



UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION

All Student Members meeting – Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019, 3-5pm, MB0312

Present:

Chair: Willow Woodmin

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

Volunteer Officers

	31 <sup>st</sup> Oct
College of Arts Officer – Samantha Brinded	✓
College of Science Officer – James Bayliss	✓
College of Social Sciences Officer – Emma Calvert	A
Lincoln International Business School Officer – Sophia Liu	✓
Societies Officer – Rhys Davies	✓
Sports Officer – Harry Margaron	✓
Academic Societies Officer – Lexy Marchant	✓
Disabilities Officer – Zoe Hoy	✗
LGBT Students Officer – Jacob Ford	✓
Environmental Officer – Bailey Marchant	✓
Postgraduate Taught Officer – Jacob Diameh	✓
Postgraduate Research Officer – Current Vacant	N/A
Women's Students Officer- Amber Parker-Marshall	✓
Black Asian and Minority Ethnicity Officer – Princess Tamou	A
Community Officer – Holly Tyers	✓
Raising and Giving Officer – Jo Copson	✓
ISA Officer – Stephen Hernandez	✓

School Representatives

	31 <sup>st</sup> Oct
Architecture– Callum Inkster	✓
Accounting, Finance & Economics – Kyle Murfet	✗
Design – Terry Bullen	A
Chemistry – Amelia Cullen	✗
Computer Science – Danni Threlfall	A
Education – Sophie Boswell	✓
Engineering – Michael Barton	✓
English and Journalism – Katie Smith	✗

Film and Media – Oliver Bramhill	✘
Fine and Performing Arts – Charlotte Blackman	A
Geography – Bartholomew Hill	A
Health and Social Care – Grace Tompkins	✓
History and Heritage – Ben Cattle	✓
Law – Eddie Foster	A
Life Science – Jack Eames	✘
Marketing & Tourism – Ellie McSweeney	A
Mathematics and Physics – Jake Muff	✘
Medical School – Angelica Dahil	✘
Pharmacy – Fiona Hutchinson	✓
People & Organisations – Cami Martin	✓
Psychology – Talia Adams	✓
Social and Political Science – James Morrison	✓
Sport and Exercise Science – Matthew Healey	✓
Strategy & Enterprise – Currently Vacant	N/A

**Also Present:** James Brooks (SU CEO), Jenny Barnes (Head of Student Voice & Insight), Bethany Allen (Student Voice Manager – Clerk) Liz Smy (Representation & Governance Coordinator -Minute taking)

**Student Leaders:** Cassie Coakley, Emma Blackburn, Mohit Bulchandani, Georgia Petts and Abi Brown.

**Other student members in attendance:** Adrian Cann, Akini Thomas, Alex Saunders, Alexander Hagley, Alice Buckner, Alisha Beckett, Amelia Bowes, Amy Cooke, Amy Eyre, Andrew Wiseman, Angela Harwood, Angela Agra, Anna Mcloughlin, Benjamin Tan, Bradley Allsop, Brandon-Lee Dodds, Callum Roper, Chandani Holliday, Charis James, Charles Wilson, Charlotte Cooke, Chloe Hewson, Chloe Brooks, Christopher Ross, Conner Wain, Connor Glen, Connor Higgins, Constance Barton, Constanze Straub, Damian Ronander, Daniel Payne, Daniel Lappin, Darcy Nason, Deimante Juskaite, Edward Poole, Eleanor Burnett, Elizabeth Scanlon, Elle Ritchie, Ellie Fooks, Elliot Luke, Emily Rowley, Emily Dale, Emily Parker, Ethan Day, Ethan Bessell, Eva Whitaker, Fen Kiple, Finlay Munden, Hal Waller, Hannah Barr, Harry Baker-Smith, Harvey Baxter, Helen Ashby, Hettie West, Hope Leverett, Indika Roseway, Islay Walker, Jack Jenkins, Jacob Belsham, Jacob Moorcroft, Jacob Vause, James Morris, Jasmine Foster Jessica Williams, Jessica Yallop, Joel Coates, Jonathan Byrne, Jonathan Wardle, Jordan Dawson, Joshua Boon, Joshua Court, Julia Dobrowolska, Kale Lapsley, Kamala Adams, Karishma Vora, Kathryn Wilson, Katie Richards, Katie Webb, Katrina Dawson, Kayleigh Terry, Kiera Neethling, Kieran Murray, Kyra White, Lara Abu-Hassan, Laura Melvilee, Lauren Martin, Lauren Shaw, Lemmeul Olurin, Leon Dehari, Liam Barrow, Luke Swales, Madeline Ward, Madelyn Dell, Mantas Kalnikas, Mathilda Benjafield Bean, Mhairi Hides, Morgan Mainwaring, Natasha Kirchin, Nichola Adom, Nicola Westgate, Oliver Pridmore, Oliver Craven, Patricia Rodriguez Lopez-Salvatierra, Peter Robinson, Philip Jackson, Philip Lord, Phoebe Smith, Rachael Williams, Rebecca Hope, Rebecca Gale, Rebekka Vansittart, Recce Mitchell, Rhys Gibson, Riley Wade, Ryan Kidd, Ryan Paffett, Samuel Harper-Coulson, Scarlett Haas, Seth Goddard, Shannon Black, Sophie Cutts, Thomas Clare, Thomas Hartley, Thomas Welch, Thomas Saunders, Tori Wood, Victoria Ackford, Xanthe Tunley-Stainton, Zac Weatherall and Zoey Nicholls.

**Apologies for absence:**

College of Social Sciences Officer – Emma Calvert, Black Asian and Minority Ethnicity Officer – Princess Tamou, School of Design Representative – Terry Bullen, School of Fine

and Performing Arts Representative – Charlotte Blackman, Law School Representative – Eddie Foster and School Representative for the Department of Marketing & Tourism – Ellie McSweeney,

### **1. Introduction from the Chair**

Introduction to staff members in the room. Purpose and scope of the meeting were explained.

### **2. Minutes of Previous All Student Members' Meeting**

Minutes of previous meeting approved by assent  
Minutes all online – [lincolnsu.com/asm](http://lincolnsu.com/asm)

### **3. Matters and actions arising**

No actions or matters arising

### **4. Election of the Deputy Chair**

Candidates for Deputy Chair Hannah Barr and Sophia Liu

Speech from Hannah:

International Relations & Politics student, in last year of study at Lincoln. Has attended all ASMs but not nominated for any roles as of yet, and feels this is part of developing her own role in the student community.

Sophia, current LIBS college officer thinks it is a good opportunity to get involved in the Students' Union.

Vote taken by secret ballot:

Votes for Hannah 74

Votes for Sophia 65

Vote for RON 0

Spoilt votes 0

Hannah Barr elected as Deputy Chair.

### **5. Student Proposals**

#### **5.1. Student Leader Restructure**

Point of order – Seth Goddard – Currently, only elected officers can participate in Proxy voting. This is not within the bye laws, this should be a proposal not an announcement. Why has proxy voting been allowed to go ahead? How is this affected if amendments are passed, surely this invalidates proxy votes? Do proxy votes count towards quoracy?

Chair: They do not. Only students present count towards quoracy.

It is the discretion of the chair on whether to allow proxy voting.

Question: Proxy voting is not mentioned in the bye-laws, so this idea can be contested, is it not chair's roles is to interpret the bye-laws, not rule on points not mentioned in the bye-laws?

Clarification from the CEO, it is the Chairs discretion.

Chair: If the decision is disagreed with, the chair will step aside and Deputy Chair can take the meeting. Decision agreed for this meeting.

**Proposal: Cassie Coakley (SU President)**

Proposed changes were published on the SU website in advance of the meeting.

Amendment put forward that Vice President Postgraduate and Work Based Distance Learners will sit under Vice President Education and not be a full time role, and the Vice President International will now remain a full time role.

This is aimed at moving in line with the new SU strategy. Two new roles will be created replacing the President and Vice President Welfare & Community. We need to support postgraduate students and work-based distance learner more. Vice President Activities, Vice President Education and Vice President International are not changing.

Environmental issues are constantly changing and increasing. A Vice President role will be dedicated to this and campaigns. Vice President Wellbeing & Community will also be created to work on the University Ethos of One Community.

Vice President Education will not change and will still represent Students' Academic Interests and work the with Vice President Activities on supporting academic societies.

Questions: Will there be a hierarchy in the roles? Or will someone take on the roles explicitly mentioned in the bye laws? Board of Trustees chair, Directors for SUMS and LSUT and University Board of Governors Representative?

Answer: One of the Vice Presidents would take on these roles, one for Directors, one for Board of Trustees chair and another for University Board of Governors. 3 new VPs would have the opportunity to do these roles and this will be decided by a resolution by the Executive Committee (previous team not current). None of these responsibilities are being missed out.

Question: Hannah Barr – thinks it's good to share out the role. Do you worry about the role of the president being the 'face' of the SU and this not being as clear?

Answer: Cassie believe the 'face' is and should be all 5 Student Leaders.

Question: Devolution of power could cause issues with communications, causing issues for students. Is this a concern of the Executive Team and what is the plan to mitigate this?

Answer: Cassie- Communication is key. Accountability forums will be used if this was not the case. Training would be provided for all new Student Leaders.

Question: Harry Baker-Smith – Could we not amend the Articles of Association to allow variation of the Vice Presidents but also add in the President to keep the figure head?

Diverted to CEO – Students could change Articles of Association. It is a long process, needs to go to University Board of Governors and Board of Trustees. Could take 4 months, but it would be possible.

Not speech against.

No speech to abstain.

Public vote to hold a secret ballot on this despite no speeches against or for abstain. Vote agreed.

Vote outcome:

Yes 99

No 33

Abstain 18

Proposal to restructure the Student Leader roles is passed.

Meeting was no longer quorate after vote was taken.

## **5.2. Approval of Bye-Laws (Cassie Coakley (SU President))**

Main changes include:

- Honorary life memberships
- Deputy Union Chair to be elected across campus

Questions:

Question: 1.5.13 – opt out students cannot join clubs and socs. Why is this and does this not prevent participation?

Cassie: This is as we do not get their data, so we do not know who is attending events etc.

Question: Why have these not been made available before hand?

Cassie: These changes were available on the SU website, published 7 days before the meeting.

Follow up point: These should be in a place where all people can find them. In an easy to access format. What about students who cannot get on to this website.

Cassie: This is in-line with bye-laws.

Other Students present were able to find the information on mobile devices during the meeting.

Question: Can we vote on this?

Answer: No Vote could be held as meeting was no longer quorate.

Bradley Allsop: believes these are a good set of changes. A shame no vote can be held. Clarification requested regarding PG Officers, bye law 7 – is this taught and research?

Cassie: Yes it is.

Discussion held regarding promoting this meeting and students attendance:

Students raised that University sessions are more important than this meeting. There should be more extenuation circumstances on this for those that cannot attend.

Suggested idea to liaise with University to make meetings like this approved absences.

Cassie: Will be considered for next meeting. It is unlikely that 17000 students are in lectures right now. Lots of promotional materials have gone out about this and students may not be interested, that is why they do not attend.

It was clarified that non-substantive changes will be made to the bye-laws to enable the SU to carry out the Student Leader restructure that was agreed by the meeting.

### **5.3. Validation of the Board of Trustees Decision RE Leaving NUS**

Not vote could be held, only a discussion as meeting was not quorate.

Cassie stated she would give facts not opinions as she is neutral. It is an important discussion to have.

NUS is very different to what it was ten years ago, 2 years ago or even last week. They are near financial bankruptcy. The next conference will be the last one. Staff

team has reduced from 250 to under 70. The organisation has been split in to 2 entities.

New NUS split – Charity and Voice

Charity – SUs are the members. Covers areas such as HR, Pensions and Sus.

Voice covers areas such as Representation. This part is not paid for. Student organising for sustainability is part of Voice.

£58,000 affiliation fee, does not include conference fees. It is proposed to put this money in to the SU and your experience. Representation is a key thing. We can be represented by Voice, but we can tie this in with the new SU strategy too. Everyone needs to have a voice.

Questions;

Question: How is it decided where the £58,000 will be spent?

Cassie: Students will decide this, within reason. There would be another meeting like this to discuss ideas.

Question: When do we get to vote on this as we cannot vote today?

**Proposal** from Bradley Allsop that this go to a referendum.

Speech for: We should put this to referendum. It is a really important moment to have a discussion about this. A referendum is the most likely way that students can have a say on this. We have a petition to call for this, but this has been ignored. We should have a proper democratic conversation about this.

Speech against:

Cassie Coakley: Valid points raised by Bradley. We struggled to get quoracy for this ASM, we would need 1,700 students for a referendum to be quorate, and we should focus our efforts to the general election that is going to happen.

Bradley: Cassie has said all students have a right to have their voice heard. The last referendum on this reached quoracy, so it could happen again, we cannot say it won't.

Cassie: Do students care about NUS? We tried to get more people here and we would have moved rooms if needed, should more people have attended, but they did not.

Question: My understanding, if this continues, we will leave NUS at the end of the year. We have just 2 months to discuss this. If we have another meeting that is not quorate, how are people going to have their voices heard if we do not go to referendum?

Answer: Cassie- We can have a referendum or we can take all other consultations, such as this meeting and other events, as evidence that students do not care. We can continue with the notice, or we can hold a referendum.

Bradley reply: Cassie is correct, we might not get many people, but last time we did. It will still be more people than today and gives us more time. Debates can be held. I believe students do care and we should give them a chance to have their say.

Question: The £58000, was only 52 in February, was this a incorrect or has it changed?

CEO: The affiliation fee has increased £6,000 this year.

No speech for abstain.

Vote for Secret Ballot held by show of hands:

Vote for a secret ballot – some

Vote for a public vote – many

Taking the proposal to a public vote passed.

Public Vote for amendment to put this to referendum:

For: 115

Against: 32

Abstain: 1

Amendment passed.

## 6. Any Other Business

### 6.1. Sports & Societies funding discussion - Cassie Coakley (SU President)

Cassie: a lot of money goes to competitive sports, but students have also asked for more funding for social sport, and non-competitive teams. Where would you like to see the resources going? BUCS and competitive teams or social sport and non-competitive teams?

Students felt that Space and time to train are the main issue with the growing student population. Money should go to facilities.

Student felt that first teams should have priority over other teams, as if they cannot afford to get to games, they have to give walk-overs and that reduces out chances to get funding next year.



Societies – not all societies compete, but there are sister societies. Could there be funding to go to rallies or events with sister societies as often only a few people can go and no one knows Lincoln is there as there are so few students there.

## 6.2. Lay out the annual accounts

We are transparent about our finances, anyone can view these.

Question: Of the £58,000 for NUS, how much of that do we expect to go to services we use here?

Cassie: We pay £2500 for purchasing consortium. HE policy side, we would go to WONKHE subscription. The future really depends on the decisions of the elected officers.

Question: Sounds like the £58,000 is simplistic and won't be that straight forward. Is that the case?

CEO: We don't know what insurance premiums will be or other costs we cannot always exactly predict. There will be an invoice of £58,000 that will not need to be paid and approx. £12,000 of conference fees.

Cassie: This could be spent elsewhere.

Cassie: How can we get more people to come to ASM:

Student commented: Timing is key – lectures or events stop student attending this particular time. 5 pm may not work for everyone. Could we rota the time - different time each meeting?

Cassie: this could be considered.

Suggestion: Drop in sessions, a few different times to allow more people to attend. Get Sports and Societies and other people to promote it more.

If you had to book a seat, do you think people would be more likely to turn up? Difficult to say to the people who did attend today.

Could we put a poll in the SU website to find a time?

Cassie: These suggestions would be considered for future meetings.

Question: When will the referendum happen?

Answer: The Referendum must be called within 30 days. Executive Committee need to decide when in that time.

## 7. Close of meeting