

Union Council 05-12-19 Minutes

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| UC01 | <p>Housekeeping</p> <p>Seb</p> | 5 Mins |
| UC02 | <p>Statements from the Chair SEB</p> <p>Chair informed members of the powers that they possess, explaining procedures at council and the power of members to raise points of order, raise procedural motions, holding officers to account MGallagher added that if members could not see what was happening on the screen, that the document in use was on teams LBoles queried whether a referendum on the beef issue could be called by members SAtherton mentioned the 'I have an idea' page on the website and how those wishing for a referendum on beef should go through this area LMartin reminded council of the use of gender neutral pronouns</p> | 5 Mins |
| UC03 | <p>Minutes of the Last Meeting / matters arising from last minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee is asked to check the minutes for accuracy https://www.uea.su/democracy/unioncouncil/councildocumentsandnotices/ <p>nothing arising</p> | 5 Mins |
| UC04 | <p>Cycle of business</p> | 5 Mins |
| UC05 | <p>Reports</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Trustee Board Report Student Officer Committee (SOC) Report Full time Officer Reports <p>APerez not present to present report</p> <p>CPerry introduced their update, and focus on advising (listen to recording for specifics), introduced a convenor social on the 11th December. Hub Crawl video was explained, academic health kits, undergraduate dissertation workshops, big shift day (invited members to attend), working with law school, content warning slides for LDC which will be rolled out in January, met with IT forum about default browser, Senior advisers and how this works.</p> <p>ATrew apoligised for not updating their report, explaining that they were ill and missed it as a result. Talked about NeverOK and its rebrand. Explained the STIGMA project and the meetings they has been having in this area. Delivered a presentation at a mental health conference about the way the SU works and supports students in regard to mental health. Had meetings with university and others. Met head of student life and learning (might have got title wrong) (might wanna listen to the tape here) Been sitting on the SkyHouse working group as part of the PGC Committee</p> <p>SAtherton: register to vote campaign, thanked various members for support and has since heard from council that record numbers of students have signed up. Briefly introduced policy lapse; democracy review, a couple of options will be shown tonight; attended rent setting meetings with ATrew; work with UCU.</p> | 25 Mins |

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| | <p>MMarko explained improving access to postgraduate support and how the university had not taken recommendations on board at this time. LTC employability report and students not being involved. Explained that APerez can now attend LTC. Big Shift Day briefly mentioned as part of the UEA Plan. Conversations with vice chancellor for academic in regard to funding.</p> <p>Questions:</p> <p>Mgallagher (PGC Chair) – Question for CPerry about ally on blackboard, about how suitable this is for dyslexic students, and how other institutions have got round this. CPerry responded that there is no willingness to move away yet, but the entire IT system is due to be reviewed and will personally raise this issue to the uni in regard to accessibility. Explained that the library are offering a version which is more accessible and is working with them on that. Opened himself for conversations</p> <p>MPay – Question for MMarko. Raised that his attendance of strike picket lines was poor despite being mandated to do so.</p> <p>MMarko conceded that this was true and they had not attended enough as PGC would like, expressed that they will remain part of the working group in regard to this and work with them alongside that.</p> <p>BPinsent (PGC Member) – follow up question to above, what specifically is Martin going to do?</p> <p>MMarko – Expressed that they were not going to take the initiative at this moment and name things but would support other officers in their roles</p> <p>MGallgher – you’ve been asked to take more initiative on this. Question MMarko on his poor attendance of PGA, rallies etc. Questioned why they should not be censured again.</p> <p>MMarko - explained why they were late to PGA and explained that they had let the chair know. Stated they would be entirely in their right to act on the censorship item of the last point.</p> | |
| | <p>Access Break (recording not stopped) We checked quorum and we are quorate</p> | <p>15 Mins</p> |
| <p>UC06</p> | <p>Society and Peer Support Group Constitutions</p> <p>Chair introduced the committees that are being voted on, showing them on the screen</p> <p>Climbing (search on the sheet for name) – raised an issue about sexual assault/harassment on campus and how the society is to fill a hole present at UEA, support that the university does not provide.</p> <p>PENSA member explained how the society is already active, trying to get more people involved.</p> <p>Vote held on approving these as blocks – 97% approve, 3% abstain, 0% reject LMartin raises two points of order, SEC pulled kasmiri society not SOC; also raised the issue of content warnings before triggering content to allow people to leave the room.</p> <p>Chair explained the concern was put forward due to the society being of a political nature, however it was not recommended whether it should be passed or not. Asked if there is anyone from SEC who can explain why it was moved from the block, as cultural societies have been passed before, why is this different.</p> <p>AShaw (games and hobbies) clarified that it was a cultural society but about a</p> | <p>15 Mins</p> |

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| | <p>region that is politically charged – as it is about Kashmir, and that is an emotive issue and it could be interpreted to be taking a stance on the Kashmir issue.</p> <p>Chair moved it to vote</p> <p>Vote passed kasmiri society by a margin of 59% pass, 6% reject and 35% abstain</p> | |
| | <p>Finance Update : AP</p> <p>SAtherton did update in place of APerez. Explained that APerez would update in January in more detail, and stated that APerez was willing to provide more detail through email, teams etc</p> | |
| UC07 | <p>Policy Papers</p> <p>Policy lapse time</p> <p>Satherton explained policy lapse. Explained the four categories for voting, and what they meant.</p> <p>Policy to keep:</p> <p>Chair introduced all of the policies and put them on the board.</p> <p>MMarko had a question about procedure. Satherton clarified the order in which thigns were occurring.</p> <p>83% approved, look at the photo for the rest of them</p> <p>Policy precedent:</p> <p>Chair showed them all on the board, giving time for reading.</p> <p>81% approve (see photos for full detail)</p> <p>Policy to be removed:</p> <p>MMarko proposed 2150 be discussed instead of removed. Chair consented to this.</p> <p>Vote not needed.</p> <p>Policy to debate:</p> <p>Started with 2150 (academic support at uea)</p> <p>MMarko believed there is still work to be done on this policy.</p> <p>Moved to vote – 71% voted to keep, 2% against, 27% abstain</p> <p>Support HSC Students – keep the NHS Bursary (1823) – no debate 77 approve, 6 oppose , 17 abstain</p> <p>2270 end the trade federation blockade of naboo –</p> <p>vote – 56 approve, 28 against , 16 abstain</p> <p>2269 increasing our efficiency when supporting our lecturers and university staff</p> | 20 Mins |

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MGallagher thanked members and other students for supporting the pickets in whichever way they participated. Perceived this issue to be of great importance and stated that it is important for the SU to clarify

FNorton how do you think the strikes has gone and what will happen next

MGallagher responded that the strikes (in their opinion) have gone well, large attendance and have brought negotitaions back to a start. Explained actions short of strike. Stated that there will be further ballots potentially in the future.

No one spoke against.

85% approve, 3% against, 12% abstain

2147

No one spoke in favour of, or against

18 for, 27 against, 55 abstain. Policy lapses

1935 its time to legalise cannabis

51 for , 24 against, 24 abstain, policy kept

1796

FNorton – relayed the experience of a friend who has commented on the effectiveness of junior doctors contracts and supported keeping it

91% for, 4% against, 5% abstain

Amendment to bye laws 4.22.3 – allow a delegated member of PGC to attend SOC

MGallagher explained that this was simple motion and would allow them to delegate a member of the committee to attend in their stead.

83% for, 10% against, 7% abstain

Permanent Space for Commuters

Awise introduced the motion and explained their role as president of commuting society. Introduced ENash who explained their role as union council rep and their experience as a commuter student. Indicated that 80% of their society members commute in excess of 30 minutes. Explained that their society perceive there to be a need for a dedicated space for commuting students and that uea lets down commuters. Propose a permanent commuters space which would allow them a space of their own. Optimistic about the trials that have been explored in this area.

Someone asked whether this is open to everyone regardless of difference

Awise explained three categorisations, self-definition, by circumstance, and voluntary members

Cheer and Dance member said where would it go

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AWise clarified that these discussions are ongoing and that passing this motion and support these discussions but nowhere hard and fast were proposed at this time.

MGallagher added that the working group has been set up for sky house so they could carry this forward

SAtherton admitted they was happy to help lobby but processes have to be followed

Chair moved it to a vote as no one spoke against

76 support , 12 oppose, 12 abstain

Transparency of Process and Communication for Associate Tutor Applications:

BPinsent introduced their proposal explaining that people who receive teaching opportunities are often not given a long period of advanced notice, and those who do not receive teaching opportunities are not told of their failure with lots of time to find other sources of income. This motion is designed to build transparency in these processes.

No speech against

Chair moved it to vote

89 support, 1 against, 9, abstain

We have beef with beef amendment

JAnnand conceded that this was a controversial issue and that beef was definitely an issue. Raised concerns around a lack of consultation with students in regard to this and suggested that while the original motion had good intentions it would not be the right way to go about things. Introduced reasons why they believed a ban would not be the best environmental choice, there would be more demand in nearby shops. Supporting local, sustainable suppliers would have a greater impact. We need to also change the culture. For students to buy elsewhere, you are not discouraging students to reduce their consumption of beef. Re-instate but put a levy and use those to subsidise alternative products.

Dharma society member – UEA declared a climate emergency in 2019, and the original motion goes hand in hand with that. How can we justify back tracking on this issue?

JAnnand responded that while they agreed with the sentiment we should be attacking demand not supply. More effective environmental impact. This would be reducing net consumption of beef, not just on campus.

Puller amnesty international – Queried the idea of making vegetarian products cheaper. Raised concerns over how vegetarian food was already cheaper in many regards, how will this raise awareness for students, how will they know about the changes?

JAnnand responded that this can go hand in hand with education and could serve to widen this gap in price.

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MGallagher – do you not think that a ban/boycott sends the strongest possible message?

JAnnand – this is fair but would have to be decided by all students.

Vegan society – why not offer a wider variety of non-meat foods that cater for various dietary requirements?

JAnnand – this amendment does not prevent this from happening.

Speech against: S Atherton

Having had discussions, the beef made a profit of £25,000 and this motion would make financial matters worse. Raising the price of beef would be more financially detrimental than banning the sale. Would also lead to high wastage. Still needs to be approved by the trustee board.

MYandle – wouldn't it be the point of the motion to buy other products and not spend and increased money on beef? Why is that financially unsustainable?

SAtherton – The reality is that no one is going to buy beef and it will create waste.

Amnesty international member – confused about what impact this would have financially? What are you supporting/not supporting? Why wouldn't banning beef also have financial implications?

SAtherton – Trustee board will look at the financial implications and can still overturn this if they are too serious. Will be more detrimental in the long run.

SKennard (show trial) – questioned about trialing various solutions to see product vs consumer and then buy less beef to be placed in the shop?

SAtherton - this could happen but would still be financially damaging.

FNorton – what impact would this loss of funding have on budgets of societies and clubs?

SAtherton – can't go that specific, 25000 would cost a FTO. This is hypothetical but could cost Activities and Opportunities officers.

Creative writing – bringing back beef could bring more business by attracting people because the beef is there.

JAnnand – SA does raise valid points but disagrees with scare mongering. Unlikely to happen. SA raised profit made by beef which is already more expensive than other shops. Need to put into some context, it was SA that this only contributed to 0.1% of union revenue. There will be some hit to profit but profit will come back, the 25000 hole could be filled partly by having some beef available. Trustee board may overturn this motion as well, but we can't assume the decision it will make, we have to make decisions on what we believe to be right. There is already a hole from removing beef in the first place. How can you second one that creates a hole but not support another motion which can also be financially problematic.

SAtherton – Informed councilors they should vote on the motion not the person, as they thought they had been mentioned too many times in the speech. Been clear that the motion will not happen until the Trustee board meets. Has to

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| | <p>ensure that the SU is financially viable. Union budgets are already in a deficit, not enough staff, not receiving more help from the uni. Motion is very damaging, upsetting to hear they are scare mongering.</p> <p>JAnnand – would like to apologies, did not want to make anything personal, simply wanted to respond to point previously made. Do believe that this won't cause the huge financial distress mentioned. This is still a passionate debate and this motion tries to reach a happy medium that we take into account environmental effects without removing student choice, as well as not increasing emissions outside the campus.</p> <p>Clarification was provided regarding the referendum, which is in relation to the first motion, therefore would be regarding the first motion. Explained how many votes are needed.</p> <p>Chair moved to vote</p> <p>52 approve, 36 against, 12 abstain</p> | |
| UC08 | <p>Any other Business / Open Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Any other business items are matters which committee members could not have become aware of before the agenda closed. These items can be submitted to the Chair up to 24 hours before the start of the meeting for their consideration. <p>SAtherton introduced the democracy review and the two models which are proposed at the end of that process.</p> <p>Chair moved it to vote 52 support model a, 8 for model b and 39 abstained</p> <p>Chair stated elections opening for DPC. Don't currently have the required number of members.</p> | 10 Mins |
| <p>Date, time and place of next meeting</p> | | |

Union Council Agenda

Date: 05-12-19 Room: LT2 Time: 6pm-10pm

Agenda

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Section 1: Housekeeping

To note

a) Code of conduct

<https://www.uea.su/union/memberscodeofconduct/>

b) Minutes from the previous meeting

<https://www.uea.su/democracy/unioncouncil/councildocumentsandnotices/>

c) Expenses <https://www.uea.su/democracy/unioncouncil/councilinfo/expenses/>

Remember – the Union (of UEA students) may be able to reimburse you for travel or career expenses that you incur attending this meeting. Please contact Esin D’Amery, Head of Campaigns and Policy on E.DAmery@uea.ac.uk for more details.

d) Online meeting facility [on website]

If you cannot attend in person on Thursday and would like to use the online facility, please email Esin at E.DAmery@uea.ac.uk before 5pm on the day of the meeting.

e) Articles of Association & Bye-Laws <https://www.uea.su/union/governance/constitution/>

The SU is governed by the [Articles of Association](#), and its attached rule book, the [Bye-Laws](#).

Section 2: Statements from the Chair: *SE-B*

To Note

Section 3: Minutes of the Last Meeting / matters arising from last minutes

To Approve

Section 4 Cycle of business: *SA*

To Propose

Section 5: Reports

To Note

a) Trustee Board Report- *CP*

The Trustee Board is the governing body of the Union and is responsible for setting the strategy of the Union, ensuring its good governance, overseeing its financial performance and its legal compliance. The Board is made up of Student Officers, Student Trustees elected by Union Council and four outside external expert Trustees. The Chair who is a Student Officer reports to Council and, as with SOC, you can scrutinise the work of the Trustees and hold them to account.

b) Student Officer Committee (SOC) Report - *TB*

The elected Student Officers meet as the Student Officer Committee (SOC) where they decide on how to run campaigns and on how to implement the policies passed by Union Council. This section is your chance to scrutinise the work of SOC and to hold the Student Officers to account for the work they have been doing on your behalf.

c) Full time Officer Reports

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Alicia Perez: Activities

| Item | Update |
|----------------------|---|
| Manifesto Priorities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusivity and diversity in clubs and societies – I am working with the welfare officer, uea+sport and invisibles disabilities officer to organise a Disabled students event in the second semester, as well as Disabilities History Month activities. Mental Health and Wellbeing – Movember and men's mental health update International Students – guarantors issue moving forward !! |
| Campaigns | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mental Health and Student Groups Week – in collaboration with Welfare officer Alcohol Awareness Week – ongoing Women in Sport research Better relationship and communications between societies and SU – first societies presidents meeting happened, good communication and feedback ! |
| Meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SSPAC Say hello to a mate training |
| Policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am currently looking at policies regarding Sport Clubs and their belonging to the Student's Union (1560 - 1840/1) |

Amelia Threw: Welfare, Community, and Diversity Officer

| Item | Update |
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| Manifesto priorities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Networking together with individual wellbeing initiatives in order to create some community based bottom up approaches to tackling wellbeing issues. 'STIGMA' - Work is underway in battling stigma and opening the conversation on mental health and wellbeing (a student and staff led project) Currently working on supporting and representing students with a disability within sport (in collaboration with the invisible disabilities officer and Activities and Opportunities Officer) Work is underway on changing the way first year flats are organised – offering alcohol free flats for example Spreading awareness about signing housing contracts too early |
| Campaigns | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> STIGMA – is more of a movement than a campaign but it's really about community building and opening the conversation |
| Meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> University council, finance committee various meetings with students about different wellbeing projects, Student Officer Committee and Equality and Diversity Committee |
| Policy | |

Callum Perry : Undergraduate Education Officer

| Item | Update |
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| Manifesto Priorities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving the Academic Advising System at UEA Fostering a learning community through highlighting the benefits and great work of PAL and similar initiatives Inputting into improving our Teaching and Learning spaces on campus Working closely with Academic Representation to empower the student voice Adding to the technology, employability and WP agendas around access and participation Improving Assessment and Feedback. |
| Campaigns | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 'Out of space' – Campaign around teaching and learning spaces: Running in February 2020. Meeting with Estates to discuss the prototype furniture that they are using to see if we can get students to vote on which furniture they like. Hotline to come in Semester 2, Jan 2020. 'I am employable' – Campaign to highlight the key skills students gain from their degrees and why that makes them powerful to employers. Campaign week has been penciled in as 3-7 February 2020. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #SignpostUEA – Campaign has started! We have had a week of academics sharing their planners on their walls with #signpostuea. We still want more pictures though. Please push your schools. 1600 academic wall planners were distributed and we had some quality conversations with staff about signposting when they were delivered. |
| Manifesto actions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advising – Advising document is being built. This will comprise of 5 strands to students at UEA. Academic Interests, Opportunity, Extra-curricular, Employability and Wellbeing. This will be piloted in AMA, ENV, HSC and EDU in January 2020 • PAL – PAL now has all their sessions hosted in the union building. This means we are going to try and host PAL Parties to highlight the important work that they do. We also want to do quality conversations with them to find out what makes a good mentor and how it contributes to a learning community. UG dissertation café dates have been added to the diary and academic health kits will be costed to try and distribute at events and when revision spaces come onto campus in the exam season. • L&T and others– Library and LSB tour videos have been created. These are to help new students (and existing) find out the best spaces to study and navigate around buildings. Met with the hubs to discuss a 'hub crawl' video series to show students how to make the most of their hub. Blog on ALLY tool on blackboard has been written to raise awareness of how the tool can provide multiple accessible materials. Attendance monitoring pilot will be trailed in the form of QR codes. • Academic Representation – Presenting to the Executive team on Generation Alpha and how to best support our students. Co-presenting and creating the WP Big Shift day. Working with reps from SCI faculty on timetabling and creating a SpLD guidance document. Writing papers to committees on representation and partnership. Course rep training has continued and we are hosting rep forums on topics such as timetabling, module evaluations and Inclusivity in the curriculum. |
| Policy and meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aurora Network – Was appointed the Vice President of the Student Council. Discussed the role of inclusive internationalization. Looking at the role of study abroad and international perspectives in learning. • SSLC's and Education Committee attendance. • Lecture Capture Project board – Contributing to the implementation of capture technology and how it will be used. • Website content review with LTS |

Sophie Atherton: Campaigns and Democracy Officer

| Item | Update |
|----------------------|---|
| Manifesto Priorities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better representation- significant Student Led Democratic Reform- Since my update at Council, we have had 4 focus groups take place to gain a deeper understanding into the perception of our democracy. On the 28th I visited Goldsmith University's Students' Union to discuss their democracy review which was helpful to learn from. • More money in your pocket- fair accommodation for all – On the 28th October I participated in a roundtable discussion with the minister of state on student accommodation which will hopefully see wider ramifications across higher education institutions on rent setting. I have meetings scheduled with the Head of Accommodation and Sports and Commercial Services Director to discuss rents for the 2020/21 academic year. |
| Campaigns | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 'I'm registered to vote' – This campaign will have a louder voice now that a general election has been announced. I have a video coming out that explains the importance of registration which hopefully should in turn increase students that are able to vote. |

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| Meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Board – Earlier this month I attended the sustainability board which spent a lengthy amount of time discussing the carbon neutral date that the university has set, and how this can be achieved. • City Council – Earlier this month I met with the Democratic and Elections manager to discuss potential deadlines for registration to vote. I spoke about collaboration with on campus events to encourage students to get involved in understanding who they may want to vote for and why. I will be following up in the next few days to confirm dates now that a general election has been called. • Student Accommodation Roundtable – As mentioned above, I participated in a roundtable which was chaired by the Minister of State for Universities. The topics that were spoken about were: what needed improving? How people can work together and what should be prioritised. The conversation around affordability significantly dominated the discussion and I spoke about how this affects students who receive the maximum and lowest student loan. I questioned why profits are expected from student rents. Additionally, I made points around why expensive accommodation is the most sought after, insinuating that the newest accommodation could be perceived as safe and good quality for students that are the first in their family to attend university. I also emphasised the importance of meaningful student voice, so being involved in the conversation of rent setting from day 1 looking at figures. |
| Policy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I have seconded two motions for this council: We have beef with beef and Amendment to policy 2406 (Amendment to the Bye-Laws). |

Martin Marko: Postgraduate Education Officer

| Item | Update |
|-----------|---|
| Manifesto | Employability: Next Generation Ventures event – connecting student entrepreneurs |
| Campaigns | Associate Tutors’ Rights: conducting inter-institutional research |
| Meetings | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catering and Concrete Stakeholder Consultation: increased construction noise and smell around the summer period • Vice-Chancellor – exploring links between sustainability and student enterprise in relation to postgraduates • Postgraduate Assembly chair briefing • Enlitened app: feedback for the Student Room to develop better postgraduate taught and research app versions • Climate strike: supporting student participation in climate action • Global success big shift day: shaping UEA plan 2020-2025 • Postgraduate buddy scheme: integrating postgraduate into existing scheme • Postgraduate support structures: streamlining postgraduate service delivery • Planning meetings: general and departmental objectives • Non-academic complaint panels • Research success big shift day: shaping UEA plan 2020-2025 • Student Experience Committee: postgraduate sport paper (medium-negative: no Wednesday afternoons for postgraduates) • UCU picket line and teach-out: supporting striking staff • PG education conference: annual event with positive feedback • Doctoral Teaching & Employability Group • Learning & Teaching Committee (LTC): employability strategy consultation to involve students on implementation plan • Senate: increased student membership of LTC; progress on postgraduate research regulations; UEA plan 2020-2025 in development • Postgraduate assembly: first chaired meeting this semester • Pro Vice-Chancellor Academic – convenor funding (negative) |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Sciences Faculty Learning & Teaching Quality Committee; convenor training and catch-ups • IT Forum: increased student representation • Norwich Business School Postgraduate Taught Student Staff Liaison Committee: well-engaged reps and supportive school |
| Policy | <p>1774 & we have beef with beef: XR & AR meetings: involving relevant groups in related activities</p> <p>2184: first postgraduate taught dissertations working group</p> |

Section 6: Reports Club, Society and Peer Support Group Constitutions

To Approve

| SOCIETY NAME | BIT ABOUT | COUNCIL VERDICT |
|--|---|------------------------|
| SSAGO (Student Scouts and Guides Organisation) | Create a community for student scouts and guides | |
| Croquet Society | Provide a friendly environment to play croquet | |
| Romanian | Create a community where Romanian nationals come together and share culture and tradition | |
| PENSA | To be a unique Campus ministry known for prayer, Christ based doctrine and spiritual giftings. To release spiritual yet academically excellent professionals with an affirmative voice in the Society and World. Provide opportunity among students and alumni for spiritual edification and encourage deeper personal relationship with our Lord Jesus Christ, helping members to identify and develop their ministries and leadership potentials on campus. | |
| Reggae Appreciation | Create a community of learning, sharing and understanding around reggae with the chance to develop DJing skills | |
| Geography Society | Our society aims to be inclusive for all those with an interest in Geography and anything associated with it; we encourage members from other courses to join as all that's required is an interest in the subject or a desire to engage in it in a more recreational way | |
| Student Action for Refugees | Raise awareness, promote integration of refugees and campaign for equality for refugees and asylum seekers | |
| Swing Dance Society | Creating a swing dance community that stays true to the African- | |

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| | American roots and teaches all levels | |
| Travel, World, Tourism Society | <p>Create an opportunity for people who are interested in all types of travel, both nationally and internationally, to share their passion for exploring new places and to give advice to one-another.</p> <p>Bring together students from a range of different nationalities to share the wonders of their own country and what it has to offer to new visitors.</p> <p>To provide an online platform to collate the information that the university offers regarding study and work opportunities abroad so that it is all in one accessible place.</p> | |
| Anatomy | Provide a supportive and educational environment to develop anatomy knowledge with seminars, workshops and guest speakers | |
| No More | Provide a safe network and raise awareness for sexual assault of all types | |
| Pokemon society | Creating a community of likeminded people to play and discuss pokemon | |

The below society is to be considered separately – outside of the block approvals due to the turbulent political nature of the area. Society Executive committee thought it would be best to consider this society separately.

| SOCIETY NAME | BIT ABOUT | COUNCIL VERDICT |
|---------------------|--|------------------------|
| Kasmiri Society | Unite, educate and integrate Kasmiri culture | |

Section 8: Finance Update

Section 7: Policy Papers

To Approve

(This section covers motions that councillors have sent in for debate. For more information on what a motion is, or how to write one, click here: <https://www.uea.su/democracy/unioncouncil/>)

Council debates policy proposals known as 'resolutions'. After they are debated, Councillors vote on the resolutions and, if passed, they become official Union policy. Councillors can propose changes to the resolutions, these are called 'amendments'. Submitting an amendment If you would look to propose an amendment to any of the resolutions please send it to the proposer and the Chair at the earliest opportunity before the meeting to see if the proposer is willing to incorporate it into their resolution. If they reject your amendment, please send it to Tony, the Democracy and Governance

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Coordinator, anthony.moore@uea.ac.uk as soon as possible after you find out it has been rejected. The deadline for amendments to reach Tony is 48 hours before the start of the meeting. Where you can find current policy All current Union Policy is available online at <https://www.uea.su/democracy/unionpolicy>

Amendment to the bye-laws 4.22.3: Allow a delegated member of the postgraduate committee to attend the Student Officer Committee

Proposer: Matt Gallagher (chair of Postgraduate Committee)

Seconder: Lewis Martin (Deputy Chair of Postgraduate Committee)

Summary:

Council Notes

1. That Currently the Chair of the Postgraduate Committee can attend Student Officer Committee as an ex-officio member as part of bye-law 4.22.3
2. That in recent years the deputy chair has been able to chair in place of the chair when conflicting commitment arise
3. That the Student Officer Committee routinely decides on issues effecting Postgraduates

Council Believes

1. That PG representation at Student Officer Committee is exceptionally important
2. That due to the bye-laws it is not currently possible to send a deputy if the Chair is unable to attend.
3. That this caused large difficulties in the previous Student Officer Committee meeting.
4. That this undermines the spirit of democracy, and sets goes against the spirit of representation.
5. That, for the functionality of both committees, the person who attends the student officer committee should be able to be delegated out if the Chair is not able to make the meeting.

Council Resolves

1. To amend Bye Law 4.22.3 to say the following:
4.22.3.1 a member of the postgraduate committee shall Be an ex-officio member of the Student Officer Committee, which shall be decided at the first meeting of the committee of and communicated to the chair of the Student Officer Committee
2. 4.22.3.2 If that member is unable to attend a meeting they will be able to delegate another member of the postgraduate committee to represent them with approval from the Chair of PG Committee

Permanent Space for Commuters

Proposer: UEA Commuters' Society Committee 2019/20 – Motion drafted by Ellie Nash (Union Council Representative, UEA Commuters' Society) and reviewed by Ashley Wise (President, UEA Commuters' Society)

Seconder: Tyler Bell, Non-Portfolio Officer

Summary: This motion highlights the need for a permanent space for commuters on campus. As evidenced by the growing presence of our society a high proportion of UEA students are commuters. However, the experience of our members, suggests that this community of students does not have any space at the university to feel included or relax. A survey drafted by Commuters' Society shows over 40% of our members commute from over an hour away and are often left feeling they have nowhere to go, and that UEA have not adequately appreciated the difficulties of being a commuting student. Existing campus spaces get full and it is stressful to find a seat, with some facilities not being large enough to accommodate the large influx of commuter students this academic year. In addition, there is no formal setting for commuters to bond with other commuters.

Council Notes

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1. [No respondents said that they found it easy to find space on campus to relax or do work](#)
2. [A lack of adequate space can make commuting students feel that they lack a 'home' on campus and leave them struggling to socialise and make connections](#)
3. [100% of respondents feel a permanent, dedicated space to commuters would be beneficial](#)
4. [Other UK Universities have 'reserved spaces' such as common rooms which are imperative to commuter welfare](#)
5. [Other universities have recognisable representation for commuter students \(for example, Comuter Student representatives within SU environments\)](#)

Council Believes

1. There needs to be a permanent space provided for commuters to socialise and work, with adequate domestic and leisure / wellbeing facilities to accommodate these students during their day.
2. It is important to recognise the issues faced by students who commute.

Council Resolves

1. To provide a permanent space on campus that can be used by commuters for working and socialising

Transparency of Process and Communication for Associate Tutor Applications

Proposer: Ben Pinsent (Postgraduate Committee Member)

Seconder: Matthew Gallagher (Chair of Postgraduate Committee)

Summary

This policy is designed to address issues in communication between staff and the University. Recently, and with personal experience, there has been a distinct lack of transparency between those assigning and those assigned teaching. Many teachers were not given teaching until two weeks before the module is due to start. This leaves people feeling overwhelmed and underprepared, leading to overworking and stress, that has a negative effect on the quality of teaching received by undergraduates.

This policy seeks to design better communication practices and organisational practices to allow for better understanding of the teaching allocation process.

Council Notes

1. There is little to no guidance about when departments assign teaching to Postgraduate Students apply to be Associate Tutors
2. The Courage Project have been investigating associate tutor mental health, and a major factor in stress is financial
3. The process by which applicants are notified does not leave enough time to find alternative paid work

Council Believes

1. There is no uniform criteria or timeline across departments
2. That Postgraduate Mental health is vital to a strong research environment
3. Postgraduates are being unduly stressed to do current financial worry and also future job opportunities
4. The lack of information has a direct impact on the quality of teaching for undergraduate students, due to Postgraduates being underprepared and overwhelmed
5. That this undermines the high standards of learning that this institution should reach

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Council Resolves

1. To Mandate the Postgraduate Education and Welfare, Community and Diversity officer to report in conjunction with the Associate tutor network in order to make the allocation of teaching process more transparent and timely
2. To Lobby the university to reevaluate their current operating procedures and update them in time for the next academic year 2019/2020
3. To develop a guild to best practice for smooth and transparent application process

We have (some) beef with the beef beef (Amendment to motion 'We have beef with beef' passed at Union Council 7th November 2019)

Proposer: Jack Annand (Cocktail Society)

Secunder: Matty Yandle (Pasta Society)

Summary

The motion passed at the recent Union Council meeting "We have beef with beef" has been met with high controversy by the student body. This motion maintains the extreme negative impact beef has on the environment but seeks to tackle this by alternative measures that don't impede on student choice. This motion instead puts forward a proposal to reinstate beef products, but to also help change the culture at UEA by bridging the price gap between beef products and their respective substitutes. This will be achieved by adding a 'levy' onto beef products, with the primary aim being to reduce demand, and a secondary aim to use funds raised by the levy to subsidise meat substitutes.

Council Notes

1. Beef is a leading contributor to climate change within the agriculture sector, including requiring 28x more land to produce than pork or chicken.¹
2. The recent policy to ban meet has been met with widespread criticism from many parts of the student body.^{2, 3}
3. Virtually no consultation with students took place prior to the ban's proposal.
4. Vegetarian and vegan substitute products are often more expensive than their meat alternatives.
5. "The unprecedented abundance of meat in supermarkets, frequently offered relatively cheap or sold at record low prices, make it hard if not impossible for sustainable alternatives to compete with."⁴
6. Demand for organic products was found to be price elastic when the price gap between those and their conventional alternatives was high.⁵

1. Eshel, G., Shepon, A., Makov, T. and Milo, R., 2014. Land, irrigation water, greenhouse gas, and reactive nitrogen burdens of meat, eggs, and dairy production in the United States. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, 111(33), pp.11996-12001.

2. <https://www.facebook.com/concreteueaconfessions/posts/505237950031026>

3. <https://www.uea.su/union/ideas/?idea=433#idea433>

4. de Bakker, E. and Dagevos, H., 2012. Reducing meat consumption in today's consumer society: questioning the citizen-consumer gap. *Journal of Agricultural and Environmental Ethics*, 25(6), pp.877-894.

5. Bunte, F.H.J., van Galen, M.A., Kuiper, W.E. and Bakker, J.H., 2007. Limits to growth in organic sales: Price elasticity of consumer demand for organic food in Dutch supermarkets. *LEI*.

Council Believes

1. The issues raised within policy "We have beef with beef" regarding the environmental impact of beef production are entirely valid.

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2. Council Believes 1-3 of policy "We have beef with beef" should be explicitly repeated:
 - *We should be encouraging students to re-think their beef intake.*
 - *We should be educating students to understand the environmental impact of their dietary choices.*
 - *As UEA hosts one of the world's leading climate change research units, the Tyndall Centre, the Student Union should be leading change to encourage students to reduce their carbon footprint.*
3. Whilst the issue of reducing beef consumption is correct, a blanket ban on beef products is not the right way to address it.
4. Suppliers of beef and meat products in Student Union venues are likely to use more sustainable practices than suppliers used by external supermarkets. Therefore, forcing students to buy beef elsewhere may have an overall negative effect on the environment.
5. Students, including those with religious or medical dietary constraints, should not have their choice removed from them.
6. For meaningful change to occur, there must be a shift in culture and thinking. Policies to change demand will be much more effective than policies to change supply in this respect.
7. Increasing the price of beef products will discourage consumption, whilst also making substitute products appear more price-attractive.

Council Resolves

1. To amend Resolves 1 of policy "We have beef with beef" to: "Mandate the Campaigns and Democracy Officer and Environment Officer to work with the University to reduce the sales of beef in University outlets, and to increase the price of beef in exchange for decreasing the price of meat substitutes".
2. Delete Resolves 2 of policy "We have beef with beef".
3. Mandate the Campaigns and Democracy Officer and Environment Officer to reinstate the sale of beef products in Student Union outlets.
4. Increase prices of beef products on sale in Student Union outlets by 28% of original price.
5. Reduce prices of meat-substitute products in Student Union outlets by 20% of original price.
6. Mandate the Campaigns and Democracy Officer and Environment Officer to work with Student Union outlets to implement Resolves 4 & 5.

Section 8: A.O.B

To Consider

6.a Reports from University & Students' Union Committees

The Full Time Officers and some Councilors sit on key University Committees, if any big issues are coming up that will affect students, they report them to Council.

Date, time and place of next meeting: 05/12/19 - 7pm-10pm - LT2