

Date: 20th May 2021

Agenda

UC01	Housekeeping	5 Mins
UC02	Statements from the Chair	5 Mins
UC03	Minutes of the Last Meeting / matters arising from last minutes https://www.uea.su/democracy/unioncouncil/councildocumentsandnotices/	5 Mins
UC04	Cycle of business a) Election of student trustees (Applications will be presented to council during the meeting and then voted on)	5 Mins
UC05	Reports a. Trustee Board Report b. Student Officer Committee (SOC) Report c. Full time Officer Reports	25 Mins
	Access Break	15 Mins
UC06	Society and Peer Support Group Constitutions	15 Mins
UC07	Policy Papers Universal Access to Medicines & COVID Improving engagement and exposure of UCU issues	20 Mins
UC08	Any other Business / Open Discussion <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. 	10 Mins
Date, time and place of next meeting		

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:

To Note

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

To Approve

- The committee is asked to check the minutes for accuracy

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

Section 4 Cycle of business:

Section 5: Reports

To Note

a) Trustee Board Report-

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 -

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

Lizzie Payne: Activities and Opportunities

Item	Update
Manifesto Priorities	Meeting with HSC staff on keeping Wednesday Afternoons off for HSC students as much as possible working on continuing activities into the summer through the 4-week extension Looking at how we can include welcome week events for those going into second year next year
Campaigns	University council University finance BUCS East Midlands group Welcome week Summer event programme BUCS Hot Topic on sustainability Sports Operations Student Sport and Physical Activity Committee (SSPAC)
Meetings	Working on Go Global 4-week extension programme Welcome Week programme Working on UEA Sport SAM refunds Student Transformation Awards
AOB	

Em Anderson: Welfare, Community, and Diversity Officer (on Annual leave)

Item	Update
Manifesto Priorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuing to work with SSS on developing consent workshops; please get in touch if you and your club or society would be interested in attending these workshops, which will soon be ready for a trial run Working with students, SU colleagues, and UEA to coordinate and develop ongoing work on tackling sexual harassment, and to develop new campaigns and projects in this area where there are gaps Continuing to work with PTOs and University on the first annual review of the Sustainable Food Policy
Campaigns	Women's+ History Month: organised a Pleasure workshop in April as a follow-up from this month
Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attended: VC Mental Health Taskforce Project Group; Student Officer Committee; SU Anti-racism Working Group; Student Experience Committee; Inclusive Education Committee; Changing the Culture Chaired: Management Committee, fortnightly
AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Filming for STARS For any questions or comments, email me at em.anderson@uea.ac.uk

Callum Perry: Undergraduate Education Officer

**Callum Perry – Undergraduate Education Officer
Final Year report – Highlights summary of two years in office**

Area of Work	Actions Taken	Completed
Advising	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created academic signposting calendar for academics to effectively signpost students to services. #signpostUEA campaign alongside this. • Created Adviser Handbook for 2019-20 and hardwired this into UEA Policy. Lead the adviser training sessions with UEA. 	
Assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic Health kits created and distributed. • Founded UG Dissertation Cafes • Introduced Assessment briefs and MH Signposting on these. • Produced Academic Integrity templates for students to raise awareness of essay mills and encourage constructive conversations. 	
Representation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Created new Student Partnership Agreement with UEA. • Introduced Faculty Forums that are now embedded in student representation. • Secured hoodies and merch for convenors. • Rolled out Course Rep Academy and wider training provision. <p>Worked on projects with students including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ecosia – new sustainable web browser. 2. SpLD Guidance Documents for staff and students. 3. Secured funding for commuter EDU student spaces in Sports Park. 4. Support timetabling surveys for students from SCI. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Learning Ambassadors Employed • Piloted new Inclusivity Forum <p>Supported University with consultations work with students for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E textbooks • Reading List Diversity • Module and course changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wrote to the CMA on quality of teaching and learning. • Responded to timetabling, anonymous marking concerns. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secured student support fund from Education Committee to support students. 	
Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborated with Library on Tour videos. Rolled out study space and building video tours for new students. • 'Rate your space' study spaces campaign and feedback collection as part of the Education Fair. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support role out of attendance monitoring QR Codes. 	
Learning and Teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced Pronoun name displays on blackboard and added to registration task. • Introduced Content Warning Guidance for the UEA. • Secured and work on Safety Net and extensions • Introduced the system of Lecture Capture • Produced the OfS Access and Participation review • Built an Education Hub • Introduced Netiquette guidance for schools on Blackboard and the student preparation module. • Waivered assessment fees • Empowered students to get involved Reasonable Adjustment changes 	
Wider Representation	<p>Represented students on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QAA Student Strategic Advisory Committee • TEF Office For Students Panel • Aurora Student President – increasing student representation on an international level. • Wrote for Wonkhe on student representation. • Delivered presentations for QAA, OfS, AULA and UEA Executive Team and big shift days on student experiences and expectations. 	

Hamish Williams: Campaigns and Democracy Officer

Item	Update
Manifesto Priorities	<p>- Working with students on the issue of parking on campus, primarily on student access to parking permits. It's become apparent that present it can be difficult for some students to successfully apply for a UEA parking permit, despite having seemingly valid reasons for doing so. We're hopefully going to be doing some work with UEA Transport to widen the scope of eligibility and access to these permits for those students that require them.</p> <p>- I've being doing some work with UEA UAEM (Universities Allied for Essential Medicines). We've brought a motion to Council today that I'm very pleased to be seconding and I've been promoting their work to the Vice-Chancellor and we will hopefully be meeting with him as a group soon. I would just like to state for the record that these guys are absolutely fantastic and have led on all of this work, I've just been very happy to support and promote them in the areas that they can. (We love to see it!!)</p> <p>- I've continued my work with a group of students surrounding our understanding of the IHRA Definition of Anti-Semitism. Hopefully by the time of this meeting it will have already occurred, but we've helped these students organise a meeting between Sport and Society Presidents to discuss this amongst a wider group of the student body.</p> <p>- Spent a lot of time in interviews lately, most recently for the Associate Dean of Student Experience in the Humanities Department, who will be committed to really championing the continuous improvement of the taught student experience within Humanities, working with ourselves and you guys as part of this. It's really exciting and it's also hoped that this may eventually be rolled out across all other schools as well.</p>

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Ayane Hida: Postgraduate Education Officer

Item	Update
Manifesto Priorities	<p>More opportunities/supports for PGs</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PG Runner is happening every Tuesday at 5:30pm - PG badminton and the other sports will start soon over the Summer - PGR writing retreats with LTS (ongoing) - Supporting academic complaints <p>International students</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Publish the blog regarding the letter from VC <p>Anti-discrimination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Engaging/promoting the internal/external workshops
Meetings	HUM AT working group/Learning and Teaching Committee/Education Committee/Hardship funding meeting with PGRs and STS/Library Forum/Aurora Student Council/MBA SSLC/HUM Graduate School Prize Panel/Meeting with Academic Director of Taught Programs/SU Anti-racism working group/BAME staff network/HUM LTQC/Faculty Student Forum/Meeting with Academic director of the Doctoral College/Meeting with the Head of Postgraduate Research service
AOB	<p>Regular catch ups with PGTs and PGRs to see what they are feeling and issues in their course</p> <p>For further detail, contact me at: a.hida@uea.ac.uk</p>

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

To Approve

SOCIETY NAME	BIT ABOUT	COUNCIL VERDICT
Disabilities support group (Peer Support Group)	a group for disabled students to find support, resources and community at UEA, with regular socials and events alongside support group sessions.	Approve
Minecraft	An all inclusive minecraft server for collaboration, competition and enjoyment. To create a community to allow people to find friends they have similar interests of Minecraft	Reject
Medic's Guide.	To provide medical students with the guidance and advice they need to excel and progress through medical school as best as they can. They want to offer advice on revision, study techniques and how to make it through med school.	Reject

This item due to short notice was not reviewed by soc exec but has been passed to council for approval in line with “Union Council 1.

Union Council shall have the following powers:

1.10.5 - to approve the Constitution of any new student opportunity group or any alteration to Constitution of an existing club, society or peer support group or to delegate this power to any other committee (pre-existing or created by Union Council)”

SOCIETY NAME	BIT ABOUT	COUNCIL VERDICT
Palestinian Solidarity Society	This society is being organised to create a space in which likeminded political individuals will be able to come together to advocate for the human rights of the Palestinian people as well as their fundament right to self determination It shall be a space where anyone of any background interested in learning about the Palestinian conflict will be welcome and anyone who has been affected by the conflict will be free to share their lived experiences in a safe space	

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/> <https://www.uea.su/democracy/unionpolicy>

The Need for a Strategic Plan
Proposer: Tyler Bell (Non-Portfolio Officer) Seconder: Adrian Ashby (Mature Students Officer)
Summary: To (re)introduce a statutory requirement for the Union to produce a Strategic Plan annually on how it plans to fulfil its charitable objectives.
<p>Council Notes</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. For many years, the Union did not have a Strategic Plan – any vision as to how it planned to fulfil its charitable aims and objectives. 2. To remedy this neglect, Union Council passed an amendment to the Bye-Laws to make it a statutory requirement that the Union’s management produce a Strategic Plan to be updated annually and approved by Union Council and agreed by the Trustee Board. 3. In the last major revision of the Bye-Laws, the relevant Bye-Law was deleted. The revision comprised a whole raft of changes. In the debate on the wholesale changes, there was no mention of the abolition of the requirement to have a Strategic Plan and the matter was not debated before the changes were passed. 4. The minutes of the Trustee Board reveal that the Board accepted that, first Brexit and later the pandemic made it, in the Board’s view, impractical to have an

articulated long term vision and adopted a detailed departmental 'to do list' as a yearly plan. There has been no strategic vision submitted to the Board since the abolition of the Strategic Plan Bye-Law.

Council Believes

1. For a students' union not to have a coherent plan made available to its members is unwise and undemocratic.
2. A students' union that cannot come up with a dynamic vision and a plan for how to fulfil it, is an organisation that is adrift and merely eking out its existence from day to day.

Council Resolves

1. To mandate the Chair of the Trustees to relate Union Council's concerns as to the lack of a strategic plan to the members of the Board.
2. To mandate the Chair of Trustees to work with the proposer of this resolution to draft a proposed Amendment to the Bye Laws to make submission of a strategic plan to Union Council a statutory requirement; the proposed Amendment to be brought to the next meeting of Union Council for consideration.

	Name of your motion: Universal Access to Medicines & COVID
	Proposer: Cinthu Vivehananthan (Students for Global Health UEA) Secunder: Hamish Williams (Campaigns & Democracy Officer)
	<p>Summary:</p> <p>One year on and COVID remains at the forefront of our lives. Whilst the British population are offered a silver lining in the shape of a vaccine, we cannot say the same for the 130 countries¹ that are still yet to receive a single dose. In order to show solidarity with these countries and offer a helping hand to vulnerable nations we are asking the University to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pledge to provide full transparency regarding ongoing research into COVID-19 technologies. 2. Pledge to act to promote open access to COVID-19 health technologies. 3. Pledge to promote socially responsible licensing and transparency around licensing of intellectual property. <p>We hope to see the University continue to be at the forefront of sustainability and global advocacy by meeting these requests and engaging in an open conversation to encourage wider access to health technologies and medicines for populations regardless of borders and socioeconomic status.</p>
	<p>Council Notes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - March 11th 2021 marks one year since the World Health Organisation declared a COVID-19 pandemic². In just one year there have been 120 million confirmed cases and 2.6 million deaths in nearly 200 countries³. - Our best chance of ending this horrific pandemic is to ensure that everyone, everywhere has access to COVID-19 vaccines, tests, and treatments. - However, the disparities in access to these health technologies are continually widening. Just recently on March 10th, richer members of the World Trade Organisation blocked a push by over 80 developing countries to waive patent rights to COVID-19 vaccines which would have allowed for increased production for poorer nations⁴.

- Furthermore, Oxford-AstraZeneca has priced its' COVID-19 vaccine nearly 2.5 times higher for South African than European countries⁵. It is morally unjust for richer nations to be vaccinating one person every second whilst countries in the global South are unlikely to receive a vaccine until 2023⁶.
- Currently, at UEA, multiple ventures are being persuaded with regards to coronavirus health technologies⁷. Professor Fraser is developing an antibody test. Professor Hunter is researching into creating more rapid recovery from the pandemic for use in future threats. Dr Rushworth is producing more specific coronavirus testing. Dr O'Grady spearheads a portable test kit initiative.
- The accumulation of these projects provides great hope for the community but to establish such ground-breaking research and initiatives without ensuring equitable access would be unjust to the researchers and global population alike.
- Back in December the University of Edinburgh published their 'Essential Medicines Position Statement' in response to these clear inequalities in health technologies. They committed to goals that "improve global equitable access [...], promote further development [and] improve the transparency of health technology transfer"⁸.

Council Believes

- **We believe** in equal medicine for all.
- **We believe** that it is completely unacceptable that health inequalities have only been amplified by the pandemic.
- **We therefore believe** that not least because UEA is a highly ranking UK university priding themselves on sustainable development, that UEA has a responsibility to do everything in their power to support equal access to medicines and there are several ways in which they can do this .
- **We believe** they should provide full transparency regarding ongoing COVID-19 research at the university.
- **We believe** they should publicly to promote open access to COVID-19 health technologies.
- **We believe** they should promote socially responsible licensing and transparency around licensing of intellectual property.

Council Resolves

1) To work with UEA to pledge publicly to provide full transparency regarding ongoing research into COVID-19.

To meet this request, we ask UEA to make public:

- a) Information regarding funding for all COVID-19 technologies developed by UEA. Including any access and affordability conditions attached to that funding.
- b) The results, including negative results, of any ongoing research at UEA related to COVID-19 as soon as they are available to encourage greater and more rapid research collaboration.

2) UEA to pledge publicly to act to promote open access to COVID-19 health technologies. To meet this request, we ask that UEA:

- a) grants non-exclusive, royalty-free licenses for all COVID-19-relevant intellectual property.

- b) Makes a statement to that effect on the UEA website followed with an official press release.
- c) Joins other institutions and organisations across the world in adopting the [Open COVID Pledge](https://opencovidpledge.org) (<https://opencovidpledge.org>).

3) UEA to pledge publicly to promote socially responsible licensing and transparency around licensing of intellectual property.

To meet this request, we ask that UEA make public:

- a) To which organisations UEA licenses COVID-19 related IP to.
- b) The mechanisms attached to the licensing agreement which encourage transparency and affordable access.

1. <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2021/feb/18/wildly-unfair-un-says-130-countries-have-not-received-a-single-covid-vaccine-dose>
2. <https://time.com/5791661/who-coronavirus-pandemic-declaration/>
3. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-51235105>
4. <https://www.straitstimes.com/world/europe/rich-developing-nations-wrangle-over-covid-19-vaccine-patents>
5. <https://www.globaljustice.org.uk/news/2021/feb/11/astrazeneca-must-justify-unequal-vaccine-pricing-after-bumper-profits>
6. https://peoplesvaccine.org/take-action/?fbclid=IwAR0FxqqvYOi_b_Plt5zNqnKx4B458iM-1QocwQQcBi9Qpv8RVtenW46x5tw#join_the_action
7. <https://www.uea.ac.uk/web/about/giving-to-uea/covid-19-appeal/research>
8. https://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/essential_medicines_sep2020.pdf

	Improving engagement and exposure of UCU issues
	Proposer: Elizabeth Payne (Activities and Opportunities Officer) Seconder: Tyler Bell (Non-portfolio Officer)
	Summary: A default position of neutrality on UCU action and policy encourages greater exposure and discourse on UCU issues, by requiring council debate specific issues before approval. This strengthens the student body in showing solidarity with UCU. It is also more democratically rigorous by preventing the student body of 2019 dictating the political position of the current or future student bodies.
	Council Notes <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Council passed policy 2269 in 2019 tilted 'Increasing our efficiency when supporting students, lecturers and university' which among other things resolved 'That UUEAS should hold the default position of supporting UCU industrial and strike action'. 2. All notes from policy 2269. With emphasis on the first: 'That UUEAS has a long tradition of supporting industrial action by UCU and standing by university staff'.
	Council Believes

1. Policy 2269 was correct in stating (council believes 1-3) that the relationship between university staff and student is integral to what we do, one of partnership and should be mutually supportive.
2. Giving automatic support to UCU has weakened student's engagement with issues UCU faces. This occurs by not having to discuss issues at council, thus weakening the understanding of UCU issues within the student body.
3. A student body with less understanding of issues faced by UCU, is a student body with less desire and less well equipped to support university staff in action.
4. Council motions publicise issues within the student body. Requiring council to discuss UCU issues before official approve increases the exposure of the issue and increases engagement. This is beneficial to improving solidarity between members of UCU and UEASU.
5. Democratic institutions should not be bound by the will of a historic elected body. The student body of 2021 did not pass policy 2269, yet policy 2269 holds them to the automatic political position of supporting UCU. The current student body (and future ones) should on principle discuss each UCU action and policy to decide if they agree with it and its reasoning.
6. It is not sound practice to lend unwavering support to another organisation. UEASU must take safeguarding measures against reputational damage should UCU ever make a policy or action against UEASU's values.
7. UEASU and UCU share common values and are stronger fighting for issues together. This policy aims to strength UEASU's engagement with UCU action and policy. And also provide UEASU with significant protection, as is good practice.

Council Resolves

1. The Students' Union's position on UCU policy or actions is neutral until council formally debates and votes on the specific policy or action.
2. The Student's Union, member or staff shall not support or oppose policies or actions of UCU in an official capacity until council has debated and voted on the specific policy or action.
3. Policy 2269 is to be repealed
(<https://www.uea.su/pageassets/democracy/unionpolicy/2269-Increasing-our-efficiency-when-supporting-students-lecturers-and-university-staff.pdf>) .

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: n/a