



ULSTUDENTS' UNION
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University of Lincoln Students' Union
Minutes of a meeting of the Student Council
held on Friday 8th March 2013 at 12.00pm
in The Platform, The Engine Shed

Present:

Chair

Joe Hartley

Council Members

Jennine Fox (President)	Wesley Wells (VP Academic Affairs)
Daniel Sam (VP Activities)	Gareth Salter (Societies Council Rep)
Daniel Sparrow (Sports Council Rep)	Charlotte Greenley (SLR Psychology)
Lindsay Westgarth (College Officer Social Sciences)	Victoria Hackett (SLR Business)
Nicola Sole (SLR Architecture)	Gooleswari Seeburn (Societies Officer)
Francesca Anderson (Officer for Students)	Abisoye Osundairo (Societies Rep)
Linford Butler (SLR Performance - deputy)	Loryn Good (College Officer Arts)
Emma Farry (SLR Social Sciences)	Charlotte Hurrell (SLR Media)
Edward Fowles (SLR Engineering)	Thomas Candy (College Officer Science)
Angelica Fyfe (SLR Life Science)	

Students' Union Members

Richard Philip	Joshua Orhiunu
Joshua Williamson	Patrick Lewis
Brian Alcorn	Connor Burton
Scott McGinn	Robert Stokes
Marcell Grant	Calum Watt
Fiona McLeish	Chris Whitwood
Joe Burt	Ian Antwi
Daniel Addai	
Peter Lightbody	

Also in Attendance

Ian Johnston (Interim Deputy CEO/Activities & Development Manager)
Emily Hill (Sports & Societies Worker)
Rebecca Pocock (Democracy Worker)
Kirsty Barnes (Representation Intern)
Tracey Revill (Activities Co-ordinator)

Welcome from Joe Hartley

- Joe welcomed students to the meeting and announced the close of voting in the Student Union Elections.

1. Apologies for Absence

Noted:

- Apologies were received from Scott Davidson, Judith Carey, Aidan Mersh, John Fernandez, Andrew Twagira, Beth Burr, James Wigger, Kay Coddington, Hugh Lound.

2. Approval of Minutes

Agreed:

- The minutes of the Student Council meeting held on the 8th February 2013 were approved without amendments.

3. Matters Arising

Noted:

- None noted

4. Summary of Key Union Meetings

Societies Council

Noted:

- Gooleswari Seeburn (Societies Officer) gave an update on Societies Council. There is one more meeting left this academic year and societies have a lot of their development fund remaining. If this fund is not spent by societies it may not be available next year.
- Gooleswari will be putting a proposal to Societies Council next week about holding a societies show case event.

Groups Council

Noted:

- James Wigger (Groups Officer) sent a written update which was read out on his behalf by the Chair.
- The last meeting was informal, focusing on planning out the next year, as well as reflecting on this year
- LGBT only one in attendance since the fracturing of MAPS. The Chair has resigned.
- Key areas identified: SU needs to have a more structured approach to the year with groups. New VP Welfare needs to take a firm lead in guiding groups through managing events and fulfilling their representational role.
- Kyle (VP LGBT) and Aidan noted that instead of a formalised committee structure a suggestion could be to have 'organisers'. Removing the connotations that they have to lead and be the single point of focus for an entire group.
- Placed heavy emphasis on getting relevant information to groups before welcome week. Everything that has been learned this year, and the failings such as finance training late in the first semester, lack of awareness of resources etc should be addressed before the freshers fair.
- The fresher's fair should perhaps be split differently, to avoid the confusion between sports & societies, then a Groups Fayre.

Executive Committee Summary

Noted:

- Jennine Fox (President) gave the summary on behalf of the Executive.

- The Executive Committee has been planning a Trip to Alton Towers which will be open to any students. The cost will be £33 per person including transport. Further details will be released soon.
- This trip has come out of the results of the strategic review which highlighted that students wanted the Union to put on more events.

Board of Trustees

Noted:

- There have been no meetings since the last Council meeting.

Agreed:

- To hear the catering sub-group update next.

5. Catering Sub-Group

Noted:

- Brian Alcorn gave the summary on behalf of the group.
- There has been no meeting since December.
- Andrew Twagira (VP Welfare) now has the survey results which utilised for planning.
- The sub-group has been instrumental in improving the labelling of vegan/vegetarian foods in University outlets and informing Student Council about the reasons behind the differences in pricing between University outlets.
- There was a general feeling between the members that the group had now served its purpose and that Council should take a vote on whether it should be disbanded.

Agreed:

- Council voted for the sub-group to be disbanded.

6. Officer Update

Wesley Wells (VP Academic Affairs)

Noted:

- The Student Union is to conduct an audit on all Postgraduate staff to gather more information about the delivery of teaching to research students.
- Atrium Phase 2 will include the construction of seminar rooms. Postgraduates will have priority in these rooms.
- The Students' Union has been instrumental in securing the placement of students on HR panels
- The Union has been working closely with the University Quality Office on the structure of University feedback to students. This evidence will be presented in a structured annual plan.
- The SMS feedback project has been delayed due to a misinterpretation of the design brief. First Year Life Sciences Students will trial the service next academic year.
- Pearsons have been working on the online training designed to increase student employability. This is based around 7 key skills identified by a Government business agency. The prototype training programme was not considered suitable for students and is being re-designed.

Jennine Fox (President)

Noted:

- The results of the strategic review are now in which was conducted by Alterline. The review was undertaken to help understand the members at Lincoln and to make the organisation more relevant.
- Internal and external stakeholders were approached as well as students. 115 surveys were completed by stakeholders which is the highest response rate for any Union.
- Communication was highlighted as a priority area for development.

- It was noted that priorities differed slightly for SU Staff and Officers and the University management.
- Over 10% of the membership responded in the student survey (1239 respondents).
- Large numbers of students think that the SU owns the Tower Bar and the Engine Shed.
- Job Shop is perceived to be run by the Union as it is located within the Union Offices.
- The majority of Students think that the Tower Bar/Engine Shed should be run by the Students' Union.
- The strategic plan is to be written by the 1st June and will be approved by the Trustees on the 12th June.

Action:

- Rebecca Pocock to e-mail out the results of the survey to the members.

Daniel Sam (VP Activities)

Noted:

- There has mostly been a focus on events planning recently.
- Details will be released soon for all of the upcoming events.
- Varsity is on April 10th, most of the events will be held at Riseholme or in the Sports Centre.
- Rowing will take place for the first time in Varsity's history.
- T-shirts will be on sale from Monday at £5, the last batch sold out in 2 days. Wristbands are still available and proceeds go to charity.

7. Student Ideas (motions)

7a) Availability of sugar-free drinks on Campus

Noted:

- Both proposer and seconder were absent from the meeting, therefore the Chair proposed a vote to move the motion to the next meeting.

Agreed:

- Council voted in favour to hear the motion at the meeting in April.

8. AGM Feedback

Noted:

- Jennine Fox asked students for their feedback on AGM.
- Students were in support of having 2 all student meetings per year where all students could vote. It was felt that the agenda at the last AGM was unmanageable and that 2 smaller meetings would break this up.
- Students were unsure of how the voting system worked and how the meeting was run.
- It was felt that officers should have better training on AGM and how to manage debate.
- The format of the meeting was felt to be confusing especially for people who have never been to an AGM before.
- There was a general feeling of disappointment that the motions were carried forward to student council where only elected members had a vote.

Action:

- Jennine Fox is to write a proposal for Council and bring to the next meeting.

9. Student Open Session

Nothing to note

10. Any Other Business

Student Led Teaching Awards

Noted:

- Students were encouraged by Wesley Wells (VP Academic Affairs) to nominate people for the SLTA.
- Everyone who is nominated will receive a certificate.
- This award lets Union/University Staff know what is important to students and helps build better relationships.

Active Citizenship Focus Group

Noted:

- Students were invited to take part in the focus group taking place immediately after Council.

11. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting on the 26th April 12-2pm The Platform, The Engine Shed.

I certify that the above minutes are a true and accurate summary of the meeting held on 8th March 2013, and have been approved by Student Council. These minutes will now be publicly available.

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Name (Chair)

.....
Date