

UNION COUNCIL MEETING
Monday 13th April 2014, Meeting Room 1, 6:00pm

MINUTES

Attendance

ATTENDING	ABSENT WITH APOLOGIES	ABSENT
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Governance Zone			
Richard	Brooks	President	
Adam	Allnutt	Chair Environment and Ethics	
Dehenna	Davison	Chair Campaigns and Democracy	
Welfare and Community Zone			
Jennifer	Day	VP Welfare and Community	
Angela	Suriyakumaran	Chair LINKS	
Michael	O'Donnell	Chair Advice Centre Volunteers	
Adil	Qureshi	Chair LGBT+	
VACANT	VACANT	Chair Community Reps	
Enoch	Osae	Chair Black BAME	
Emily	Bolt	Chair Women's Committee	
Daryl	Jones	Chair Disabled Students	
Elto	Alexandrov	Councillor for Scrutiny	
Timothy	Veal	Councillor for Scrutiny	
Education Zone			
Gareth	Ikin	VP Education	
Nicola	Marsden	Chair Mature Students	
Moipone	Mokone	Chair Part-time students	
Alice	Whiteoak	Chair Postgraduate Association	
Saumil	Shah	Faculty Co-ordinator Hull York Medical School	
Matthew	Evans	Faculty Co-ordinator Faculty of Science and Engineering	
Thomas	Wardman	Faculty Co-ordinator Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences	
Wendy	Drake	Faculty Co-ordinator Faculty of Health and Social Care	
VACANT	VACANT	Faculty Co-ordinator Faculty of Education	
Gemma	Naylor	Faculty Co-ordinator Hull University Business School	

Niall	Devine	Academic Council Rep	
Elizabeth	Barraclough	Academic Council Rep	
Ayesha	Mazumder	Councillor for Scrutiny	
Daniel	Walker	Councillor for Scrutiny	
Activities Zone			
Victoria	Cliffe	VP Activities	
Kathleen	Brook	Chair SEC	
Chuby	Okide	Chair ISA	
VACANT	VACANT	Chair HUSSO	
Sarah	Barradell	Chair Media	
Simon	Bagg	Chair RAG	
Leon	French	Councillor for Scrutiny	
Abbie	Edwards	Councillor for Scrutiny	
Scarborough Executive Committee			
Tom	Swainson	VP Scarborough	
Aimee	Clancy	Scarborough Community Officer	
Frank	Tupling	Scarborough Sports Officer	
Emily	West	Scarborough Welfare Officer	
Simon	Hernandez	Scarborough Education Officer	
Jacob	Jagger	Scarborough Campus - International Officer	
VACANT	VACANT	Scarborough Campaigns Officer	
Sports Zone			
Nichola	Jackson	VP Sport	
William	Tinney	Tour Rep	
Laura-Anna	Huntenburg	Kit & Equipment Rep	
Gurmok	Sanghera	BUCS Rep	
Elisa	Battersby	Events Officer	
David	Gamble	Communication Rep	
Laura	Hutch	Secretary and Varsity Rep	
Huayling	Lyle	Councillor for Scrutiny	
Emma	Latham	Councillor for Scrutiny	

1. Introduction

President opens the meeting.

Encourages attendees to register to vote for the General Election.

Awards season is coming up: HUU Awards, Trophy Pres, Activities Awards.

Encourages attendees to nominate.

By-elections coming up, encourages attendees to nominate themselves and encourage others.

2. Apologies

No more apologies.

Apologies received from: Faculty Co-ordinator Arts and Social Science, Scarborough Welfare Officer, Scarborough Community Officer, Scarborough Sport Officer.

3. Matters Arising

Chair explains that due to the last meeting not being quorate, Union Council needs to confirm the decisions made. All should have read the minutes. Will approve each point by assent, if anyone has any questions or thinks we need to discuss them again, please say so.

a. Scholarship for a Palestinian Student

No issues raised, approved.

b. Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill

No issues raised, approved.

c. Union Democracy

No issues raised, approved.

d. Chair Postgraduate Students

No issues raised, approved.

e. Motion of Censure Against VP Scarborough

No issues raised, approved.

Scarborough International Officer states that progress has been made. He has had meetings with VP Scarborough following last Union Council.

4. Approval of Minutes

Faculty Co-ordinator Science and Engineering asks that more content is included in the Zone reports.

Chair suggests that Zone Chairs email their reports to staff so they can be included in the minutes.

Staff state that reports have not been emailed in the past.

Minutes approved.

5. Motions

a. Hullfire TV: Repair and Renovation

VP Activities proposes the motion.

- Question from Councillor for Scrutiny (Emma Latham): How would the positions be selected?

- Answer from VP Activities: Validation panel. Director General is elected and representative.
- Question from Councillor for Scrutiny (Timothy Veal): Can you bring the names of the successfully selected volunteers to Union Council for approval.
- Answer from VP Activities: Yes

No speech against the motion.

No speech in abstention.

- Question from Scarborough International Officer: Are we voting for change process or new structure?
- Answer from VP Activities: The structure that is in the motion.

Vote:

FOR 92%

AGAINST 8%

ABSTAIN 0%

Motion passes.

b. Restructure of Sports Zone

AU Secretary and Varsity Representative proposes the motion.

- Question from Faculty Co-ordinator Science and Engineering: Participation and Inclusivity Officer would be a very big role. How would you ensure they aren't doing too much?
- Answer from AU Secretary and Varsity Representative: Just take on what they can handle, what they have time for.
- Answer from AU Kit and Equipment Representative: There is lots of staff support. Link between Union and University.

No speech against the motion.

No speech in abstention.

Vote:

FOR 83%

AGAINST 8%

ABSTAIN 8%

Motion passes.

c. Reduce the Cost of Playing Sport

AU BUCS Representative proposes the motion.

- Question from Chair Disabled Students: What's the cost of "pay to play"?
- Answer from AU BUCS Representative: £25 per person, 3000 students.
- Answer from AU Secretary and Varsity Representative: Not everyone pays.
- Answer from President: About 1800 students have paid for "pay to play". Sports and Fitness Centre operate club bookings at a loss, sport is subsidised. At Bangor University all sports are free.
- Answer from AU Secretary and Varsity Representative: It isn't subsidised. It is cheaper to book elsewhere.
- Answer from President: the funding model is broken.
- Question from Scarborough International Officer: 50 students paying £9000 per year would cover the cost of "pay to play".
- Question from AU Events Officer: Hockey club couldn't use pitch. We aren't getting anything for the £25 "pay to play" cost.
- Question from Councillor for Scrutiny (Timothy Veal): Cost could put some off. We all get money from loans and grants to pay for this.
- Answer from AU BUCS Representative: Yes, we get grants but we need recognition from the University. Student would choose to go elsewhere if they want to do sport. £25 is not worth it.
- Answer from AU Communications Officer: Grants are for necessary things, not sports and socials.
- Question from Scarborough Education Officer: Is transport cost included in that?
- Answer from AU BUCS Representative: Included in cost shown in the motion.
- Question from Councillor for Scrutiny (Emma Latham): Coming from Trampolining, our facilities are very poor. Small number of members means we can't fund equipment ourselves. Grants and loans do not cover the cost of sport.
- Answer from AU BUCS Representative: We don't want to take any resources away from other areas. Hopefully all the funding will come from the University.
- Question from Faculty Co-ordinator Science and Engineering: I completely agree, it costs £50,000 to buy a boat.
- Faculty Co-ordinator proposes an amendment to change the sentence: 'Provide assurances that teams will not be negatively affected when things go wrong and that they will be offered alternative options at no extra cost' to 'Provide assurances that teams will not be negatively affected when things go wrong and that they will be offered alternative options at no extra or hidden cost.'

Chair Disabled Students and Councillor for Scrutiny (Leon French) both second the amendment.

Chair proposes a simple vote using a show of hands.

Vote:

FOR 26

AGAINST 0

ABSTAIN 1

Amendment approved.

- Question from Scarborough International Officer: Though it costs a lot to play sport at University, it costs more to play externally. I do Judo, it costs me £5 a session, not including kit costs. Is the cost for clubs really excessive?
- Answer from President: It's not just the cost of "pay to play". £500 a year is a conservative estimate of average annual cost per student. University has a sports strategy, for us subsidising sport has a clear benefit for our members. Teeside University Union has done a lot of research, we are one of the most expensive. Facilities expensive and very poor. Direct action is needed. This is not a priority for the University. We need to campaign, other unions are protesting and making problems. Recent coverage on the BBC was very effective.
- Question from VP Sport: We'll be running a big campaign soon. Get student voice out there.
- Question from Councillor for Scrutiny (Emma Latham): Playing outside might be more expensive, but not for everyone. It's about making friends as well. It is a shame to make students struggle to pay for sports.
- Question from Chair SEC: How will lobbying work?
- Answer from AU BUCS Representative: I'd like the University to pay for all. Want appreciation of what clubs do. Want University to pay for match fees and subsidise kit. We are Union teams.
- Question from VP Activities: Rowing has to travel to Doncaster. BUCS cover half of transport costs, University could cover the other half.
- Question from Scarborough International Officer: Funding around a sponsorship deal – advertising tool for University.
- Question from student: I am a Student Ambassador, I do tours and speak to prospective students. Very few have asked about sport, employability is more important.
- Answer from AU BUCS Representative: Look at Durham University. Sports ranking is often similar to Education ranking. We should aim to move both in the right direction. Sport is good for employability. Sport a big selling point for the University.
- Question from student: I didn't finish my question. University doesn't shout about sport, we need to demonstrate how important this is for students.

No speech against the motion.

No speech in abstention.

Vote:

FOR 71%

AGAINST 13%

ABSTAIN 17%

Motion passes.

d. Prioritise the Re-Development of Sports Facilities and Get the University to Recognise Sport

- Question from VP Education: What will the motion do that we aren't already doing?
- Answer from AU BUCS Representative: Union Council approval an extra tool. Clear backing of the student body.

No speech against the motion.

No speech in abstention.

Vote:

FOR 72%

AGAINST 16%

ABSTAIN 12%

Motion passes.

5 Minute Break

6. Discussion and Consultation

a. HUU's Governance Review

President introduces the topic.

Attendees split into 5 groups. Each group is given a controversial statement relating to HUU's governance and democracy. The groups are asked to decide if they agree or disagree with the statement, come to a consensus, and choose someone to come and present their decision.

The statements were:

- 'Our democracy is fair: all students can understand it and get involved'
- 'Only representative positions should be elected'
- 'Referendums are only worthwhile if voters know and understand the facts'
- 'Our representative democracy does not represent students and is not democratic'
- 'We elect sabbatical officers, therefore HUU is student-led'

b. Volunteer Support

Amber Jenkins introduces the topic.

Attendees split into same groups as before and are asked to answer the question: 'What do volunteers need the most support with?' As before, the groups choose someone to present their findings.

Amber Jenkins explains how their feedback will be used to form a motion to the next Union Council. She will be circulating a survey in the next few days for volunteers to complete.

7. Ratification of Societies

No society constitutions were received.

8. Officer and Zone Updates

a. Governance

President presents.

b. Education

Chair Mature Students (Chair Education Zone) presents.

c. Welfare and Community

VP Welfare and Community presents in the place of Chair LINKS (Chair Welfare and Community Zone).

d. Sport

AU Secretary and Varsity Representative (Chair Sports Zone) presents.

e. Activities

VP Activities presents in the place of Councillor Scrutiny (Leon French) (Chair Activities Zone).

f. Scarborough

Scarborough Education Officer (Chair Scarborough Executive Committee) presents.

1. Sabbatical Update (VPSc)

Pulling together a vision for the future of SU representation in Scarborough.

Planning the Scarborough Awards.

Future of Scarborough survey has now closed with a report to be released in the next two weeks.

2. Zone Update

a. Officer Updates

Education Officer (SEd)

Reviewing how Course Rep feedback is followed up within the University. Sat in on mid-semester review for TAP (Theatre and Performance), raised course issues with department head.

Promoted various events, including Education Survey, SLTAs and Scarborough Awards nominations.

Welfare Officer (SWe)

No updates.

Community Officer (SCo)

Green space project has been launched and is currently being run by our SHRUBS society.

International Officer (SIn)

Wrote standing orders for International Officer.
Organising World Culture Day event with International Coordinator.
Ongoing welfare support for international students.

Sports Officer (SSp)

No updates.

Campaigns Officer (SCa)

VACANT.

b. What we've done as a Zone

Gathering nominations for Scarborough Awards.
We now have two elected positions for the roles of Education Officer and Campaigns Officer.

Chair reminds Zone Chairs to email their reports to be included in the minutes.

9. Any Other Business

- Academic Council Representative (Naill Devine) asks on behalf of Faculty Co-ordinator Arts and Social Sciences for an update on the progress of water fountains on campus.

President explains that the University are "getting to it". The University are working on it, he will push for it if Union Council wants him to.

Chair opens to floor.

Various attendees shout "yes".

President explains that the water fountains are not a priority for the University. New housing and a Health Hub are the current priority.

- VP Welfare and Community asks if we need to approve societies that were passed last time.

Staff suggest that we confirm their approval now.

Chair opens to floor.

Societies informally approved on the 23rd February are formally approved.

- Scarborough International Officer asks why Scarborough Anime Society have not been ratified by Union Council yet.

Chair SEC and VP Activities have not received their constitution.

10. Union Council will next meet at 6pm on Monday 11th May 2015 in Meeting Room 1 in Hull.

Approved by Union Council: