



## UNIVERSITY OF LINCOLN STUDENTS' UNION

Student Council meeting - Monday 29th February 2016, 6pm, MB1010

**Present:**

Chair: Emma Huntley (Deputy Chair, School of Computer Science Rep)

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

Volunteer Members

	5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	29 <sup>th</sup> Feb	11 <sup>th</sup> Apr
College of Arts Officer – John-Paul Dickie	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
College of Science Officer - Connor Muir	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
College of Social Sciences Officer – Abigail Pacey	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	
Societies Officer – Holly Band	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Sports Officer – Will Fry ( <b>CHAIR</b> )	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Disabled Students Officer - Tasnim Hassan	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	
International Students Officer – Wendy Ly	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	
LGBT Students Officer – Cameron Smith	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mature Students Officer – Nikita Kaliroy	✓	✗	A	A	✗	
Women’s Students Officer- Jessica Bartholomew	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Gender and Sexuality Officer – Mary Alice Allen	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	
Black and Minority Ethnicity Officer – Marc Anthony Dataro	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	
Carholme Community Rep – Grace Richards	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	
Park Community Rep – Molly Moore	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Abbey Community Rep – Douglas Collingson	NF	NF	NF	A	A	
Raising and Giving Officer – Simon Payne	NF	NF	NF	✓	✓	

School Representatives

	5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	29 <sup>th</sup> Feb	11 <sup>th</sup> Apr
Architecture and Design – Lorna Lovatt	✓	✓	✓	A	✗	

Business – Stephanie Nock	A	A	A	A	A	
Chemistry – Fraser Kelly	A	A	✓	✓	✓	
Computer Science – Emma Huntley	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	
Engineering – Rebecca Butterfield	✓	NF	✓	✓	A	
English and Journalism – Danyal Khan	A	✘	✓	A	✓	
Film and Media – Iona Carter	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	
Fine and Performing Arts – Natasha Bailey	A	✓	A	✓	✓	
Health and Social Care - NF	A	✘	✘	✘	NF	
History and Heritage – Megan Lee	✘	✘	A	✘	A	
Law – Erin Cook	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Life Science – Scott Bonner	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Mathematics and Physics - NF	NF	✓	✘	✘	NF	
Pharmacy – Tarnjit Singh Rama	A	A	✓	A	✓	
Psychology – Samuel Jones	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Social and Political Science – Joshua Charles	✓	NF	✓	✓	✓	
Sport and Exercise Science – Melissa Poole	A	✘	✘	A	A	

### Representatives of Societies and Sports Council

	5 <sup>th</sup> Oct	2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov	30 <sup>th</sup> Nov	1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	29 <sup>th</sup> Feb	11 <sup>th</sup> Apr
Societies Zone Rep (Events) - Jammil Ahmed	✓	✘	✘	A	✘	
Societies Zone Rep (Academic) – Bradley Taylor	✓	✓	NF	✓	✓	
Sports Zone Representative (BUCS) – NF	✘	✘	NF	NF	NF	
Sports Zone Representative (Varsity) – Victoria Goodwin	✘	✘	A	A	✘	
Sports Zone Representative (Non-Competing) Rose Law	NF	NF	A	A	✘	

### **Also Present:**

Hayley Jayne Wilkinson – President, Nyasha Takawira - VP Academic Affairs.

James Brooks - Chief Executive, Jennifer Barnes – Student Voice and Impact Manager & Clerk to Council, Hannah Coleman – Head of HR & Operations, Elizabeth Smy – Academic Representation Worker & Minute taker, Lindsay Westgarth – Student Voice Administrator.

Michael Daneill – Student Member, Thomas Mitchell – Student Trustee, Matthew Smeeth – Student Trustee, Rebecca Duncan – Student Member, Mark Pastuszka – Student Member, Benjamin Higgott – Student Trustee, Paige Coleman – Student Member, Kate Grimley – Student Member, Beatriz De Arcos Marin – Student Member, Joshua Grinsell – Student Member, Aigerim Kuanysh – Student Member, Morgan Brown – Student Member, Tobias Ellis – Student Member, Alexander Richardson – Student Member, Emma Ord – Student Member, Angeline McCall – Student Member.

### **1. Welcome from the Chair**

Sammi Storey is on annual leave. Will Fry won his election so deputy chair, Emma Huntley, will be chairing this meeting.

### **2. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from Stephanie Nock – Business School Rep, Melissa Poole – School of Sport & Exercise Science Rep, Rebecca Butterfield – School of Engineering Rep, Megan Lee – School of History & Heritage Rep, Grace Richards – Carholme Community Rep and Douglas Collingson – Abbey Community Rep.

### **3. Minutes of Previous Council**

Approved by Ascension.

## **Part A**

### **4. Presidential Report**

- Report taken as read.
- Congratulations all those that took part in last week's elections, and congratulations to successful candidates.
- Question on whether the SU will be taking action over communications following the social media events during election period, particularly regarding our local MP – Karl McCartney.
- This is being discussed and explored with the University.
- Anyone who is unaware of the events and would like to ask Hayley further questions is invited to meet her after this meeting.

### **5. No Motions received**

## **Part B**

### **6. All items in part B are taken as read.**

Academic Zone Report

Welfare Zone Report

Sports Zone Report - cancelled

Societies Zone Report

Community Zone Report -cancelled

VPAA Report \*

VPA Report \*

All passed by ascension.

## **Part C**

### **7. Discussion on the EU Referendum**

- Legal clarification is being sought on whether we can as an SU support either side of this, but we are looking to discuss this as council prior to this.
- We are still able to campaign on the behalf of students and campaign to raise awareness of the referendum among students.
- As a Charity, we may not be able to support either side in a political matter. If we take a side, students may be swayed by our stance, but this referendum vote should be based on the individual.

- We should have a drive for voter registration, whether students are in support of this referendum or not.
- It is important that students use their vote. There should be an event similar to the General election voter registration drive around campus.
- Clarification will be needed as the referendum is happening out of term time, and students that are registered in Lincoln may not be able to vote at home, and the promotion will need to come earlier.
- As the student voice has not yet been decided, the educational campaign should show the advantages and disadvantages of leaving the EU. This will need to include what the EU does, what it stands for and what it is. Both sides of the argument are needed to be publicised.
- Leaving the EU could cause potential issues for International Students, but the effect is as yet unknown, particularly for the newly elected VP International role.

## 8. Additional Items for discussion

### Conduct of 'The Linc' during the election period.

#### Main argument

- The coverage provided by The Linc was seen as biased by many members of Council, and was given to a journalist who had a conflict of interest, being a vocal supporter of a candidate. Their coverage of question time was inconsistent and many answers were absent or incomplete. Also Yik Yak was used in the recent edition, even though this motion was passed in November.
- Members questioned if The Linc have enough of a platform to cause concern. The candidate the journalist supported was not successful. However, a student paper should not be in support of one candidate.
  - The Yik Yak ban was decided in a previous council. The full page article was not released until the election period.
  - The Linc were present and responded to comments. Those on the social media feed were struggling to hear and had no intention to send some comments directly to the candidate and not publish for all to see. With regards to Yik Yak, the previously edition was printed before the decision was made.
- The Linc is a limited resource student newspaper. It is not a professional paper and so mistakes made be made, but The Linc believe that there was nothing wrong with their print edition or website.
- There was no intention to offend or attack the SU or students. The timing of the article was because they felt there would be more take up of copies during election week and was not delay for any other reason.

- There are very rarely SU positive articles, and this doesn't not reflect the work that students and the SU do.
- Hayley Jayne Wilkinson reminded Council that debates should not surround individuals.
- The main issue surrounding this discussion is that elections should be a free and fair process. The School of English & Journalism could have more oversight. It is the student newspaper and should not be openly supporting a candidate, without declaring the conflict of interest within the article.
- The desired outcome is that The Linc have move oversight of articles and contributors, and material is independently approved. Articles should be more balanced, or multiple articles should be published showing both sides.
- The Linc thanked members for raising these issues. The SU had not approached the link over any concerns prior to this meeting. The Linc will consider these, and will look at more positive and balanced article.

#### **Ratification of attendance to Conference.**

- Liberation officers can attend conferences to represent the student that they represent locally, on a national level. Trustees have agreed to cover the cost of attendance, transport and accommodation.

Jessica Bartholomew – to attend Women's conference as Women's officer.

Vote Via secret ballot:

**For: 21**

**No: 0**

**Abstain: 2**

- Chair proposes that we do this by public vote.
- Proposal to close council.
- Motion withdrawn.

Cameron Smith and Mary Allen to attend LGBT Conference.

Vote Via secret ballot:

**For: 17**

**Against: 1**

**Abstain: 4**

Wendy Ly to attend Sections conference.

Vote Via secret ballot:

**For: 20**

**Against: 0**

**Abstain: 3**

## **9. Any other Business**

**Chair of next Council:** Deputy Chair is not able to chair the next council. Election of a temporary chair just for the next meeting. Recently elected Sabbatical Officer Elects are not able to stand. This will include any out of meeting responsibilities, such as planning and setting the agenda.

**Candidates:**

**Scott Bonner**

**Cameron Smith**

**Jessica Bartholomew**

Vote Via secret ballot:

Scott 11

Jess: 10

Cam: 2

RON: 1

Scott is chair of the next council meeting.

- Any suggestions for honorary life membership of the SU, please email Hayley. All suggestions will be ratified by Council. Can be staff or students.
- Sunday 2-5 pm Kick it out festival, the football association anti-racism drive.
- Request for the Election voting system to be more sign posted for students next year.
- Request for a potential motion to change Liberation conference ratification to Exec or another process that is smoother.

Yik Yak:

- There is too much mention of Yik Yak, despite it being unavailable to campus Wi-Fi. We should not be acknowledging it as this will only encourage its use.

- Some people feel that acknowledging its misuse helps to show that they are not concerned by the personal attacks that they have received themselves, rather than just ignore it.
- They are standing up to the bullying that they have been victim off. The marketing campaign should be encouraging responsibly use of the app and other social media.
- Discussing it will help clarify why it has been removed from University Wi-Fi. The App is not the victim, but students have been and could be. It needed to be highlighted as it had impacted the election atmosphere.

#### **Grad Ball:**

- In a previous Council, there were discussions around the next Graduation Ball event. An article has since been posted saying that it will be hosted by Quack.
- This will be answered by Hayley and Sammi by email, once Sammi has returned from annual leave, as she knows more about this.

#### **Council Minutes:**

- Following the redesign of the website, the minutes of all previous meetings are still available.

10. Date of the next meeting – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016, 6-8 pm.