



**UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION**  
**Student Council - Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2015 at 6pm in Moot Court**

**Present:**

Chair: Alexandrya-Carmen Mbu.

Key  
 ✓ = Attended  
 NF = Position not filled  
 A = Apologises sent to Chair  
 ✗ = Did not attend or send apologies

Volunteer Members

	13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	20 <sup>th</sup> Apr
College of Art Officer – Mark Sowden	A	✗	✓	✓		
College of Science Officer - Connor Muir	✓	✓	✓	✓		
College of Social Sciences Officer - Jake Baker	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Societies Officer - Sophia Bishell	✓	✗	✓	✓		
Sports Officer - Sammi Storey	✓	✓	A	A		
Disabled Students Officer - Tasnim Hassan	✓	✓	✓	✓		
International Students Officer - Angeline McCall	✓	✓	A	✓		
LGBT Students Officer - Holly Marriott	✓	✗	✓	✗		
Mature Students Officer - Mutani Yangwe	✓	✗	✗	✗		
Women's Students Officer Natasha Chapman	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Carholme Community Rep	NF	NF	✓	✓		
Park Community Rep	NF	NF	✓	✓		

School Representatives

	13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	20 <sup>th</sup> Apr
Business - Gee Mattison	✓	✗	A	✓		
Chemistry – Frasier Kelly	NF	NF	✗	✓		
Computer Science - Jacob Carse	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Design and Architecture – Daniel Orford	A	✓	✓	✓		
Design and Architecture – Sara Killelay	A	✗	✗	✗		
Engineering – Matthew Knott	NF	✓	✓	A		
English and Journalism - Eleanor Bryan	✓	✓	✓	✗		
English and Journalism - John-Paul Dickie	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Film and Media - Wade Baverstock	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Fine and Performing Arts - Alys Brown	✓	A	✓	✓		
History and Heritage – Nicole Sheanon	NF	✗	A	✗		
Law - Thomas Mitchell	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Life Science - Ellie Burroughs	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Pharmacy – Tamjit Singh Rama	NF	✗	✓	✓		
Psychology - Daniel Richardson	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Sport and Political Science – Megan Nolloth	A	✓	✓	NF		
Sport and Exercise Science – Jess Darnell	✓	A	✓	✓		

#### Representatives of Societies and Sports Council

	13 <sup>th</sup> Oct	28 <sup>th</sup> Oct	17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	16 <sup>th</sup> Feb	16 <sup>th</sup> Mar	20 <sup>th</sup> Apr
Societies Committee Rep - Calum Watt	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Societies Committee Rep - Rebecca Fowler	NF	NF	*	✓		
Sports Committee Representative - Will Fry	✓	✓	A	✓		
Sports Committee Representative – Thomas Pendle	NF	NF	*	*		

#### Non-Voting Students in attendance

#### **Also Present:**

Brian Alcorn - President, Hayley Jayne Wilkinson - VP Activities, Olivia Hill -VP Welfare and Community.

James Brooks - Chief Executive, Aidan Mersh - Head of Membership Services and Marketing, Scott McGinn - Communications Co-ordinator, Lindsay Westgarth - Student Voice Administrator, , Megan Graham – Administrative Support Worker and Mary Padden - Administrative Support Worker.

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Vice President Academic Affairs – Nyasha Takawira, Sports Officer - Sammi Storey and Engineering Rep Matthew Knott?

#### **2. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**

##### **Agreed:**

- Minutes from the meeting on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2014 were agreed as an accurate record.

#### **3. Matters Arising**

- No matters arising was presented
- Brian Alcorn apologised for the email sent to election candidates which was not blind copied.

*A procedural motion was passed by ascension to start the meeting at agenda point 5.*

#### **4. Reports**

##### **4a. President**

##### **Noted:**

- Positive feedback was given by students on the Refreshers Fayre due to the quick turn-around of the event; improvements for next year were also fed back.
- Connor Muir, Lindsay Westgarth, Nyasha Takawira and Senior Reps were commended on the Learning Spaces Report.
- The two motions passed at the previous student council have been presented to the Board of Trustees for final approval.

##### **Agreed:**

- Alexandria-Carmen Mbu to be informed if reports will not be handed in on time for Student Council.

##### **Action:**

- Brian Alcorn to look back at the last minutes of the Board of Trustees for feedback on the motions passed at the previous council.
- Alexandria-Carmen Mbu to circulate the deadlines for reports and motions.

#### **4b. Vice President Activities**

##### **Noted:**

- The online mini-sites system will be available from March 9<sup>th</sup> 2015.
- The decision for the Kit Supplier to provide a centralised Students' Union kit was opened to all Sports and Societies (S&S) committee members.
- All Sports and Societies (S&S) have a committee which are elected to represent them.

##### **Action:**

- Hayley Jayne Wilkinson to send out an email regarding the online mini-sites launch date.
- Sports and Societies Officers to be invited to the next Executive Committee meeting to be involved in the Kit Suppliers decision.

#### **4c. Vice President Welfare & Community**

##### **Noted:**

- Lighthouse has been given a target of 3+ in each area on the survey in order to be classed as making reasonable improvement.
- 3+ was seen as an acceptable score, being the lowest a student should expect.
- 10% of students letting with Lighthouse should complete the survey.
- In future surveys, if other accommodation agencies score lower than 3, discussions would be had regarding how the company could work better with the Union.
- There was discussion about who will be involved in the Accommodation Accreditation scheme, which is currently in the review stage.
- The Students' Union has never been involved in the Accommodation Accreditation scheme previously but it has always been a key theme in manifestos.
- It was suggested that Lincoln College, Residents and Landlords should also be involved in the Accommodation Accreditation scheme.
- Lighthouse are not allowed to attend Students' Union housing events, however events run by the University cannot be subject to the boycott.

##### **Agreed:**

- Lighthouse be given a target of 3+ for speed of repairs, customer service, ease of contact, helpful and polite, repair quality and overall. 10% (120) of students renting with Lighthouse should complete the survey.

#### **5. Non-substantive Change to Articles of Association**

##### **Noted:**

- The non-substantive change to the Articles of Association has been brought to Student Council for transparency.
- There is a change to the terms of office for the Vice Chancellors Nominee position on the Board of Trustees.
- Currently, having the Deputy Vice Chancellor on the Board of Trustees is a huge asset, but there is a maximum of 4 years in office.
- It was proposed to chance to let the Vice Chancellor choose that position for an unlimited time in Office.

##### **Agreed:**

- The motion passed by ascension.

## 6. No Platform for Discrimination, Bullying and Harassment

### Discussed:

- The No Platform Policy provided by NUS will ensure that all people speaking publically will have to uphold the values of the policy.
- The definition of extremism was said to be any group of people brought onto the University grounds who could cause harm to students.

### Agreed:

- The No Platform for Discrimination, Bullying and Harassment Policy passed by ascension with the amendment of Britain First being added.

### Action

- The No Platform policy to be added to the operational plans to review annually.

## 7. Democracy Report

### Noted/Discussed:

- Brian Alcorn presented the Democracy Report.
- The main recommendation was to adopt the zone structure to encourage issues-based discussions and reduce the amount of reporting in meetings.
- All meetings detailed in the Democracy report will have minutes taken which will be accessible and discussed/queried in Student Council.
- The Zone Committees will be chaired by a student representative.
- A new Sabbatical Officer position for Vice President International was proposed, if approved this would be elected in February 2016.
- Internationalisation and international recruitment is key on the new University Strategy with very little staff to support this area of development.
- Other Unions currently have a Vice President International and the advisory panel were in support of this new position.
- The international committee will be the International Group members and Vice President International.
- The current International Officer Angeline McCall stated that the high demand of the International Officer role as a volunteer position has given evidence for the need of a full time Sabbatical Officer. International students would benefit from the support a dedicated International Sabbatical Officer can give.
- The Vice President International can then further develop the international zone.
- The system being proposed will allow the other Liberation Officers to receive better support from the Vice President Welfare and Community.
- The budgets for the block grant to the Union from the University are set in March making the decision time dependant.
- The Democracy Report recommended stopping fines for sports and societies for not attending meetings, with the ethos that the meeting should be worth attending.
- BUCS, Varsity, Events and Academic Engagement Officers were recommended.
- Postgraduate students are represented by Postgraduate Reps, there is further research being done into how this representation can be improved.
- Volunteer Officers will have a 3 day training session in September.
- The recommendation to release more funds will be taken to the Board of Trustees for approval.
- Brian Alcorn was commended on the effort of the report.
- It was suggested that the report be taken in parts to allow further developments in certain areas.
- It was suggested that an action plan should be put in place to create accountability.

- Queries on postgraduate representation should be directed towards Nyasha Takawira outside of student council, due to her absence.
- Currently there is limited social media for Student Council; it was recommended that a plan should be developed to make full use of the website and online tools.
- Implementing an online system to allow students to put forward motions reduces the need for students to understand the Student Council processes; these can then be voted on by other students and be brought as a formal motion to Student Council.
- If the online system was also used to allow motions to be taken to the All Members Meeting there would need to be a change to the bye-laws.
- It was proposed that the discussion to ratify new sports and societies in Representative meetings should be taken to the Sports and Societies Committees for agreement.
- The recommendation to adapt a consensus decision making process was retracted.
- It was suggested that there should be more student feedback on the Democracy Report.
- The elected officers' budgets will be given to the next council for approval.

**Agreed:**

- The recommendation to conduct enhanced training passed by ascension.
- The recommendation to undertake further research into participatory passed by ascension.
- The recommendation to investigate ratifying new Sports and Societies in Representative meetings passed by ascension.
- The recommendation to investigate creating the Volunteer Officer positions in the Sports and Societies Zones passed by ascension.
- The recommendation to irradiate fines for non-attendance at Sports & Societies Committees passed by ascension.
- The recommendation to create an International Sabbatical Officer position was passed by secret ballot vote; Yes: 17, No: 5, Abstained: 0
- The recommendation to adopt a zone structure passed by ascension.

**Action:**

- Brian Alcorn to create an action plan of the Democracy Report.
- Communications plans to be circulated to Student Council prior to approval.
- The proposal for ratifying new Sports and Societies at the Representative meeting and create additional Volunteer Officer Positions to be presented at Sports and Society Committees.

**8. Presentation of Findings from Pound in Your Pocket Research**

**Agreed:**

- The presentation of findings from Pound in Your Pocket Research will be presented at the next Student Council.
- Brian Alcorn will meet any students who are interested in discussing the Pound in Your Pocket Research.

**Date of next meeting 16<sup>th</sup> March 2015**

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 Chair Date