Rebecca Pocock is to circulate a copy of the job description for the Chief Executive Officer.

7. Election of Student Council Trustees

Noted:

- The Trustees are responsible for the strategic direction of the Union, monitoring the finances, holding the Chief Executive Officer to account and overseeing management of the Union.

Discussed:

- Composition of the Board and legal obligations imparted by acting as a Trustee.

Noted:

- Only full voting members of Student Council can nominate themselves for this position. Student Officers are excluded from standing.
- Gareth Salter, Josh Leafe and Charlotte Greenley nominated themselves.

Agreed:

- Gareth Salter and Josh Leafe were elected as the Student Trustees.

8. Election of a Deputy Chair for Student Council

Discussed:

- The obligations of the Deputy Chair.

Noted:

- Charlotte Greenley and Joseph Hartley nominated themselves for this role.

Agreed:

- Joseph Hartley was elected for the role of Deputy Chair.

9. Election of a Student Member for Elections Committee

Discussed:

- The role and function of the Elections Committee.

Noted:

- Chris Whitwood and Charlotte Greenley nominated themselves for this role.

Agreed:

- Charlotte Greenley was elected as the Student member for Elections Committee.

10. Catering sub-group

Noted:

- The previous Council voted to form a catering sub-group to provide a forum to discuss provision of food through University outlets.
- Andrew Twagira will act as the Chair.

Action:

- Rebecca Pocock to collect names of interested Students after the meeting and arrange the first meeting of the group.

11. Smoke Free Campus

Noted:

- Last academic year senior University managers approached the Union for their opinion on implementing a smoke free campus.
- Officers decided that the best course of action would be to consult students widely through a referendum.
- The University will own the change and police any resulting changes. The Union has simply been consulted for Students' opinion.

Discussed:

- Phrasing of the Question.
- Practicalities of enforcing a ban, confusion as to where smoking would be allowed.
- Presence of smoking related litter on campus.
- Smoking shelters taking up space when it is limited in some areas. Shelters creating areas of the campus which are unusable for non-smokers. Stigmatisation of smokers consigned to designated areas.

Agreed:

- The question for the referendum will be "Do you want smoking zones introduced on Campus?".

Noted:

- If the referendum passes, there may be an opportunity for review after a couple of months to see how new arrangements are working.

12. Student Open Session

Discussed:

- #demo 2012 and allocation of financial resources to a demo.

Noted:

- The 2010 demo was supported by approximately 50,000 students and stopped some of the more draconian measures the Government had proposed.
- 3 coaches were sent from Lincoln, however 2 coaches which had been booked were not filled despite Students committing to go. This event cost the union £7000 out of a possible £10000 and prevented the implementation of certain campaigns due to the re-allocation of finances.
- There is to be a meeting at 5pm on Tuesday 16th October in The Hub to discuss plans for the demo. Students are welcome to attend if they would like to get involved.

Noted:

- The Business Society approached the Engine Shed for a quote to hold an event, however the Hilton were significantly cheaper.
- Executive Officers are meeting regularly with Engine Shed Staff to discuss issues which such as this. Evidence such as this is needed to form the basis for these discussions.

Noted:

- Students who attended the Black Students conference are happy to circulate documents from the conference with guidelines from NUS on representing ethnic minority students.

Noted:

- The budgets for Sports, Societies and Groups Council differs at £9900, £6600 and £1500 respectively.
- Historically the costs for transport for Sports Clubs have are higher as they have more away matches. The budget has therefore been allocated to reflect this.
- Sports & Societies gets £70,000 of SU money compared to £1500 for the representation system.
- Students are advised to utilise their funds more effectively and look at raising membership costs in order to finance society activities.

13. Any Other Business

None noted

12. Date of Next Meeting

9th November 2012 12-2pm in The Platform, The Engine Shed.

I certify that the above minutes are a true and accurate summary of the meeting held on 12th October 2012, and have been approved by Student Council. These minutes will now be publicly available.

.....
Name (Chair)

.....
Date