



UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION
Academic Societies Hub

4.00pm, 14th January
Microsoft Teams

Minutes

Name	Job Title
Abi Brown (AB)	Vice President Activities
Georgia Petts (GP)	Vice President Education
James Morrison (JM)	Academic Societies Officer
Lindsey Cameron (LC)	Employment Skills Adviser

Also in attendance:

Jess Skill (JS) Assistant Opportunities Manager

Item	Action
<p>1. Careers and Employability Talk</p> <p>LC provided an insight into Careers and Employability, which included the following:</p> <p>Lincoln Award:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An employability framework to enhance skills and gain recognition• University recognises the award and adds to your University transcript• Will be able to articulate these skills to new employers• Once completed, the candidate will go through an assessment centre experience i.e. presentation case studies, interviews etc.• What will need to be completed if you take part?<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Induction and Pathway Assessment- Online Skills Assessment- 40 Hours extra-curricular activity- At least 1 Careers and Employability workshop- Three course related activities- 2 activities outside of your course <p>Lincoln Award Global</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Same theory but for students who are interested in exploring global skills <p>Access</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workshops are all online and can access via www.uolcareers.co.uk/students• CareerLink is an online portal to book onto workshops, see the online job board and present evidence etc.• Can be accessed via Blackboard on the 'Careers Tab' or via the website to activate account contact info: lincolnaward@lincoln.ac.uk www.uolcareers.co.uk/lincolnaward careers@lincoln.ac.uk 01522 837828	
<p>2. Vice President Wellbeing and Community Update</p> <p>LK provided an update of any recent developments, which included the following:</p>	



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- Noted that a letter template has been created for students to send to their landlords to provide support during this time, either by reduced rent or to end tenancy early. To find this letter go to www.lincolnsu.com/letter2021
- Informed the students that any University run accommodations have provided a 20% rent reduction on next instalment of rent.
- Noted that Pavilions and Hayes Wharf have provided a 6-week rent free period from 5th January to 15th February providing you are not living in your accommodation.
- LK explained that the Students' Union is Lobbying TBSA and other large-scale letting agencies which take a 20% commission of the rent paid as commission, to support students during this time. To see a list of which companies have been contacted or for any questions please contact: wellbeing@lincolnsu.com

3. Academic Societies Officer Update

JM provided an update of any recent developments, which included the following:

- Working with VPE and School Reps who lack Academic Societies to set up two of the main Schools that do not have any.
- Working with the PGR Officer to gain more PG support for Academic Societies.
- Working on top tips for online learning and list of academic society activities to get involved in.

4. Vice President Activities Update

AB provided an update of any recent developments, which included the following:

- Stated that all events must remain online for the time being.
- Mentioned that the Sport Board meeting has been moved to the following week and can therefore give an update regarding sport on campus at the next meeting.
- Reminded students that the Students' Union Advice Centre/University Wellbeing Centre are still open and can take appointments over the phone or Teams.
- Kahoot membership is still available to use, please email activitiesoffice@lincolnsu.com to query the date.
- There is Look After Your Mate training available for all students, to book a slot follow the link [here](#).
- A reminder that The Swanny's/SU Awards are coming up, the awards provide recognition to your activity.
- A reminder of the correct refund procedure:
 - The BUCS fee is being refunded on 15th January and can take up to 3-5 working days.
 - Only the President of the activity can decide whether a refund can be given.
 - Forward original email to activitiesoffice@lincolnsu.com with student number.
 - Ensure there is enough funds in the account before authorising any refund.
 - If all members are given a refund the activity will be disbanded.
 - The activity can offer partial refunds to members.
 - Deadline for refunds all refunds is before Easter.
- The delivery address for the Students' Union has changed: University of Lincoln Students' Union Unit 3, The Gateway, Roston Way, Lincoln, LN67GQ.



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- Elections for all volunteer roles and Student Leaders are coming up in March, the positions available are:
 - 5 VP roles; Education, Activities, International, Campaigns and Environment, Wellbeing and Community
 - 3 Officer roles within Activities; Societies, Academic Societies, Sports
- AB mentioned that all funding applications have been paused unless they are for an online event that can be used in line with the Government restrictions

5. Vice President Education Update

GP provided an update of any recent developments, which included the following:

Safety Net

- There is currently no safety net in place for students, the VPE reminded students that this is being worked on by the Students' Union to work with the University to change this by using best practice from other Universities.
- Noted that the regulatory bodies who review grades are completing audits to ensure all marks are graded correctly.
- GP noted that a meeting with the Vice Chancellor was looking to be organised to discuss the prospect of a safety net for students.
- It was noted that more information on the support available to students is being worked on and will be published more widely.
- There has been regulatory changes for extenuating circumstance and extensions, follow the link for the support available: [Continued support for your academic studies during Covid-19 – Student Services \(lincoln.ac.uk\)](https://www.lincoln.ac.uk/continued-support-for-your-academic-studies-during-covid-19-student-services)

Tuition Fees

- GP explained that the Students' Union has joined two national campaigns to lobby Student Finance England to wipe any student debt during the pandemic or the interest on their student loans.
- It was noted that GP is working on getting more direct support and guidance from the government and get updates for students as part of the solution.
- The SU landing page now has information for more support and also links to a survey and the link to Coursemate, please provide as much feedback as possible.
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6. Discussion topic

What is currently worrying you about your University experience?

The main themes of the discussion are outlined below:

- Very hard to work online and not getting enough support from lecturers or tutors.
- Lectures being cancelled last minute with no explanation.
- No checking for negative tests when students are entering campus buildings.
- Mental health concerns i.e. housemates not getting along, loneliness.



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- Engineers are back on campus and are alone in their flats, need more support and spending up to 6-8 weeks on their own.
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7. Any Other Business

- N/A

Date of Next Meeting: 4th February at 5.40pm