



University of Lincoln Students' Union
Societies Council Minutes
Held on Friday 1st of November 2013
12-2pm Cargill Lecture Theatre MB

Present

Chair: Connor Burton (Societies Officer)

Society Representatives

ABEAST, ACS, AEGIS, Anime, Architecture, Business, Christian Union, Comedy, Computing, Creative Advertising, Creative Writing, Debating, Disney, Drama, Enactus, Film making, Forensic Psychology, Gaming, Glee, Harry Potter, History, Hong Kong, Islamic, Juggling, Law, Life Sciences, MAPR, Musical Theatre, Photography, Politics, Psychology, Rock, SciFi, English, Unicef, Conservative, Illustration, Bright Futures, Investing, Comic Book Society.

Emerging Societies Present

Cinema, EDM, Event and Tourism, Feminism, Gender Neutrals Society, Lincoln Assassin Society, Paintball Squad (LUPS)

Also In Attendance

Joe Burt (VP Activities)

Maddy Potts (University of Lincoln Content Officer)

Hannah Coleman (Administrative Support Worker)

1. Apologies

Noted:

- Apologies were received from Communications Coordinator Sabine Gerlach.
- The chair reminded all members the importance of sending their apologies if they could not make Council and asked that members relayed this message to non-attendees.

2. Re-election of Vice Chairs

Noted:

- Two Vice Chairs to be re-elected due to a motion that was approved at Student Council as it became known that members were not made aware of the voting rights of the Vice Chairs.
- The chair informed members that Vice Chairs would hold a vote in Student Council and are eligible to become Vice Chair for Student Council.

Discussed:

- Two attendees nominated themselves for Vice Chairs
Alexandrya-Carmen Eyare Mbu: President of MAPR, Marketing Director for Enactus and Course Rep for Business.
Matthew Smeeth: Treasurer of Conservative Society and has had four years' experience with UK Youth Parliament.
- Alexandrya-Carmen Eyare Mbu: **Approved: 36**, Rejected: 0, Abstained: 0.
- Matthew Smeeth: **Approved: 37**, Rejected: 0, Abstained: 0.

Agreed:

- Alexandrya-Carmen Eyare Mbu and Matthew Smeeth elected as Vice Chairs

3. Minutes of previous meeting

Approved: 31, Rejected: 0, Abstained: 7

4. Matters Arising

- The application for Get Lincoln Noticed and Brand Guidelines were circulated to societies after the last council. All members in attendance had received these.

5. Emerging Societies:

Paintball Squad (LUPS)

Noted:

- £25.00 membership fee. This will cover transport costs as members will use the centres equipment/training.
- Social once a week.
- At least 1-2 trips to Paintball Centre which will cost £3.00.
- There will be tournaments organised e.g best shooter and an end of year awards ceremony.
- Potential sponsorship may be secured.

Discussed:

- Photography Society is named LUPS so name may need to be changed.
- The centre will cover health and Safety, could pay £2 or £5 to cover insurance.
- The society will be responsible for Health and safety, it was suggested that they find a way to cover themselves with this.
- It was suggested that paintball was more of a sport, the society will not be competing externally only internally. Insurance under sports could cover the society.

Approved: 37, Rejected: 0, Abstained: 1
Handbook given.

Events and Tourism

Noted:

- Would be linked with Events Management course, could enhance skills that are being learnt from the course and apply it. Members do not have to be on this course.
- It was reported that there is a high demand for the society.
- Could work with the Students' Union and University to actively get students more work experience and help out.
- Guest speakers and trips with the potential of trips abroad.
- Committee already voted in.
- Has the support form academics.
- £10.00 membership fee, some of this fee would go towards hoodies.
- Planning to self-raise.

Discussed:

- Events is a broad term, the society would help with any events, they have supported the University with international events already such as Chinese New year.

Approved: 30, Rejected: 0, Abstained: 7
Handbook given.

Cinema

Noted:

- Have got over 50 signatures who are interested in becoming members.

- Once a fortnight would go to the cinema, film choice would be voted on poll on Facebook. The following week, the film would be reviewed.
- In house competitions fortnightly where best review of a film by a member will be published on the societies blog and win a prize.
- Contacted Odeon Cinema, they cannot give further discount than student discount but premier cards can be brought in bulk. This would mean that tickets for the cinema with a premier card and student card would be under £5.00.
- Odeon can help with publicity and are willing to provide a venue for events such as Oscars theme ball at an end of year award ceremony.
- Links to Walkabout for socials.

Discussion:

- £5.00 membership fee.
- Could watch films that Film Making have produced and could link up with Disney, Illustration, Harry Potter and SciFi as they watch films.
- The Ritz Cinema has not contacted the society back.

Agreed:

- VP Activities Joe Burt to give society a contact he knows from Ritz Cinema.

Approved: 37, Rejected: 0, Abstained: 1
Handbook given.

Come Dine with Me

- Did not attend.

University of Lincoln baking Society

- Did not attend

Feminism

Noted:

- Any gender can become a member.
- Further equal rights for women throughout the world.
- Would meet at 6pm weekly every Monday.
- Any member can bring an issue forward. Would discuss campaigns such as page 3 in newspapers. Provide a safe space so members can chat.
- £5.00 membership fee.
- Watch feminist videos, could link with Cinema society. Have secured the HUB for watching films. President happy to fund the sourcing of films.
- Low budget society for this year, focussing on campus and community. Would like to attend national conferences in the future.
- Would like to organise a book club, the University Library cannot order books for free or cheaper so looking into sourcing books. Members may need to pay extra for attending book club.
- Three committee members at present.

Discussion:

- Planning to link with bigger organisations in the future.
- Could contact Cinema as they have Feminist DVD's.

- How would they deal with male contingency with members who are extreme feminists? People have different viewpoints, conflict may happen but committee members would be there to mediate and not take side. Debates would be encouraged.

Approved: 24, Rejected: 1, Abstained: 13
Handbook given.

Lincoln Assassin Society

Noted:

- Other universities have Assassin Societies.
- Members details and picture are given out to detail the 'hit'. It would be up to the members as to how they perform the 'hit'.
- £8.00 membership fee.
- Deductions would be made if the attack is witnessed, harder challenges each week and tournaments organised.
- Meet each week so that the assassin can meet the 'hit'.
- Website being produced and logo has been designed.
- 58 people are interested.

Discussion:

- If 'killed' in the first week, the member would have to wait until the last person has been 'killed'. If this is longer than two weeks then then the Member would be given another 'hit' so they could re-join the game.
- Membership fee would go on the purchase of hoodies and trips eg. to laser quest.

Approved: 34, Rejected: 0, Abstained: 4
Handbook given.

The Baking Society

- Did not attend.

EDM Society

Noted:

- Electron Dance Music (EDM). Genre has grown recently with reports suggesting that it is as popular as Rock.
- Beneficial if students are interested in DJ'ing, producing or fan of genre.
- Social events- attend nightclub events who play EDM. Would like to establish connections with Clubs.
- Informal weekly meetings.
- Run workshop sessions (committee members are practising DJ's and from Audio production) and have a society sound cloud so that music can be uploaded for members.
- £10.00 membership fee. This will go on hire of venues, hoodies, merchandising and trip to BPM show at end of year.

Discussion:

- Abbreviation of EDM sounds like EDL, suggested to be careful when saying EDM.

Approved: 36, Rejected: 0, Abstained: 3
Handbook given.

Gender Neutrals Support Society

Noted:

- Understand that there is an LGBT society but from experience transgender is sometimes forgotten.
- To provide support and ways to help with Trans Phobia. At present not aware of any legislation for Trans phobia.
- Would like Stephen fry to give a talk.
- Currently designing logo. Would like to direct members to where equipment could be purchased as this can be difficult to know.

Discussed:

- £7.00 membership fee.
- Difficult subject to get students involved in.
- Would like to go through LGBT to aid promotion of the society. LGBT did not attend the council as they are classified as a group.
- Publicity posters to be created and 'come and meet' sessions are being planned.
- Would like to do a presentation at Lincoln College. Could go to other universities and areas to speak about this which a special grant may be awarded for.
- The society could be classed as a diversity group.
- Membership fee will be for trips, it was thought that Groups do not get funding at present.
- Hoping to get the Scene Nightclub involved.

Approved: 38, Rejected: 0, Abstained: 2
Handbook given.

Leadership International

- Did not attend.

6. Development Fund Request £4020

Juggling: £200.00

Noted:

- Would go towards basic Juggling Equipment. The society only has 6 sets of juggling balls but at times 18 members attend sessions.
- Would like more fire equipment for more performances.
- Performances around Lincoln, difficult to tour as other places have juggling societies. Helping out at Rugby Union's Masquerade Ball.
- Asking for half of the money needed to purchase the equipment. Planning to fundraise to help maintain funds.

Approved: 33, Rejected: 0, Abstained: 5

7. Marketing/Communications updates:

Noted:

- Communications Coordinator Sabine Gerlach sent her apologies.

Get Lincoln noticed

Noted:

- University of Lincoln Content Officer Maddy Potts encouraged societies to get involved in 'Get Lincoln Noticed' where the University have 2 x £500 rewards for any activity that gets Lincoln noticed.

- The criteria stipulate this could be anything as long as it's not corporate and doesn't discredit the reputation of the University.
- There will be a panel of judges who decided the winners.
- Deadline has been extended to December.
- More information about this was circulated after the last council to generic activity email accounts.
- This could be a regular opportunity if there is enough interest.

8. Sponsorship

Noted:

- Any sponsorship which is not done through the Students' Union will be deemed unfit.
- There will be punishments if societies do not follow the sponsorship procedure.
- Societies will receive an email if it is found out that their sponsorship was not through the Students' Union. It will detail the sponsorship procedure and what will occur if it is not followed.
- The sponsorship procedure is in place to protect societies.

9. Initiation Policy

Noted:

- Societies were reminded that the Students' Union has a zero tolerance policy on initiations.
- Initiations can be restrictive as students may not want to be involved in them and so may not become a part of the activity.
- The Union is currently going through an investigation into an initiation which has occurred.

10. Data Protection

Noted:

- An activity gave members email addresses to a nightclub.
- Every committee member who has access to student data will need to sign their adherence to the Students' Union Data Protection Policy for Clubs and Societies.
- Once every committee member has signed the Students' Union Data Protection Policy, access to membership lists will be granted.
- Data protection is featured within the Code of Conduct each member signs prior to joining an activity.

11. Pep Rally

Noted:

- Feedback was encouraged from members on Pep Rally.

Discussed:

- There was not enough notice. It was felt that this theme was concurrent generally throughout what the Students' Union do.
- Societies are formed of all different courses and years so hard to get a team together at such short notice.
- Pep Rally comes across as a sports only event.
- The name is not suitable for the event, it does not say what the event actually is.
- It was reported that some sports didn't know what Pep Rally entailed.
- It was suggested that there could be two separate events, one for society and one for sports with prize money on offer as an incentive to get involved.
- Pep Rally was organised to get sports and societies both involved together.

- It was suggested that at the very last Sports and Societies Councils an agreed date would be reached by members voting and choosing the date for Pep Rally. The date would be confirmed early on.

Agreed:

- The date of the next Pep Rally to be decided at the last Sport and Societies Councils.

12. Society Name Change

Noted:

- Glee to change their name to Sing it.
- Name automatically assumes that the society is a fan club of the show which although they are a show choir it is not so does not create the right image.
- Rebranding of the society is happening.
- The society sings songs from the show but other songs as well.

Discussed:

- The proposed new name Sing it could suggest that the society only sings and not dance as well.
- Each session, members are split into groups and are not limited to just singing. The society has a Vocal Coach and a Choreographer.

Approved: 39, Rejected: 0, Abstained: 0

13. Training

Noted:

- Societies who have not received training were asked to email activities department.
- Room venues for training are waiting to be confirmed as the new university room booking system is currently not functioning as well as it should be.

Discussed:

- The new room booking system reportedly does not work off campus.

14. Room Bookings

Noted:

- Email roombookings@lincoln.ac.uk for room bookings.

15. Student Open Discussion

Noted:

- It was asked if a society is ratified and a proposal is made for its society, can the society vote on the proposal made.

Agreed:

- The student to ask Student Voice and Representation Manager Aidan Mersh regarding governance rules.

LincTv

Noted:

- LincTv is a student television station for Lincoln which was set up in June.
- Societies were encouraged to get in touch with LincTv if they would like events promoted and publicised. Ideally letting LincTv know two weeks prior to the event occurring.
- LincTv email address is linc_tv@lincolnsu.com and they also have a website.

Discussed:

- VP Activities Joe Burt commended LincTv for the work they have done for the Students' Union stating how professional their work is and that deadlines were always met.

- LincTv is set up as a student led project, they didn't want to be a society as the focus should be on students without the rules which societies must abide by.

Illustration Society

Noted:

- Societies were invited to participate in producing graffiti on the white external wall facing the train track on the new school of Art and Design building as it is bare at present.
- Students would sign up to participate and agree to the terms, no curse words will be allowed within the graffiti.
- Estates have been contacted.

Discussion:

- The graffiti isn't skill based so the opportunity is open to all students. If a student's input is not desirable, they will be spoken to politely about their skill level.
- It was suggested that graffiti has negative connotations attached to it which may not be acceptable to do on a brand new building on campus. It could be described as a mural rather than graffiti.
- The wall is in a prominent place when the public reach Lincoln via the train, there was uncertainty if the graffiti would promote the correct image about the University.
- A graffiti piece has previously been produced on a factory wall on the canal.
- The final stages of this proposal are being approved.
- Members were encouraged to spread the awareness of this proposal.
- There is no set design for the graffiti as yet, an idea could be agreed prior to starting the graffiti or individual ideas could be sent to the organiser.
- It was suggested that if students ran out of space on the chosen wall, the graffiti piece could continue elsewhere and evolve so students can keep adding to it.