

Meeting	Union Council
Date	2022-02-17
Time	6pm - 8pm
Location	Teams

Attendees:

Full Name

Alex Lai (CHE - Student)
Haaris Shah (NBS - Student)
Divya Agirishetty (CMP - Student)
Pratiksha Gautam (ECO - Student)
Gabriel Smith (ENV - Student)
Mieke Alcock (PPL - Student)
Kate Adler (PPL - Student)
Wilhelm Hodder (ENV - Postgraduate Researcher)
Patrycja Poplawska (LAW - Student)
Hamish Williams (UEASU - Staff)
Chiara Casapullo (PSY - Student)
Arancha Campos Torres (HIS - Student)
Toby King (MTH - Student)
Tia Chauhan (LAW - Student)
Madhav Boggavarapu (ECO - Student)
Sophie Ciurlik Rittenbaum (PPL - Student)
Tristan Pollitt (HUM - Student)
Jemima Gibbs (PPL - Student)
Elizabeth Payne (UEASU - Staff)
Oliver Tuscarny (LDC - Student)
Tram Le (PHA - Student)
Laura Taylor (ENV - Student)
Chris Njoroge (NBS - Student)
James Calvert (HSC - Student)
Emily Geeson (PSY - Student)
Kirsty Soanes (BIO - Student)
Tahsin Begum (LDC - Student)
Hannah Connolly (HSC - Student)
Farah Othman (LAW - Student)
Andreas Fopp (EDU - Student)
Madeline Donnelly (LDC - Student)
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Total Number of
Participants 79

UC01 Housekeeping

Minutes of the Last Meeting

Minutes Approved with no amendments.

UC05 Reports

A) Trustee Board Report

AH had a Board meeting in December and February. Previously, these meetings were held 4 times a year, but the number of meetings was increased to 6 times a year, including written updates from participants. During the last meetings, they completed the recruitment of external HR specialists and planned a face-to-face meeting with the newly selected officers in April.

C) Full-time Officer Reports

IG, Undergraduate Education Officer

- IG discussed the issues of wheelchair accessibility and excessive use of chairs.
- IG is working with the university to ensure that the new policy of reasonable adjustments will meet the full range of student needs and make them more transparent to students.
- IG raised several topical issues during the meetings, such as the types of assessments that can help students prepare for final summatives, and support for students' self-isolation.
- IG collaborates with student representatives of European Universities in planning a policy-making trip to the University of Iceland. To facilitate UA students' access to study abroad.
- Attended the Southern Sus conference in Bournemouth, where he received reports on a range of issues, including assessments, sustainability, and student safety.

- Raised several points in the learning and teaching committee. The university is now committed to researching trends and addressing any systemic issues that result in students needing to file an academic appeal.
- At the University Council, where UEA agreed to stop using non-disclosure agreements in sexual harassment cases, IG suggested UEA to make a commitment not to use non-disclosure agreements in all cases of harassment.
- IG provided an update on what he has been doing in the Rep and Convenor courses.
- The Timetable Project Review that IG worked on last semester has now been released.
- IG convinced university to move as many assessments online as possible due to a significant rise in coronavirus cases.
- IG is pushing the university to completely overhaul the entire extenuating circumstances process due to its inappropriateness now.
- IG has suggested a place for a quiet place in the library, they are now working on a funding for this place. The design process will be completed in the coming months.

AH, Postgraduate Officer

- AH has been working on Associate Tutors (AT) working group, pushing it in the SSF.
- Went to unconscious bias training.
- Worked on the reopening of DTS (Developing Teaching Skills) which will now take place in March and June.
- AH has been actively promoting Election 22, talking and nominating students for different roles.
- AH tried to provide more opportunities and support for PG students by organizing many PG events; Now every week there are PG yoga, badminton, and mixed football drop-in sessions.

LP, Activities and Opportunities Officer.

- LP was working on uea+sport financial transparency.
- A survey was sent out across the country to collect information about how various universities offer students sports. The feedback will be examined to get the best practice from other institutions for learning purposes.
- LP collects information about all the hidden sports expenses that students have to pay to engage in any sport, and then compares these expenses with how much the university returns to the session that the student attends.

- LP has written a policy that at least 6 student events at LCR will be given an accurate date from the start of the academic year so that they can prepare for the event.

Q: YB asked a question on behalf of Korean society. They were promised to have 3 minutes dedicated section of K-pop at the Damn Good party on 18th of February; however, the promise was not kept. They have tried to contact UEA SU about this but have not received a response. YB wants to know the reason behind that.

LP replied that is not responsible for events in the LCR, but she will make sure that the society will receive its response.

AC, Welfare, Community, and Diversity Officer:

- AC has been working with people from the accommodation team regarding next year's rent prices. Ac has been focusing on how they can support students due to the increase in rent.
- AC continues to work on the inclusive language project. The first part of the project is about race, sexuality, and disability.
- AC has been working on LGBTQ+ month planning, preparing a lot of events. AC thinks that achieved remarkable success in the non-binary project where students have written letters to the government requesting to include gender "X" on passport.

HW, Campaigns and Democracy Officer.

- HW organized and categorized the union's movement plan to help officers see which motions were done and which were not.

Q: SC asked how long HW has been on leave.

HW replied that he was away for 3-4 months.

UC06 Society and Peer Support Group Constitutions – to approve

All constitutions in the block that were recommended for approval:

Approve 93% (57)

Reject 0% (0)

Abstain 6% (4)

Result: approve

Hong Kong society's constitution that was recommended for rejection:

Approve 14% (8)

Reject 37% (20)

Abstain 48% (26)

Result: Rejected

UC07 Policy Papers – to approve

Motion: Amendment to Bye-law 9: Minutes for Clubs and Society meetings.	
LL suggests taking minutes of club and society meetings because their members need to understand what their committee is doing, this motion will create transparency for students.	
Q: SC asked about the location of published minutes. LL answered that all students will be able to access though uea su webpage.	
Speech against:	Speech for:
Speech against: LP noted that there are several challenges to achieve this movement, such as finding a person who can take the minutes; the substantial number of clubs and societies participating in this meeting; the lack of time for the officer to review these minutes before they are published.	LL agreed with LP's points, however, he suggested that they could start with small email reminders of the meetings. This may become more common in the future and then they may think of another way to do it.
SC expressed her concern about the societies and clubs' committee members work overload if they will be asked to write reminders after meetings as well.	SS says this movement should be accepted to increase student transparency and awareness of what is happening in their club or society. She believes that the secretary of each club or society should take small notes during these meetings.
DC specifies that some of the information in these meetings is confidential and may not be acceptable for publication on the uea su web page.	SS believes that minutes should be kept of those meetings at which issues affecting the whole society are discussed.
TK indicates that this motion seems undeveloped. One of the problems is that	

there is no way of enforcing committees' members to do it or making sure it was done.	
Summarizing speech:	
LL says that this motion is all about bringing transparency in the culture of UEA.	
Voting:	
Approve 31% (19)	
Reject 43% (26)	
Abstain 25% (15)	
Result: Rejected	

Motion: Emergency motion: Support NUS Walkout	
GG describes that this motion aims to affirm SU support for an NUS student walkout on March 2nd with the aims of fighting for fully funded education. To do this, they ask for help in promotion, organization, and finance.	
Speech against:	Speech for:
HW concerned that the promotion of this movement can confront the election 2022 promotion.	SC agrees with GG's points and stresses that it is particularly important to support the teaching as well. With Covid and ever-increasing fees, it is important to fight back. SC sees no problem with the agitation for this movement overlapping with the elections.
Summarizing speech:	
GG again highlights the importance of this motion. GG thinks that SU must allow student to express themselves. This is an opportunity for student union and student to unite and fight for better education.	
Voting:	
Approve 72% (36)	
Reject 4% (2)	
Abstain 24% (12)	
Result: Approved	

