



ULSTUDENTS' UNION
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**University of Lincoln Students' Union
Minutes of the AGM 2013
Friday 18th January 2013 12:00-14:00
The Engine Shed**

Present

Members of the Executive Committee

Jennine Fox (SU President, Chair)
Wesley Wells (VP Academic Affairs)
Andrew Twagira (VP Welfare & Diversity)
Dan Sam (VP Activities)
Francesca Anderson (Officer for Students)
Thomas Candy (College of Science Officer)
Kayleigh-May Coddington (Officer for Students)
Loryn Good (College of Arts Officer)
Gooleswari Seeburn (Societies Officer)
Jade Snedeker (Sports Officer)
Lindsay Westgarth (College of Social Sciences Officer)
James Wigger (Groups Officer)

Members

Aaron Abordo	Mark Clare	Claudia Kinloch
Brian Alcorn	Kyle Cockayne	Lisa Kwatia
Ian Antwi	Jennifer Cooke	Edward Lambeth
Robert Atkinson	Victoria Cottam	Joshua Leafe
Zac Ayres	May Curran	Patrick Lewis
Sarah Beane	Abigail Dawson	Peter Lightbody
Mandeep Bhogal	Louise Downing	Georgina Long
Emma Boden-Heaume	Steven Downing	James Loveday
Emily Booth	Charlotte Everington	Jack Maddock
Phillippa Bowhill	Emma Jane Farry	Charlotte Maguire
Michael Brereton	Angelica Fyfe	Stephanie Mainoo
Tara Britton	John Gibbins	Bryan Malcolm
Tom Briggs	Charles Giggie	Rebecca Mann
Elizabeth Brooks	Sam Gilbert	Claire Markham
Eleanor Bryan	Marcell Grant	Emily Mason
Beth Burr	Charles Graham	Carmen Mbu
Joseph Burt	Charlotte Greenley	Scott McGinn
Alexander Burton	David Gurney	Fiona Mcleish
Anthony Burnell	Victoria Hackett	Annie Mitchell
Linford Butler	Joseph Hartley	Alex Morley
Amy Cass	James Hayward	Thomas Mulholland
Michelle Caswell	Ben Henderson	Ryan Murphy
Francesca Caulfield	Sally Hoornaert	Imogen Napper
Samuel Cave	Charlotte Hurrell	Sophie Nash
Natasha Chapman	Alexander Hyde	Christopher Ng
Melissa Champion	Christopher James	James Nichols
Jordan Christian	Rebecca Joinson	Adeolu Olaosebikan
Adam Clark		

Sean Oxspring
Alexander Parker
Anna Parkinson
Sophie Rayment
Gemma Reeve
Jessica Robinson
William Robinson
Gareth Salter
Sarah Sharman
Matthew Sheperson
Harry Siviter
Charlotte Smith

Sarah Smith
Rebecca Sowter
Daniel Sparrow
Robert Stokes
Amy Thompson
Sara Tresise
Sarah Truesdale
Adam Tully
Ana Viera Andrade
Rebecca Wade
Zara Wakefield
Lydia Wallis

Calum Watt
Stephen Waudby
Michael Whitwood
Jessica Wickham
Katie Willmont
Dalian Yambila
Afolake Yusuph
Tanyaradzwa Zimuto

Also in Attendance:

James Brooks (Chief Executive Officer)
Ian Johnston (Interim Deputy Chief Executive Officer)
Susan Ford (External Trustee)
Tracey Revill (Sports & Societies Co-ordinator)
Jane Kilby (Volunteering Co-ordinator)
Emily Hill (Sports & Societies Support Worker)
David Carter (External Trustee)
Robin Wright (University of Lincoln, Director of Sport)
Ross Ironfield (Marketing & Communications Manager)
Kirsty Barnes (Representation Worker)
Rebecca Pocock (Democracy Worker)
Dan Clayton (Environment Sustainability Manager, University of Lincoln)
Dean Howard (Finance Controller)
Aidan Mersh (Representation Co-ordinator)

Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Scott Davidson, Hugh Lound, John Fernandez, Nikki Sole.

Welcome

Jennine Fox, SU President, welcomed Students to the AGM and thanked them for their attendance at this important meeting. Jennine reminded students that AGM was a chance to challenge the Trustees as leaders of the Union and that the organisation was run by Staff and elected Officers for Students.

1. Opening Speech

Dan Clayton (Environment Sustainability Manager, University of Lincoln) delivered the opening speech, detailing future plans for the development of the University Campus.

Noted:

- The new Art Architecture & Design Building is due for completion in July 2013 It will include a gallery between the new and existing building and a square for sculptural exhibitions/events.
- Becor House behind the Think Tank has been secured on a 5 year lease and will be re-fitted and re-furbished for use as Science Labs and Teaching rooms. This building will be ready in June 2014. This will be the first stage of a Science Park development in Lincoln.
- The Think Tank Lease has been extended for a further 5 years. Nursing Students now have ward environments to practice in. This development was carried out in partnership with Lincolnshire County Council.
- The Business & Law Building now have a new café area.

- Atrium Phase II has new furniture and a new layout. Further break-out teaching space will be added via a mezzanine floor. Re-location of the staircases will enable a wind-break to be installed in the building to stop the cold flow of air. There will also be a new coffee bar and a serving hatch installed.
- The Library has planning permission for a small extension on the right hand side of the building. A larger extension is planned for completion in 2015 which will double the size of the Library. This is subject to planning approval.
- The Level-crossing is currently subject to a planning consultation process in order to create a footbridge. The number of trains running through the centre of town will increase therefore Network Rail are planning two bridges on Brayford Wharf East and the High Street to be completed by 2015.
- Student Accommodation is planned for the Wigford Wharf Site which is to be built by a private housing provider.
- A new floating swan island is planned for the Brayford Pool.
- There are future plans for a new 500 seat lecture theatre.
- Car access will be limited in the future on-site however there are plans to increase the number of car parking spaces available to enable some students to access the University by car.
- Students can e-mail Gary McMahon in the estates Department for copies of the plans gcmcmahon@lincoln.ac.uk

The floor was opened for questions.

Noted:

- A student requested that future design of buildings should have greater student input at the planning stage.
- Dan Clayton stated that he would like to see students on steering groups in the future.
- A student enquired as to whether Campus development would affect the position of the University in the League tables.
- Dan Clayton felt that campus development would give potential students and current students better facilities, thereby adding to student satisfaction and improving the student experience.
- A student asked why new buildings were being built when a large number of rooms stand empty.
- Dan Clayton stated that the University sector as a whole have 30% of rooms in use at any one time around campus. University of Lincoln does well in comparison to this average, having 40% of rooms being in use at any one time.
- A student enquired if there were any plans to increase the amount of Green Space around the Campus.
- Dan Clayton stated that landscaping would be improved as part of the development plans. The habitat around the pond is to be improved and there will be a new green square with banked areas/activity space.
- A student enquired if there were plans for more student housing.
- Dan Clayton stated that 450 additional bedrooms will be provided by new buildings in the current Courts area of the campus next to the Canal. There are also applications for student housing developments in the St Marks area.
- The Learning & Landscapes Blog has regular updates on Campus development.
- The Phase II area of the Atrium has samples of building materials for the new development.
- A student stated that budgets should perhaps be re-distributed to improving course content rather than updating buildings, especially since the fee increase.

- Dan Clayton stated that there are plans to correct the heating issues in the Science Building and plans to upgrade the MHT Building 1st floor which will improve students' experience. Improving courses however is not within his remit.
- A student enquired whether there will be more car parking onsite.
- Dan Clayton stated that there has been discussion about a multi-storey onsite which students will potentially be able to use.
- A student enquired whether there are any plans to re-locate the Students' Union to more suitable and prominent accommodation.
- Dan Clayton commented that there were no specific plans in place, however there are plans to improve the current office accommodation within the coming months to link the upstairs and downstairs office space.
- Jennine Fox thanked Dan Clayton for his contribution.

Annual Business

2. Approval of Minutes

Agreed:

- To approve the minutes with the following amendments:
 - Add Ben Henderson, Chris Whitwood to the minutes
 - Add Loryn Good's apologies

3. Matters Arising

II. a. Vegetarian and Vegan Students

Noted:

- A catering sub-group has been formed by Student Council in response to the motion passed at AGM 2011. The group is investigating the provision of various food choices around campus.
- A Cooking demonstration was organised by the Masterchef finalist in late 2011.

II. b. Students' Union Executive Committee Structure

Noted:

- The new Executive committee Structure was implemented for the elections in March 2012 with effect from July 2012.

4. Audited Accounts

Agreed:

- The audited accounts for the year ended 30th June 2012 were received and agreed by the membership.

5. Budgets 2012/2013

Agreed:

- The Students' Union Approved Budgets for 2012-13 were received and agreed by the membership.

6. Notice of the Appointment of Auditors

Agreed:

- The membership confirmed Wright Vigar as the auditors for the financial year ending June 2013.

7. Notice of the Appointment of Trustees

Agreed:

- Notification of the appointment of trustees was received and agreed by the membership with the following amendment:
 - Chris Whitwood's term as a student trustee has been extended for a further year.

8. Ratification of Affiliates

Agreed:

- The membership ratified the affiliation of the organisations listed on the accompanying paper.

9. Annual Reports

Noted:

a) Board of Trustees

- The Union has recently finished the TUPE process of employment transfer from the University of Lincoln to the Students' Union. This has made the Students' Union a stand alone organisation with greater independence from the University.
- Time has been focussed on building new HR policies as Staff are now directly employed by the Union.
- James Brooks has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer of the Students' Union. He started in August 2012.

b) Executive Committee

- Numbers of FE student members have declined dramatically.
- There are 90 students left at the Hull Campus, these are mostly post-graduate students.
- The Students' Union is currently undergoing a strategic review. ~~Alteline~~Alterline will be conducting research with members and stakeholders to establish views on the Union and inform future plans for the Union. The strategic plan will then be created and will be in place for the next 5 years.
- PEP Rally was a very successful event with over 400 people in attendance.
- Dan Sam, VP Activities plans to get more societies and teams involved in Varsity which is happening in Lincoln this year.

c) Student Council

- A written report was submitted for the members.
- Special thanks were given to the previous Chair of Student Council, Natalie Liddle, for her work last year.

Agreed:

- The reports were received and agreed.

Student Discussion

10. Motions

a) Governance Review/Executive & Council Committee Structure 2012/2013

Noted:

- Jennine Fox, rescinded her role as Chair to present the motion she proposed. ~~It was agreed~~ ~~that~~ Wesley Wells (VP Academic Affairs) fulfil the role as Chair during this agenda item.
- It was proposed that the Executive consist of 4 full time officers only. Part-time officers will no longer have a vote on the committee.
- It was argued that currently attaining the necessary level of quoracy to pass policy could be a problem as part-time officers are sometimes unable to attend due to University work commitments.
- Student Council will be utilised as a platform to hold Officers to account and scrutinise performance. The Executive Officers will no longer have a vote on Council but will be in attendance.
- The diversity Officers (Mature, postgraduate, LGBT, disabled) will become the chairs of the relevant groups. These roles will be elected via cross-campus elections.

The floor was opened for questions

Noted:

- A student moved to make the following amendment to the motion:
 - Delete in Union Resolves: “Reduce the executive to VP’s and President as Chair”

Discussed:

- Would a reduction in the size of the executive would decrease representation for students.
- Could the Executive could offer a guaranteed communication link with part-time officers prior to meetings where decisions are taken, specifically the Executive committee.

Noted:

- The proposer stated that there was nothing embodied in the motion, however it is common practice for full time officers to be in regular contact with the relevant part-time officers to their role.
- A student asked whether the Groups Officer role being split into a number of roles would dis-empower part-time students.
- The proposer stated that the revised Union structure would empower Student Council as it would hold the Executive to account.
- A student commented that as one of the reasons given for removal of part-time officers from the Executive was due to their time constraints, had the re-formatting of these meetings and scheduling been addressed to make them more accessible.

Discussed:

- Could decisions be made by the Executive in a more timely manner whilst following the current structure.

Noted:

- The proposer stated that the process of elections branding was delayed due to the need to wait for attendance at an Executive meeting for approval.
- A student enquired as to the size of Executive committees at other institutions.
- The proposer stated that the sector deemed 4 Officers enough to constitute a functioning Executive according to NUS research. This research will be forwarded to interested students on request.
- A student observed that Student Council has met 3 times in the last term. In the proposed structure, Council will base decisions on what the Executive tell them which may reduce efficacy as a scrutinising body.

Point of Order: The Chair should not partake in the debate at AGM – Byelaw 2 iii. Wesley Wells rescinded the Chair and Dan Sam (VP Activities) took the role.

Noted:

- A student raised the lack of time part-time officers spent with full-time officers as a possible obstacle to the proposed system of feedback.
- A student moved to make a speech against the amendment:
 - Reduction of the Executive committee to 4 members allows them to deal with the day-to-day operational decisions. Having a larger number of people on the Executive committee slows down the decision making process.

Agreed:

- The amendment to the motion was rejected. 37 members voted for the amendment and 50 against.

Noted:

- A student asked why the Welfare & Diversity role was changed to Welfare & Community, seeming to exclude diversity groups from a representative role.

- The proposer stated that it was felt important to imbed community within the role title to emphasis community engagement, however the remit of the role will not change.
- A student stated that they felt Council did not meet enough to make the Executive accountable.

Agreed:

- The motion was passed by a majority vote with no amendments.

Noted:

- A procedural motion was proposed to change the order of the agenda. It was proposed that items 10b-f be considered at the next Student Council meeting on the 8th February 2013 and that item 11 be considered next.
- Only elected representatives can vote on motions at Student Council.

Agreed:

- The members agreed by a majority vote to carry items 10b-f forward to Student Council and consider item 11 next.

11. Sports facilities Presentation

Noted:

- A presentation was given by Robin Wright, Director of Sport, on updates to facilities in Lincoln.
- New rugby pitches have been opened at Nettleham following the procurement of £1.2 million in funds after fundraising from various sources including the RFU. This will be ready to use from September 1st and will be available for the Rugby Union, Rugby League and Lacrosse.
- The new cricket grounds off Burton Road will open in April 2013, the money for which has been raised externally. This facility will be available for hockey, cricket, rounders and softball.
- The University is looking to raise funds for facilities around the Brayford Pool to be used by the rowing, sailing and canoe club.
- The Student Union came runners-up in the Lincolnshire Sports Award for their participation in sports.

The floor was opened for questions.

Noted:

- A student enquired whether the new facilities were accessible to students without cars.
- Robin Wright stated that Nettleham is on a bus route and that Burton Road is walking/cycling distance away.

Noted:

- A student asked how priority was given for teams at the various facilities.
- Robin Wright stated that there was enough room to accommodate all teams that required space.

Discussed:

- Capital Loans from the Students' Union for equipment and requirement from some clubs for new equipment.

12. Stamp it Out in Sport Campaign

Noted:

- The Sabbatical officers recommend that the Students' Union adopt a zero tolerance policy to homophobic discrimination in sport.
- This recommendation stems from research published by NUS about barriers to participation in sport.
- There will be a two week campaign.

- A video has been made using real-life examples of discrimination portrayed by actors.
- 47% of LGBT students do not take part in sport. 42% of LGBT students had negative experiences at school which put them off taking part in sport.
- Sports clubs will be asked to sign a petition. This petition will be circulated around the University for all students to sign.

The floor was opened for questions:

- A student asked what the consequences would be for flouting the zero tolerance policy.
- Jennine Fox stated that the Students' Union are currently working on a disciplinary structure for the SU.

Action:

- Following a request from a student to screen the video in lectures, Jennine Fox was actioned to organise distribution.

13. Elections Presentation

Noted:

- The nominations period opens on the 23rd January 2013 and has been extended this year to encourage nominations.
- 'Lead Your Union' is a training event run by the current Sabbatical Team to give potential candidates an insight into running in the elections. Potential candidates and their campaigns team are welcome to attend.
- Question Time will be on the 4th March at 2pm in the LPAC. The floor will be open for questions this year.

Action:

- Rebecca Pocock to circulate the election video to attendees.

14. Any Other Business

Noted:

- Students are welcome to attend a planning meeting for the inter-faith forum on 25th January at 3pm in the Student Services Building.

15. Date of next meeting

Noted:

- The date of the next meeting will be circulated.

The meeting was drawn to a close. Jennine Fox (President) thanked the members for their attendance.

I certify that the above minutes are a true and accurate summary of the meeting held on 18th January 2013. These minutes are now publically available.

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Jennine Fox (Chair)

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Date