

minutes

Meeting	Union Council
Date	Thursday 18 October 18
Time	7pm – 9pm
Location	Lecture Theatre 2
Author	Xenia Levantis

Key Points

- Elliot Folan elected Chair and Dan Box elected Deputy-Chair
- Approved constitutions of Beatbox Society, Documentary Society, Forro Society, Nepal Society, Norwich Medical Research Society Physical Education Society, We Are Donors UEA Society.
- Passed policy on No to Endorsement Culture

Voting Members present

Andrea James (Postgraduate Committee), Anush Ganesh (Postgraduate Committee), Charlotte Hallahan (Postgraduate Committee), James McLean (Postgraduate Committee), Amy Atkinson (Student Officer Committee), Borja Martin Simon (Student Officer Committee), Chloe Crowther (Student Officer Committee), Georgina Burchell (Student Officer Committee), Hannah Murgatroyd (Student Officer Committee), Henry Bowen (Student Officer Committee), Jenna Chapman (Student Officer Committee), Jim Read (Student Officer Committee), Liam Dreary (Student Officer Committee), Martin Marko (Student Officer Committee), Rob Klim (Student Officer Committee), Sophie Atherton (Student Officer Committee), Thai Braddick (Student Officer Committee), Zoe Freeman (Student Officer Committee), Mohaned Alhasan (Student Officer Committee), Temi Ogunniyi-Adeleke (African-Caribbean), Karla Primc (Amnesty International), Anna Deas (Art History), James Willcock (Assassins), Jack Jones (Bio), Ben Hawes (Business), Selwin Fernando (Chemistry), Joe Hart (Cocktail), Oliver White (Conservative), Amy Pattison (Creative Writing), William Brown (Debating), Michael Eldar (Economics), Jack Annand, Natalie Jones (Fencing), Ellie Robson (Feminist Book Club), Ian James (Green Growers), Edward Grierson (Headlights Comedy), Mollie Smith (International Development), Joshua White (Investment), Jayme Leah Cohen (Jewish), Marietta Xagorari (Korean), Andrea Sterling-Manson (Latin American), Samantha Farzad (Language & Communication Studies), Oliver Healey (Literature), Tom Rosser (Live Music), Liam Self (Music), Amy Victoria Robinson (NATSCI), Maddie Bransfield (Nursing), Alex Maddams (Paediatrics), Sam Sedat (Persian), Omari Edwards (Philosophy), Scott Arthur (Politics), Lauren Brown (Psychology), Jude Beckett (Quiz), Mali Hitchcock-Brown (Rock and Alternative Music), Beth Brabbins (Vegan), Shumaya Anower (Video Game), Laura Graham (Wilderness Medicine), Elizabeth Payne (Gymnastics), Omar Mostafa (Club Officer, Archery), Tansy Jones (Ballet), Matthew Gibson (Cricket), Cameron Bray, Eleanor Lee (Dance Squad), Nexus Hazel Yik (Equestrian), Ellie Bowler (FELL & MOUNTAINEERING), Lauren Brooks (Korfbal), Forhad Khan (Lacrosse), Oliver Varco (Squash), Eliza Gurner (Tap), Eleanor Armstrong-Mortlock (Trampolining), Laura Overton-Hore (Polo), James Fretwell (Nightline), Anna Sutton (School Convenor LDC), Kavan Fallows (School Convenor)

ENG), Krish Hughes-Rai (School Convenor CMP), Zinnia Bugg (School Convenor CHE), Callum Perry (Faculty Convenor SSF UG), Ulvi Hagverdi (International Students Assembly Marketing & Media Rep), Amelia Court (LGBT+ Campaign (open place), Ellie Reeves (LGBT+ Campaign (womens' place), Rebecca Foreman (Non-binary & Womens' Network (open place), Abbey Doormann (Disabled Students Liberation Society (SPLD and Autism Spectrum Place), Anders Sinclair (Welfare, Wellbeing and Community Subcommittee Rep), Lewis Martin (Mature Students Assembly (Council Rep), Aamna Khan, Rebecca Stothard, Alex Rees, Ben Smith (Boxing), Alex Quinn, Denish Pulami Magar, Paul Gorny (Forro), Israel Gottschalk, Emilia Bugg (Students with Disability Liberation Soc (Open Place)

Lewis Martin member of the Democratic Procedures Committee (DPC) opened the meeting and conducted a quorum count.

The counts were as follows:

Count One **79**

Count Two **76**

2273 Appointment of Chair & Deputy Chair

The DPC member introduced the election to Union Council. The DPC member asked for any nominees.

There were 3 candidates for Chair of Union Council:

Elliot Folan

Dan Box

Re-open Nominations

Candidates were invited to give speeches. Then DPC requested that Union Council vote for their preferred candidate.

Elliot Folan was elected Chair of Union Council.

There were 2 candidates for Deputy-Chair of Union Council:

Dan Box

Re-open Nominations

Candidates were invited to give speeches. Then DPC requested that Union Council vote for their preferred candidate.

Dan Box was elected Deputy-Chair of Union Council.

2274 Notices

The Chair notified Union Council that the Acting CEO had an update to give to Union Council. Union Council was asked to vote to approve the Acting CEO's notice.

The vote was as follows:

Option	% Vote	Total votes
For	77%	84
Against	13%	
Abstentions	10%	

The vote was approved.

The Acting CEO informed the council that Diem Von Pratt Mature Students Officer had resigned from the position of Mature Student officer and that a bye-election would take place in due course.

2277 Code of Conduct Video

The Chair introductory NUS inclusivity video to explaining the expectations for behaviour at meetings.

2278 Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 10 May 2018

Council was asked to approve the minutes of the last meeting.

The vote was as follows:

Option	% Vote	Total votes
For	76%	85
Against	5%	
Abstentions	18%	

The minutes were approved.

2279 Matters arising from the minutes

No matters were noted.

2280 Club, Society and Peer Support Group Constitutions

The chair introduced the items and the Societies Executive recommendations. The Chair proposed that Union Council vote on all student groups recommended by Societies Executive for approval be voted on as a block by Union Council.

Union Council asked for clarifications regarding ELSA (European Law Students' Association) Society and Gastroenterology Society as they were deemed to be similar to existing societies. The Chair invited representatives from the societies to give clarification. There was no representatives for any of the societies to provide further details, the Chair decided to defer the vote to approve ELSA and Gastroenterology to the next meeting.

The Chair ruled that Union Council would go straight to vote on the remaining recommended societies and that these societies would be voted as a block.

The vote was as follows:

Option	% Vote	Total votes
For	85%	85
Against	7%	
Abstentions	8%	

The societies recommended by societies executive were approved. Beatbox Society, Documentary Society, Forro Society, Nepal Society, Physical Education Society and We Are Donors UEA Society were approved.

The Chair ruled that all societies that were recommended not to be approved by the Societies Executives would be voted individually.

Armed Forces Society

The vote was as follows:

Option	% Vote	Total votes
For	26%	87
Against	53%	
Abstentions	21%	

The society was rejected.

Forex Trading Society

The vote was as follows:

Option	% Vote	Total votes
For	35%	87
Against	41%	
Abstentions	24%	

The society was rejected.

Norwich Medical Research Society

The vote was as follows:

Option	% Vote	Total votes
For	45%	87
Against	36%	
Abstentions	20%	

The society was approved.

Our Future Our Choice Society

The vote was as follows:

Option	% Vote	Total votes
For	25%	87
Against	44%	
Abstentions	30%	

The society was rejected.

It was explained that Rounders Society had been deferred to the next meeting of the Societies Executive.

2281 Appointments

The Chair noted that Union Council had positions for reps on University and SU committees and that nomination needed to be to be passed to the Chair by the end of the meeting. Sophie Atherton Campaigns & Democracy Officer gave clarification about the roles up for election.

It was explained that voting for the positions would take place online from midday Fri 19 Oct 18 to midday Mon 22 Oct 18.

2282 Reports from University Committees

The Chair of the Postgraduate Committee, Andrea James presented a report to Union Council. The report detailed the events and business of the Postgraduate Committee that has taken place until this point. The Postgraduate Education Officer was referred to during the report.

The Chair gave the Postgraduate Education Officer the opportunity to respond to the report as they were mentioned directly. The Officer responded and called for a formal investigation into the events of the Postgraduate Committee that had taken place until this point.

Student Officer Committee Report

The Chair of the Student Officer Committee, Liam Deary gave a report about the Full Time Officers work:

- **Sophie - Campaigns and Democracy:** Working on the 'Your Money Counts' priority campaign (previously 'Costs on Campus') – met with the Head of Accommodation to discuss costs and allocation of accommodation, and working to reduce the cost of Circuit Laundry services. Oversaw the changeover to shop(su) in association with Spar as well as improving the student experience for Health Science students. In addition working on how to encourage students to register to vote, in the run up to local elections in May, and in light of border change
- **Martin - Postgraduate Education:** Carried out the programme of PG specific events started by the previous committee, e.g. coffee and cake, graduation parties, while beginning to organise low cost sports activity for PG students, and invested in more yoga mats to expand space for this beyond the Sportspark. Also, Constable Terrace PGR training suite has opened and will be finalised over the winter.
- **Jenna - Undergraduate Education:** Meeting with key people in the University to start work on her manifesto points, while representing students in a variety of University committees, e.g. learning and teaching committee. Moreover, learning about changes in Higher Education and how these will affect the Uni & students and helped to run school and faculty convenor training, and will be running the training for course reps in the coming weeks.
- **Georgina - Welfare, Community and Diversity:** Working on the 'Your Home from Home' priority campaign, including a rate your landlord scheme and the good neighbour scheme, as well as working to expand the reach of Changing the Culture to tackle discrimination, and introduced a Never OK/alcohol impact team to LCR club nights. She is also Launching the Sexperience campaign on 14th November, to tackle the stigma around sexual health and relationship advice. Finally, she is attending meetings regularly and working towards a new prayer space for all faith groups.
- **Oli - Activities and Opportunities:** Planning and evaluating arrivals week, including sports cosmetics and volunteering fayres. He reported that the numbers from freshers attending DO Something Different/taster sessions this year had 3 times more attendances this year than last year (368 in 2017, 1250 in 2018). Also, World Mental Health Day 2018 was a huge success with a range of campaigns across campus on the day. Oli will Set up a working group for the 'Mental Health Matters' priority campaign – email Oli (o.gray@uea.ac.uk) if you'd like to be involved!

The Deputy Chair of the Student Officer Committee Harry Bowen gave an update on the Part Time Officer's work

- **November Working Group: (Oli, Rob, Harry and Amy)** – They have been working with a November ambassador to plan the campaign and they are looking to create friendly rivalry between sports clubs to see who can raise the most money.
- **Improving the Union's Equality Strategy (Thai)** - Final touches to a research survey that will be released at the end of the month for members to answer about their experiences with racism at UEA, as well as organising meetings to form a

more effective, change-focused equality, diversity and inclusion committee which intends to remake and improve the Union's equality strategy. Policy has been written and will be taken to a subsequent council for voting.

- **Black History Month (Ryan)** Organising a showcase for Black History Month with a performance from an award winning artist, an open mic, and an art and photography display. He is also helping with BAME focus groups, while looking to work further with Pride on intersectional matters and planning for a Christmas meal with Society Alive.
- **LGBT+ Activism (Jim and Liam)** - Working on updating the union's LGBT+ policy, while planning for Trans Awareness Week and Trans Day of Remembrance. They organised Colours! (uea(su) LGBT+ club night) which was a success.
- **Gender Recognition Act Consultation (Liam)** - Raising awareness and encouraging students to respond. The deadline is tomorrow at 11pm. coordinated the SU's collective response to the GRA consultation, and ran a workshop to help students respond as individuals.
- **Making UEA more Accessible (Hannah)** - Organising Disability History Month that has included gathering information on disabled history to put into a timeline and more. She is also identifying key problem areas for accessibility around campus, while writing leaflets on resources for disabled students

A question was asked via the online meeting facilitate.

The question enquired: What action is being taken to ensure that students with disabilities receive discount from accommodation?

The Students with Disabilities Officer stated that students could request a refund for the additional cost incurred due to access needs. The Officer stated that this can be completed using an online form on the UEA website. The officer confirmed that students had successfully managed to secure refunds.

- **Environment (Connor)** – Working toward no coffee waste! Essentially there will be no coffee waste what so ever, as all used granules will be being used as compost - and given away for free. He has been in contact with the SU Shop and Unio regarding their waste and recycling, and the vegetarian and vegan options as well as Anglia Water who have shown an interest in installing some water fountains for us – for free!
- **Working with International Students (Mohaned and Borja)** - Have reached out to most the cultural societies to organise a platform for collaboration and asked what support they would like from the SU and their international student officers. Also, they Met with the International Assembly committee and discussed what they would like to achieve this year. A survey is in the works for Health Science students regarding their placement experiences.

2284 Trustee Board Report

Council received a verbal report from Georgina Burchell (Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer), Chair of the Trustee Board.

2285 Reports from Representatives

None noted.

Section 3: Open Discussion

The Campaigns & Democracy Officer introduced the Open Discussion section of the meeting. The Officer identified that the Student Officer Committee wanted to gain understanding of Councillors thoughts on engagement with SU democracy. The Officer circulated a survey to Councillors to gather their responses on the matter.

2286

Practice Motion & Debate

The Sophie Atherton Campaigns & Democracy Officer ran through a practice motion to show Councillors how Policy debates take place.

The Campaigns & Democracy Office made the proposing speech for the motion *Dementors have rights*. Jim Read LGBT+ Officer (Open Place) made a speech against the motion.

The Chair asked Union Council if they had any questions. The Students with Disabilities Officer asked a question for clarification. Campaigns & Democracy Officer responded to the question. Anders Sinclair asked a follow up question with the Campaigns & Democracy Officer answered.

The Chair gave another round of speeches. Harry Bowen, Non-Portfolio Officer made speech for the motion. There were no further speeches against. The Chair moved the debate to a summation. The Campaigns & Democracy Officer gave summative speech.

The Chair moved Union Council to vote.

The vote was as follows:

Option	% Vote	Total votes
For	45%	65
Against	38%	
Abstentions	15%	

The practice motion was approved.

2287

No to Endorsment Culture

The Chair introduced the Policy Making section of the meeting. The invited the Proposer of the only motion for the meeting to make the proposing speech.

Sophie Atherton, Campaigns & Democracy Officer made a speech proposing the No to Endorsement Culture motion. The speech explained that this motion was in response to a policy passed at Union Council last year and had been formulated through thorough research.

The Chair asked if there was a Union Councillor who would like to speak against the motion. There were no speeches made against the motion.

The Chair moved Union Council to a vote on the motion.

The vote was as follows:

Option	% Vote	Total votes
For	77%	73

Against	15%	
Abstentions	8%	

The motion was approved.