

Minutes

Meeting Union Council

Date Thursday 7 February 2019

Time 7pm – 10pm

Location Lecture Theatre 2

Author Xenia Levantis

Key points:

- **Approved Societies:** Medical Imaging Society
- **The following society was approved:** Medical Imaging Society
- **The Emergency Motion** was not accepted on the agenda.
- **The following motions were not approved:** NUS National Conference Motion: Fund the Postgraduate Committee; NUS National Conference Motion: Fund Free Education by Expropriation; Support the Fight for Marriage Equality in Northern Ireland; A Smoke-Free UEA; A generation of lifesavers;
- **The following motions were approved:** NUS National Conference Motion: End Precarious Work;

Voting Members Present in the Room: **Andrea James** (Postgraduate Committee); **James McLean** (Postgraduate Committee); **Borja Martin Simon** (Student Officer Committee); **Georgina Burchell** (Student Officer Committee); **Hannah Murgatroyd** (Student Officer Committee); **Henry Bowen** (Student Officer Committee); **Jenna Chapman** (Student Officer Committee); **Liam Deary** (Student Officer Committee); **Martin Marko** (Student Officer Committee); **Oli Gray** (Student Officer Committee); **Ryan Jordan** (Student Officer Committee); **Sophie Atherton** (Student Officer Committee); **Thai Braddick** (Student Officer Committee); **Zoe Freeman** (Student Officer Committee); **Mohaned Alhasan** (Student Officer Committee); **Emma Moxon** (Student Officer Committee); **Jack Jones** (Bio); **Lauren Brooks** (British Sign Language); **Sophie Bunce** (Concrete); **Samantha Farzad** (Language & Communication Studies); **Josh Cole-Hossain** (Marxist – Socialist); **Liam Self** (Music); **James Fretwell** (Nightlight); **Jude Beckett** (Quiz); **Elizabeth Payne** (Gymnastics); **Tansy Jones** (Ballet); **Hazrat Hussain** (Taekwondo); **Eleanor Armstrong-Mortlock** (Trampolining); **Roo Pitt** (School Convenor); **Cameron Bray** (School Convenor); **Ellie Reeves** (LGBT+ Campaign (womens' place)); **Rebecca Foreman** (Non-binary & Womens' Network (open place)); **Emilia Bugg** (Disbalded Students Liberation Society (Open place)); **Lewis Martin** (Mature Students Assembly - Council Rep); **Eleanor Martin** (Camille Verrier); **Purvesh Patel** (School Rep); **Becky Boreham** (School Rep); **Maria Stefil** (Medical Imaging Society); **Andersm Hugo**

Voting Members Present online

Chair

Elliot Folan

Deputy Chair

Dan Box

In Attendance

Josh Clare (Head of Campaigns and Policy)

The chair opened the meeting and conducted a quorum count.

Quorum Count: 40

Chair reminded officers are required to attend Union Council under the bye-laws and encouraged students to come or offer valid apology.

The chair reminded council for the future that the amendment deadline is 48 hours before council starts. Councillors should read through what's being proposed and discuss with constituents.

Chair ruled non-voting members can speak tonight and in future it will be up for the chair to decide.

2360 Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 24 January 2019

The Chair introduced the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 24 January 2019. The chair asked Union Council for comments.

Martin Marko said page 17 last line is incorrect of previous minutes. Changing 'postgraduate education officer' to 'mature students' assembly rep.

Line was changed.

The vote for approving the minutes is as follows:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	79%	39
Against	0%	
Abstentions	21%	

The minutes were **approved**.

2361 Appointments

Union Council has elected two representatives to the NUS Conference Committee who advise the uea(su) Delegates to NUS National Conference 2019 on how to vote according to uea(su) policy.

The elected Councillors are:

Jenna Chapman - *Undergraduate Education Officer*

Georgina Burchell - *Welfare, Community & Diversity Officer*

2362 Matters Arising

The Chair asked if there were any matters arising from previous minutes not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

2363 Club, Society and Peer Support Group Constitutions

The Deputy Chair introduced the constitutions of student groups requested for approval by Union Council.

The standard Constitutions have been received from:

a) Medical Imaging Society

- This society will be aimed at students who are interested in medical imaging and would provide teaching sessions on image interpretation, career advice and information on research opportunities. By teaming up with local junior doctors, radiographers and radiologists, this society will deliver a mixture of teaching sessions designed to improve understanding of radiography and interpretation of images such as CT scans, X-Rays, MRI, echocardiograms, and more.

The Deputy Chair noted that before new Societies, Clubs and Peer Support Groups are submitted to Union Council for approval, the Societies Executive considers them and makes recommendations.

The following recommendations were made by the Societies Executive Tuesday 15 January 2019:

Proposed society	Exec Recommendation	Context
Medical Imaging Society	Approve	Good idea for a society as it is different from other medical societies- questions about funding and equipment. However, still recommended an approval.

Maria Stefil, Proposer of Medical Imaging society made opening speech.

No questions or speech against

The vote was as following:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	82%	40
Against	02%	
Abstentions	15%	

Medical Imaging Societies was **approved**.

2364 Reports from SU and University Meetings

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.

The Chair asked if there were any reports from Union Council Representatives on University Committees.

2365 Student Officer Committee 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.

Reports from the Full Time Officers.

- **Martin Marko, Postgraduate Education Officer:** Attended NUS Sections Conference (elected national PGT & PGR reps, voted on national PG-related policies. Continuing course representative training and attended DEV PGR student-staff liaison committee (SSLC). Reviewing progress of PG-related academic policies.
- **Sophie, Campaigns and Democracy Officer:** Accommodation Focus Groups – Tuesday 12th & Wednesday 13th February 4-5pm: Alcohol free, considerate living, dietary requirements & Green Flats. Is taking a paper to the Student Experience Committee with our views on supporting students and recommendations around laundry and rents on campus. Go Green Week - w/c 11th February with a range of events taking place – Go Green Fayre, Clothes Swish and other activities.
- **Jenna, Undergraduate Education Officer:** Working with SSS and widening participation team to provide mental health first aid training for advisors. Attended the Education Committee. Attended library forum and employability Exec. Attended the Southern SUs conference. Running course rep training.
- **Georgina, Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer:** Boundaries survey - uea.su/boundaries. Reclaim the night planning. Sexperience event planning. Meeting with students interested in running for their role: Welfare, Community and Diversity. Working on a couple of papers going to the student experience committee - Student finances summary -Christmas Wrap-up.
- **Oli, Activities and Opportunities Officer:** Edge conference evaluation. Annual BUCS review (looking at the regulations of each sport and looking at what needs changing). Development and Oversight Boards. Planning MMA Fight Night in the LCR! Finalising fixtures for derby day and exploring live streaming opportunities with UEATV.

Report from Part Time Officers.

- **Ryan:** *Decolonising the curriculum.* Working on creating a relationship between the SU and academics from various schools. Met with an academic in the school of PPL to work on decolonising the curriculum.
- **Thai:** *Equality Strategy.* A reminder that the BAME survey is still open until 5pm on the 7th March. It can be filled out at: <https://ueasu.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/studentexperience>. Motion 2301 updates: EDICT (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee) is electing its Part-Time Officer places soon and its first meeting will take place at some point in the next month.

- **Mohaned:** *Working with international students.* Met with the new international subcommittee. Working with the subcommittee and the international officer (EU place) on go global, international food and the promotion of the new subcommittee to cultural/international societies.
- **Emma + Hannah:** *Making UEA more accessible.* Are planning an autism awareness campaign. Raising awareness of the autism employment gap. Looking at how the university can put additional support in place.

2366 **Trustee Board**

To receive A verbal report from the Chair of the Trustee Board
NUS white paper talked about in management committee.

2367 **Reports from Representatives**

The Chair invited Reports from representatives, on issues not covered elsewhere in the Agenda; that Councillors wish to draw to the attention of Union Council.

Sophie Atherton, *Campaigns and Democracy Officer* - gave update about helping Jewish society and attending Aurora.

2368 **Open Discussion**

There is no open discussion.

Policy Making

Emergency Motion - For the Sake of Wallets and Fairness Protect Student Accommodation Prices

Proposer: Thai Braddick (Non- Portfolio Officer)

Seconder: Emilia Bugg (Disabled Students Liberation Society, Open place), Emma Moxon (Students with Disabilities Officer, Invisible Disabilities place), Hannah Murgatroyd (Students with Disabilities Officer, Physical Disabilities place), Eddi Kernoghan (Education Society), Omari Edwards (Philosophy Society), Zoe Freeman (Non Portfolio Officer), Lewis Martin (Mature Students' Assembly), Amelia Court (LGBT+ Campaign Open Place), Ryan Jordan (Ethnic Minorities Officer), Maddie Bransfield (Nursing Society), Ellie Reeves (LGBT+ Campaign Women's Place), Anders Sinclair (Welfare, Wellbeing, and Community Subcommittee Rep)

Henry Bowen – *Non-portfolio Officer* asked why it's emergency motion.

Chair answer it attempts to commit union to campaigning issue ongoing at moment.

Thai Braddick, *Non-Portfolio officer* – made a speech for the motion to be heard.

Question of if we know why rent is rising, Chair said it's not a valid question and should be for the debate.

Henry Bowen – *Non-portfolio officer* - Speech against hearing motion – said it has been rushed. Counter proposal is they talk it through at student officers committee about how to proceed and think through how to negotiate.

Vote on accepting motion to agenda was as following:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	31%	36
Against	47%	
Abstentions	22%	

Motion was not accepted on agenda paper and will not be discussed tonight.

2369 NUS National Conference Motion: Fund the Postgraduate Committee

A motion for NUS National Conference 2019 proposed by **Charlotte Hallahan** *Postgraduate Assembly* and seconded by **Lewis Martin** *Mature Students Assembly*. page 36

Chair explained if these motions pass, they are presented at the conference.

Lewis Martin – *Mature student rep* -gave opening speech – funding has gone down over the last couple of years for postgraduate students. PGTS and PGRs put on back-burner.

No speech against the motion was made.

Sophie Atherton – *Campaigns & Democracy officer* gave point of clarification – clarified this is NUS funding not UEASU funding.

No summation speech was given.

The vote was as following:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	82%	33
Against	3%	
Abstentions	15%	

The policy was **approved** and sent to the national conference.

2370 NUS National Conference Motion: Fund Free Education by Expropriation

A motion for NUS National Conference 2019 proposed by **Josh Cole-Hossain**, *Marxist Society* and seconded by **Martin Marko**, *Postgraduate Education Officer*. page 37

Josh Cole-Hossain, *Marxist society* gave proposing speech – since introduction of university fees we've seen marketization of universities. Education should be a right not a privilege. Increase of university fees are to maximise profits not for good of students or staff. Not how HE should be run in interest of students, staff and society. NUS and other unions should campaign for free education through expropriation of biggest businesses in Britain. Noted this was key part of his manifesto in October.

Harry Bowen, *Non-portfolio officer* asked question - how did the proposer come to decision of 150 biggest businesses, why stop there.

Answer from proposer - no particular reason, it's just a figure

Amelia Bugg, *Disabled Students Society* – said as customers of university we can demand where our money goes and what they are doing with our money. Is a privilege to be educated.

Proposer disagrees with the assertion it is a privilege. Finances should not play a part in not wanting to obtain HE. Funding HE through expropriation of biggest businesses means people can make choice.

Lewis Martin – *Mature student rep* point of clarification – we are students not customers

Amelia Bugg – we are in some ways customers at the same time as students and will pay eventually, gives us element of protection and should have discussions and not perpetrate idea you are better off if you have gone to university.

Proposer gave summation speech – money should not be part of equation when deciding whether to go into HE, funding HE by expropriation gives people more free choice. Should fund HE through expropriation of the biggest businesses and would like to see NUS campaign on this ground.

The vote was as following:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	42%	36
Against	31%	
Abstentions	28%	

The motion was **passed** and will be sent to NUS national conference.

2371 NUS National Conference Motion: End Precarious Work

A motion for NUS National Conference 2019 proposed by **Josh Cole-Hossain**, *Marxist Society* and seconded by **Martin Marko**, *Postgraduate Education Officer*. page 38

Speech is waived to NUS delegate – uncertainty over future has become permanent feature. Systemic crisis. Manifested in cuts, austerity, attacks on social services. Precarious work only features of general trend and must be viewed as part of wider worker's struggle. Wants to advocate for union representation of precarious work and NUS to act as political body and stand in solidarity with struggling workers through actions not just words.

Sophie Atherton, *Campaigns & Democracy Officer* – asked question about one of the Resolves, questioned why to include 'schools' as NUS represents further and higher education students not those below which is suggested in the resolves.

Answer from delegate - included to demonstrate it's a wider struggle not only affecting university staff but every worker in education sector.

Sophie Atherton, *Campaigns & Democracy Officer* - asked question if motion wants to expand to include staff in schools.

Harry Bowen, *Non-portfolio officer* – is the third resolve allowed because it mentions slogan of political party

Chair – does not mention specific party

Lewis Martin, *chair of democratic procedures committee* – chair of slogan of party at moment but also used throughout history in different ways. Let's go ahead with it and if it

breaks charity law that's why there is the board of trustees.

Chair considered it political question not a procedural matter

Georgina Burchell – trustee board not meeting before motion will be submitted.

Sophie Atherton – management committee

Harry Bowen - *Procedural motion* – take resolves to parts to take that line out.

Said particular line should not be there and should not be taken to NUS. Seems problematic.

Josh Cole-Hossain: both uea SU and NUS as union is for the many and should support a government for the many.

Move to vote on debating this line separately:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	60%	35
Against	20%	
Abstentions	20%	

Councilors vote to debate this line separately.

Debate on keeping this line in motion:

NUS delegate - can change lines if it's allowed and agrees with people pointing out it's about democracy and used internationally, part of other demands put forward to request the NUS functions as political body

Amelia Bugg - if we ignore the fact it is a labour slogan currently it could be used to suggest minorities are not as important as majority. Removing it from labour and looking at it as few words it could be taken that way.

NUS delegate – obvious if you read rest of motion that is not what it's about.

Jack Jones, Bio society – not so clear why it's in there. Strong statement with no basis or backing.

Vote on keeping this line in motion:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	11%	35
Against	63%	
Abstentions	26%	

This line is removed from the motion.

Debate on motion as it is without this line.

Sophie Atherton, Campaigns & Democracy Officer gave speech against – this motion should be voted down. We employ precarious workers as our student staff are employed with zero hours contracts – students rely on this money. NUS study found 36% worry about finances so much it impacts mental health. Students shouldn't worry about finance at university.

NUS delegate gave speech for – not a motion to end work but to fight precarious conditions a lot of us find ourselves into not by choice. Motion means improving conditions of employment not ending it.

Sophie Atherton, Campaigns & Democracy Officer – zero-hour contracts are work

Chair points out this was speech against.

Procedural motion – Roo Pitt – move to a vote due to time constraints and rest of agenda to get through.

Chair forgoes any more round of speeches and offers summation speech.

Councillors says we are not ready to move to vote and need more time, seems confused and for it to go through as a union we need more time.

Vote on hearing other round of speeches:

The vote was as following:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	34%	35
Against	43%	
Abstentions	23%	

Council moves straight to summation.

NUS delegate gives summation – motion was very clear in highlighting how economic conditions and political demands tie with each other.

The vote was as following:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	21%	34
Against	47%	
Abstentions	32%	

The motion was **not approved**.

2372 Support the Fight for Marriage Equality in Northern Ireland

A motion proposed by **Georgina Burchell** (*Welfare, Community, and Diversity Officer*) and seconded by **Sophie Atherton** (*Campaigns and Democracy Officer*). page 39

Georgina Burchell gave opening speech – love is universal, and people should express this however they want. 70% Northern Irish public support legalisation. We should fight for equality and love.

No speech against.

Summation is waived.

The vote was as following:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	81%	31
Against	3%	
Abstentions	16%	

The motion was passed.

2373 A Smoke-Free UEA

A motion proposed by **Roo Pitt** (*School Convenor, Politics, Philosophy, Languages and communication studies*) and seconded by **Liam Self** (*Music Society*). page 40 – 41

Motion was amended and amendments were accepted by proposer.

Roo Pitt gave **proposing speech** – smoking has negative impact on smoker and those

around. Not here to lecture on negative impacts of smoking. Motion has been designed to move towards supporting students affected by the ban. Recognises conscious bias in e-cigarettes although antisocial, evidence we have available suggests they present no harm to smokers and act as significant aid to help people stop smoking. Resolves 1- does not affect smoking areas for licensed events eg clubs, gigs as these are private events. Council should support motion.

No questions.

No speeches against.

Proposer gave summation speech – feedback from open discussion –wants to mythbust a few points. Idea of ‘nanny state’ - this concept is not saying people can’t smoke, just prefer it to not be in certain areas to create an environment better for all. Hypocrisy of SU shop selling tobacco products- contradicts idea of nanny state, people prefer to buy products but prefer not to do it in certain areas.

Andrea James asked point of clarification about university enforced ban

Sophie Atherton, *Campaigns & Democracy Officer* – in plan there is no plan to include street and square. Plan includes smoking outside ten feet of university buildings, plans to build smoking shelters but there’s little progress on how it’ll be policed yet.

The vote was as following:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	44%	32
Against	32%	
Abstentions	28%	

The motion was **passed**.

2374 **A generation of lifesavers**

A motion proposed by **Roo Pitt** *School Convenor, Politics, Philosophy, Languages and communication studies* and seconded by **Jenkin Chan** *UEA LINKS*. page 42 – 43

Amendment for motion was not accepted by proposer. Deputy chair says council is going to have proposing speech first then deal with amendment.

Roo Pitt gave proposing speech for motion as unamended – government making it legal requirement for all schools to teach students basic life support. UEA should have similar policy. Talking about basic life support as awareness session not full first aid course, inexpensive and take one or two hours to complete.

Sophie Atherton, *Campaigns & Democracy Officer* **gave speech for the amendment** – resolves 1 and 3, fundamentally we can do our best to ensure everybody is trained, but it’s not feasible

Roo Pitt – accepts change that it’s wholly plausible UEA SU will aim to train all students and staff. Changing resolves 1 gives university a get out clause for university, we should be aiming for platinum standard.

Jenna Chapman, *Undergraduate education Officer* **gave speech for amendment** – financial implications the current resolves will have for the SU and the affect this will have on students

Lewis Martin, *Mature Student rep* – concern about breaking staff protocol

Question from proposer – was aware while writing of staff protocol, checked with colleague and already went through DPC

Lewis Martin, *Mature Student rep* – last DPC was based on recommendations, not quorate

Councilor proposed to take resolve 3 of the amendment in parts and then address motion

Move to vote on taking amendment in parts:

'That UEA su will aim to train all career and student staff in BLS'

Options	% Vote	Total
For	66%	29
Against	17%	
Abstentions	17%	

This is **removed from amendment**.

Hannah Murgatroyd gave speech against – we need to have the aim to ensure all students because it is physically impossible for all students to be taught BLS. Not all students can do CPR and we need to respect that. Forcing students to go to these classes while they are unable to actively participate would be quite cruel.

Roo Pitt – Not against the spirit of what has been said, but as a trainer of BLS for many years has taught people with disabilities and has always done so with the upmost sensitivity that might not be able to carry out the physical requirements. Delivering training gives people confidence to explain it to other bystanders who may not be trained or have the skills and would strengthen chances of survival.

Vote on accepting amendment:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	48%	31
Against	29%	
Abstentions	23%	

Resolves 3 **removed** from main motion

No speech against motion as amended.

Summation speech is now property of person who amended it. Speech is waived to the proposer.

Roo Pitt gave summation speech – to broaden our skills and experiences as students and help someone in an emergency. Potentially raising money and awareness of defibrillator on campus.

The vote was as following:

Options	% Vote	Total
For	78%	32
Against	9%	
Abstentions	12%	

The motion was **passed**.

2375

The Chair noted that the next meeting would be at 7pm on Thursday 28 February 2019 in Lecture Theatre 2.

