



UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION
All Student Members meeting – Wednesday 25th April, 4-6pm, AADOW25

Present:

Chair: Jacob Bradbury

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

Volunteer Members

	16 th Oct	30 th Nov	25 th Apr	
College of Arts Officer – Glen Allison	✓	✓	x	
College of Science Officer – James Bayliss	✓	A	x	
College of Social Sciences Officer – Beatriz De Arcos Marin	✓	x	x	
Lincoln International Business School Officer- Mikhail Belovol	x	✓	x	
Societies Officer – Natalie Magnuszewski	x	✓	x	
Sports Officer – Cassie Coakley	x	x	✓	
Disabled Students Officer – Mohammed Reza Shah	x	x	x	
LGBT Students Officer – Sian Burt	✓	✓	x	
Mature Students Officer – Heather Sunderland	x	A	x	
Postgraduate Taught Officer – Victoria Lister	NF	✓	✓	
Postgraduate Research Officer – Bradley Allsop	NF	✓	A	
Women's Students Officer- Michaela Ormrod	✓	✓	x	
Black Asian and Minority Ethnicity Officer – Alliya Iftikhar	x	A	x	
Community Officer – Benjamin Leer	✓	A	x	
Raising and Giving Officer – Emma Blackburn	✓	NF	✓	

School Representatives

	16 th Oct	30 th Nov	25 th Apr	
Architecture– Molly Harper	✓	x	A	
Design – Callum Hooper	NF	A	✓	
Accounting, Finance & Economics – Joshua Reade	✓	A	x	
Chemistry – Arden Mower	✓	x	✓	
Computer Science – Alex Ford	✓	✓	x	

Engineering – Alex Dyson	x	x	x	
English and Journalism – Caitlin Holloway	✓	x	x	
Film and Media – Charlotte Buono	✓	A	A	
Fine and Performing Arts – Jessica Hickey	x	x	x	
Geography – Bartholomew Hill	x	A	✓	
Health and Social Care – Michelle Wiggins	A	A	A	
History and Heritage – Matthew Curtis	NF	x	x	
Law – Chloe Rollings	✓	A	✓	
Life Science – Emily Phynn	✓	✓	x	
Marketing- Alex Bentley	✓	✓	✓	
Mathematics and Physics – Grace Nichols-Singh		x	x	
Pharmacy – Claire Hodge	A	A	✓	
People & Organisations – Elouise Blanchflower	x	✓	✓	
Psychology – Nial Francis	✓	✓	✓	
Social and Political Science – Charlotte Stone	✓	✓	x	
Sport and Exercise Science – Jack Dos Reis Silva	✓	✓	✓	
Strategy & Enterprise – Harry Levey	x	x	✓	
Tourism – Ricarda Krieger	NF	✓	✓	

Also Present: James Brooks (SU CEO), Jenny Barnes (Head of Student Voice & Insight, Clerk to Council), Emily Stow (Student Insight Assistant, Minute taking), Amy O’Sullivan (Student Insight Co-Ordinator).

Student Leaders: Kudzai Muzangaza, Tommy George, Luke Exton, Sophia Liu, Connor Delany.

Other student members in attendance:

Yousef Abdulla, Adam Walford, Emma Louise Day, Laura Jane Gates, Katie Maloney, Patrick Richardson, Chelsea Jade Thomason, Levi Jade Naylor, Alexander John, George Reed, Faye Elliott, Christopher Day, Louis Hunt-Cole, Nicholas Ross, James Oliver Roberts, Justas Kasputis, Antonia Koch, Elouise Marie Blanchflower, Tamika Amy Gayle, William Smith, Emily Mercer, Liam Suttey, Rachel Mary Fletcher, Laura Bennett, George Young, Jessica Dagley, Casey Emery, Lauren Radford, Saffron Baker, Fabiola Schnier, Jessica Yallop, Sian Marie Beardmore, Cassandra Coakley, Sia Matturi, Mollie Roberts, Alexandra Le-Voguer, Chloe Woods, Aiste Minkute, Lewis Wright, Holly Cooper, Jonathan Phillips, Edward Boulter, Charlie Brett, Morgan Steven Redford, Andreea Moldovan, Olivia Jade Wilbur, Sam Wagland, Matthew Healey, Charlotte Broadhurst, Keiren Robertshaw, Liam O’Dell, Kyle Cross, Adam Ruff, Owen Berry, Aaron Powell, Daniel Jeffrey, Cullen Gaskell, Abi Lucia Brown, Rebecca Brightman, Hannah Wren, Evelyn Rose Matthews, Alice Mary Bowdery, Caitlin Anne Powell, Brandon Wisdom, Rhianne-Ebony Sterling-Morris, Rebecca Kennedy, Ailish Woodhead, Samuel Thomas Benstead, Roberta Jayne Mcinnes, Connor Meek, Ananna Plaats, Megan Ruby East, Eleanor Jayne Krawczyk, Harvey Johnson, Emily Sinkinson, Chloe Woods, Joseph Pearce, Bradley Stansbury, Kiah Coldrick, Callum Hooper, Bethany White, Oliver Wright, Annmarie Phillips, Stuart Kirk, William O’Sullivan, Rhys Jones, Marcus Thomas Todd, Sophie Mae Price, Niamh Mcdonagh, Shane Barr, Bryony Curtis, Zoe Marley, Thomas Sutton, Daniel Christopher Jones, Joshua Mathew Hughes, Samuel Southgate, Charlie Neve, Lauren Wood,

Cerys Kerman, Grace Corn, Grace Dunham, Hannah Kate Burrell, Victoria Green, Alexandra Tweddle, Hope Leverett, Sophie Buller, Mollie Shepherd, Amy Lewis, Jacob Barnes, Nicole Louise Higgins, Rebecca Marrows, Adam Thomas, Harry Lack, Samantha Ramsay, James Bayliss, Michael Barton, Caterina Lucock, Colleen Wall, Brittany Esterhuizen, Rhys Davies, Eva Whitaker, Chloe Brooks, Jade Kinchella, Caitlin Booth, Amy Murray, Alexandra Rhodes, Emma Louise Blackburn, Eloise Richardson, Darcy Nason, Piotr Chudzik, Harry Albert, Nathan Harris, Paris Hubbuck, Bethany Thomas, Samuel Cross, Jamie Dowd, Elliot Marris, Saurabh Shankaranarayan, Deeksha Teri, Katrina Dawn Watson, Francesca Robbins, Lucy Davies, Kitty-Mai Moore, Jack White, Harry Loftus, Matthew Denton, Connor Roberts, Georgia Petts, Lily Jessica Rowland Moon, Ailsa Maccalman, Charlotte Quinn, Ashley Jubb, Kimrin Sohal, Taliha Samar, Emily Popple, Esther Webster, Claudia Casey, Samantha Ramsbottom, Laura Melville, Lisa Meadows, Giulia Ratti, Harriet Hibberd, Flora Sweetman, Amber Parker-Marshall, Kasean Coe, Natalie Read-Bone, Fairlie Caine, Mattea Searby, Grace Needham, Elliott Larkinson, Hannah Barr, Samuel Busby, Adam Spencer, Harry Margason, Alex Tipper, Amelia Bowes, Oluwaseun Alaba, Thomas Wakefield, Thomas Welch, Eloise Gill, Hugo Starns, William Harmston-Ella, Sara Quintana, Sarah Nesfield, Leah O'Neill, Nicole Lawrance, Nichola Adom, William Francis, Jason Malcolm, Anthony Bringolf, Bethany Leal, Hugh Hatt-lipscomb, Joseph Hoang,

Apologies for absence: Charlotte Buono, Molly Harper, Michelle Wiggins

1. Introduction from the Chair

The Chair confirmed that 204 students present, therefore the meeting was quorate.

The Chair confirmed that Simon Parkes (Deputy Vice Chancellor, Finance and Infrastructure) to join the meeting to discuss Sports Centre in point **5.1**

The Chair introduced the members of Students' Union staff present.

2. Minutes of Previous All Student Members' Meeting

Minutes of previous meeting approved by assent.

3. Matters and actions arising

The Proposal to show more female sports in Tower Bar was taken to Exec, and a date for a referendum was to be chosen

As there was 204 students in attendance today it was concluded that this could be voted on in this meeting as the referendum had not yet happened

3.1 More female sports to be shown in Tower Bar

Speech for – Luke Exton: This was originally proposed in the interest of equal opportunities, as sport shown in Tower Bar seemed to focus on male sport.

Questions:

Hannah Barr – What will be classified as female sport?

Response: There is work to do around what sport will be shown, students will

be asked what they want to see and it will be put on as and when available.

Samantha Ramsay – A lot of hockey is broadcast on YouTube and BT Sport, would we be able to show this on screens too?

Response: Yes.

Shane Barr – How would you monitor how much female sport is being played?

Response: This will be considered, but we would aim for 50:50.

No speech against.

No Abstention speech.

Motion passes by assent.

4. Election of deputy chair.

Holly Cooper – elected by assent.

5. Student Proposals and Petitions

5.1 Student Carers – Proposers: Chloe Rollings and Connor Delany

Speech For: Some students might take on responsibilities such as doing housework and providing emotional support more than others, which constitutes carer responsibilities and can have an impact on students' studies. One main issue that faces carers is that they do not realise they are one, and that there is support for them at University. As the amount of student carers is set to increase, this proposal looks to provide more support for these students from services such as the Students' Union and Student Wellbeing.

Amendment to point 3 within 'This Union Resolves to'. "Student Leader team to review this position at the end of the next academic year with the aim to create a dedicated officer position in the Campaigns Network or Academic Representation System" – removal of "Academic Representation System"

Amendment to point 6 within 'This Union Resolves to'. "Students' Union President to monitor participation of Carers in Students' Union activities on an annual basis" – change of "Students' Union President" to "Vice President Welfare and Community".

Questions:

Hannah Barr – What would the voluntary role entail?

Response: The representative would be supported by the rest of the Mature Students Group in their first year within the role. It is key to represent student carer's views and advertise the support they can receive.

No speech against.

No Abstention speech.

Motion passes by assent.

5.2 Fair Conditions for Postgraduates who teach – Proposer: Bradley

Allsop

Speech For: Played through video as Bradley is absent.
Postgraduate students who teach need to be better supported in their teaching and marking. This can have a negative impact on postgraduate students, as if their teacher is not being paid properly or given proper support it could impact their academic experience.

Questions: Kudzai answers on behalf of Bradley

Katie Maloney – Why hasn't this been put in place already?
Response: We have previously looked into this over the past few months. Responsibilities are affecting them in a negative way and as a result it is impacting student experiences. We have established linked with UCU to see how we can support these students as whilst they are employed by the University, they are also still students. This motion solidifies the policies we will put in place.

No speech against.
No Abstention speech.
Motion passes by assent.

5.3 Vice President Academic Affairs – name change to Vice President Education – Proposer: Tommy George

Speech For: This was proposed at the last ASM. The main reason for this is to make the title more in line with the rest of the sector, as most other institutions have a Vice President Education. Many students do not know what

Academic Affairs entails, so the new title is more in line with students and how they communicate with the Students' Union. There will be no change to the remit of the role.

No questions.
No speech against.
No Abstention speech.
Passed by assent.

5.4 Building links between the University and Lincoln Entrepreneurs – Proposer: Shalini Paul

Speech For: Students have created events previously with external companies, but they have been shut down by the University with no reasoning as to why. International students do not get much time to search for jobs whilst they study, this proposal wants to link enterprises with the University so more roles will become available to these students. The proposal is to get entrepreneurs to come in and give talks, and partner with them to give students the chance to gain networking skills.

No questions.
No speech against.
No Abstention speech.
Passed by assent.

5.5 Access to SU financial spending information – Proposer: Harry Levey

Speech For: Currently, if you wish to see this information, there are 2 means. Students have limited understanding of Students' Union spending. This proposal is for the SU to post this a breakdown of spending on the website, which will benefit students in their understanding of where the SU spend money and provide accountability for the Student Leaders.

Questions:

Brandon Wisdom – Why is the SU not already transparent in their spending?

Response: The idea is to show where the money is going in a pie chart e.g. spending on welfare. Prospective students can also see where their SU is spending their money so it can be a recruitment tool.

Louis Hunt-Cole – Do you think this is beneficial? Some people might not have much understanding of this information so it might not be in the best interests of the Students' Union image to have students view this.

Response: Students are not usually equipped to understand this information, however most students can understand percentages and pie charts. Students can make clear judgements on where the SU is spending their money.

Ricarda Krieger – Is it a matter of showing how much is being spent, or showing what percentage is being spent on different matters? Would you be happy with this knowledge instead of figures?

Response: This is more focused on the charity side of the SU, which is where we elect the officers for, not the commercial side.

Kudzai – point of information – I am not sure people are aware of how the SU is set up, we need to make the distinction between transparency and detail. Commercially sensitive detail is something we do not need to disclose. We are very happy to disclose spending information from the Student Leaders spending, as this is relevant to students.

Speech Against – Louis Hunt-Cole

Does not see the relevance, how many SU's in the country do this? Sensitive information should not be shared with the general public.

Response: We elect our Student Leaders on the basis that we can hold them to account. This isn't personal finances it is a company, whom we elect on our behalf, so it more about company spending than personal.

Speech to Abstain – Hannah Barr

Abstaining on the grounds that it might not be a bad idea, but feels the proposal is not detailed enough. If this was properly looked into with more thought, we could find something that worked better and is better understood.

Vote:

For - 77

Against - 32

Abstain - 28

Motion passes.

6. Any Other Business

6.1 Sports Centre

Luke introduces Simon Parkes, who is present to listen to issues regarding the Sports Centre

Introduction from Simon Parkes: Conscious that there are challenges facing the Sports Centre, such as insufficient facilities and grass pitches.

A study has been commissioned to see whether we can create a case to get funding for better facilities into or close to the campus by working with Lincoln City and the Council.

Simon recognises that many students are frustrated with the current services, and that we need to make better use of the current facilities.

Simon highlights that the Sports Centre isn't just for the elite who play competitive sport, but we want to make being active available to as many students as possible across campus facilities. Discusses a possibility to make the gym available 24/7 and to reduce the cost – this will not be immediate but is feasible.

Questions:

Louis Hunt-Cole – The rebound boards were put forward as an SUGGESTION 6 months ago, and we are still none the wiser about these – what is the status?

Response: This has been asked for and we expect for this to be done in Summer. It will either be rebound boards or something similar to do with the nets being altered to prevent balls from going under the nets.

Louis Hunt-Cole – There is a vast need for improvement to the storage in the Sports Centre yet there is a massive area that is not being used. Can this issue be raised?

Response: This has been raised but not in the same capacity. We should look into how we can use the space effectively and make storage space available. We do not want to bring in another external storage container, so need to make better use of the existing space.

Rebecca Marrows – Are there any updates about where the Archery society will be based?

Response: The way the Archery society was unacceptable. I was unaware

this was an ongoing issue and is going to work with Riseholme to create space. We will look into this before the summer break and find some solutions.

Samantha Ramsay – We have felt side-lined and as if we are working against the Sports Centre, not with them. We have had several dangerous incidences e.g. lights being turned off before sessions finished; many opportunities for injury. This has been harmful for us as a society.

Response: We acknowledge that we need to improve how we work with sports and societies. It is difficult for Simon to comment on usage of the pitches. Ultimately staff are responsible for students, so we need to ensure the spaces are safe. Simon highlights that students should contact him directly if these incidents arise.

Hockey society – Discuss issues regarding changing room facilities and being told they can only use the small changing rooms despite being a team of 12-16 players. The team shelters was an SUGGESTION as there is nowhere to keep our bags or sit down, which is unsafe for people to stand on the side of the pitch.

Response: Simon aims to take this point away, and sees no reason why teams cannot use this space. Will find out what the issue is here. In terms of the shelters SUGGESTION, these things are inevitably expensive and so there may not currently be the money to implement them. However, if this is a common view among students through the SU, it will be looked into. Students have many ideas so we need to make sure we prioritise and be clear in future as to how we are planning on prioritising.

Kyle Cross – There is limited space for expansion, is it a risk that expanding sports facilities means we cannot expand academic facilities?

Response: we need to ensure the campus is fit for purpose for everyone, so we expect to be able to expand sports facilities without compromising any other facilities. We have invested significantly in academic facilities recently, such as the Medical School and library spaces, so there is a lot going on with academic spaces. This means we want to begin expanding sports spaces.

Ailsa Maccalman – We were able to use the Sports Centre for years, and now we cannot. We are currently left with nowhere to use and having to walk 20-30 minutes away from campus at 10pm which is unsafe and is also more expensive. Will we be able to use the new dance studios or the Sports Centre? The space always seems unused but we are still unable to use it.

Response: An apology is given to the Dance society. The Sports Centre is part of the solution but this is still flawed. There are sufficient grounds across campus for the Dance society to use the new studios, this will be improved. We hope that some changes have been seen as we have tried to decrease the prices of facilities and more will be seen over Summer and Autumn.

6.2 NUS – Kudzai Muzangaza

Kudzai wishes to bring what the NUS is to the attention of the student body. NUS delegates were elected in the last elections – Kudzai, Sophia, Connor and Grace Corn and attended the NUS Conference in March.

A lot of money (£52,000 per year) is paid into NUS, so as a Students' Union we expect support from them so we can represent students effectively. Consensus from the room is that students do not know what the NUS is. Kudzai highlights the importance in being part of a national body that represents the interests of students, and noted that the NUS is currently very factional and does not represent students on the ground.

Consensus from the room is that the majority use Unidays more than NUS Extra.

Questions:

Matthew Denton – I do not feel a need to use the NUS. I do not feel they represent me, if they are becoming more factional, do we need to be affiliated with them?

Response – Kudzai Muzangaza responded, and referred the question to James Brooks to provide information on the impact to the business.

James Brooks: States that he is not going to give an opinion but answer from a business perspective.

We spend £52,000 a year, which may increase but we do not get told this until after the budgets are set. NUS are losing money year on year, so it is possible it will increase. We also then spend £14,000 on delegates going to training, travel to conferences and Student Leader training. NUS say that alcohol is cheaper and subsidised but it is not. From a business sense, it is worse for us to be affiliated with the NUS. In terms of students, if they want us to be a part of it then we should – it is the decision of students.

Questions:

What is the other side of the argument? What is the effect from a student perspective and what would we lose?

Response – Kudzai: We become part of a network where we can lobby Government change. One of these things is funding, loans etc. NUS brings millions of students across the nation together to lobby these issues and has commissioned research. One of the things we do want to lobby is helping International students and student carers – something that NUS has influence in. However, at the moment there does not seem to be much movement and this has not been filtered down to the student body.

How is the NUS helping International students?

Response – Kudzai: NUS have a full time International officer who is currently looking at how Brexit will impact International students.

Response – Sophia: I didn't know they had an officer until I started this role, every time I meet them and see their campaigns, I do not feel much support.

in my personal opinion.

Louis Hunt-Cole – Would the figure going down increase the opportunity to fund sports facilities?

Response – Kudzai: If there are extra pots of money, they are always put back into students. But I cannot guarantee that if we had this money it would go back into sports facilities or anything specific. We would take the direction from the students.

Point of information – Connor:

Most students have a Secure Tenancy Deposit, where deposits for your flat are stored with an external company. This has saved over £50 million for students. Noted he is now on the fence as NUS represent us politically on a level that we cannot do as a charity, however we are not seeing the level of support we expect for £52,000. We need to weigh up the pros and cons of whether this is worth it.

6.3 Suggestions – Kudzai

Over 125 Suggestions have been submitted this year; platform has been very successful

Point for clarity – we have had criticism over not working on these quickly, however change within the University is slow, so the traction is likely to be similarly slow

There have been multiple Suggestions for microwaves on campus which have been acknowledged. However, there are other priorities above this. A trial will be happening in the David Chiddick Building.

6.4 Post 18 Education Funding – Tommy George

The Government are doing a big review on how students get funded for University; they want information on how students think they should be funded They have provided some terms of reference:

- Be accessible to all, from different backgrounds
- Value for money – how students get value for money and the tax payers that fund student education
- Incentivise choice and competition – fairer market
- Skills development – there is a focus on technical skills and a lack of focus on the Arts and creative courses. They want to incentivise people to gain technical skills
- Technical and FE act – focus on FE and vocational skills; there will be degree level apprenticeships with the same value of a degree and treated the same i.e. with loans
- More and higher quality degrees than before, meaning there are less avenues into FE and a focus on colleges
- Graduate debt has increased but students are not seeing the wage return, due to the country needing more technical skills

Questions to the room – Tommy:

When you left school, what made you come to university rather than going into Further Education?

Response – Ricarda Krieger: A degree is a necessity in my field

Response – Harry Levey: To get onto a graduate scheme

Response – Katie Maloney: Anyone in high level sport has an MSc or PhD – necessary

Response – Hannah Barr: Areas that I study aren't offered via an apprenticeship, I was given no alternative to University

Were there any financial incentives?

Response: As a mature student, I couldn't go to University until they brought out the new funding with maintenance loans

Response: There was no way for me to go to University without student finance, my family couldn't afford to support me

Response: As an International student, England was the best option financially

Is there anything else that would have made you choose a different route?

Response – Ricarda Krieger: Yes, if companies didn't make you have a degree to get a job

Response: I was told that it mattered a lot what the name of the institution was – I chose Lincoln because it had University in the title

Response: Level of sport; Lincoln's facilities and course outweighed where I wanted to study. Academic side won me over.

Response: University has a prestigious view, if this could be combatted it could encourage people to take different routes

Response – Nial Francis: If the job I wanted to go into was a safer bet, I would have gone straight into training for that but getting a degree keeps your options open – future stability

If technical skills were cheaper to train for/had other incentives, would you have considered it?

Response: There is no point if you are not skilled in this area

Response: Even though apprenticeships are cheaper, I keep speaking to people who have been messed around by the apprenticeship system – lack of faith in the system

Is there anything about Higher Education that has prevented you from succeeding?

Response: As an English student, I pay a lot of money for little contact time – if there was more contact time with tutors, grades would improve. Currently have 5.5 hours of contact time per week.

Response – Shane Barr: In trying to do tests for dissertation, students have needed to go into their own pockets to do this and get good grades, which seems unnecessary

Response – Bartholomew Hill: Not personally, but others get stressed about money. Students may have spent all of their money or have no family support, which causes extra stress in exam periods. Not necessarily the debt at the end of the degree but the money you have throughout

General consensus from the room that students feel more stress regarding the

money they have whilst completing their degree rather than the debt at the end

How do you feel the Government and the University could best support you?

Response – Rebecca Marrows: I receive minimum tuition fee and parents live abroad. Compared to my home town Lincoln is expensive, so it seems unfair.

Response: To get free prescriptions you need to fill out multiple complex forms, students should have an easier means of getting free prescriptions

Response: Student Finance only take into account what goes into a family, not what goes out, which cuts down what parents can provide

Tommy reports that the review is due on May 2nd, and that we answer on behalf of the Students' Union and of the students. The review will be posted online.

6. Close of meeting