

UC01	Housekeeping – to note  • Use of chat function during Teams meeting				
	a) Code of conduct				
	https://www.uea.su/union/memberscodeofconduct/				
	b) Minutes from the previous meeting <a href="https://www.uea.su/democracy/unioncouncil/councildocumentsandnotices/">https://www.uea.su/democracy/unioncouncil/councildocumentsandnotices/</a>				
	c) Expenses <a href="https://www.uea.su/democracy/unioncouncil/councilinfo/expenses/">https://www.uea.su/democracy/unioncouncil/councilinfo/expenses/</a>				
	d) Articles of Association & Bye-Laws <a href="https://www.uea.su/union/governance/constitution/">https://www.uea.su/union/governance/constitution/</a>				
	The SU is governed by the <u>Articles of Association</u> , and its attached rule book, the <u>Bye-Laws</u> .				
UC02	<ul> <li>Statements from the Chair- to note</li> <li>Update on DPC elections</li> <li>Deputy Chair to chair 'Policy to Establish a 'Quiet Space' in the former Nap Nook'</li> </ul>				
UC03	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/				
UC04	Cycle of business- to action	-			
UC05	Reports- to approve				
	a) Ian Callaghan, Chief Resources Officer- update on pensions and industrial action from UEA on behalf of the Vice Chancellor. Vote required to speak				
	b) Dr. Michael Kyriacou, Membership Secretary of UEA UCU- update on UCU plans and actions.  Vote required to speak				
	c) Trustee Board Report- Ayane Hida				
	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.				
	d) Student Officer Committee (SOC) Report – Miriam Hussein				
	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.				



# e) Full time Officer Reports

Your full-time elected officers will present reports on the work they have been doing, any manifesto campaigns they were elected on and any meetings of note they attended.

# **Ayane Hida- Postgraduate Education Officer**

# Meetings:

Alterline Workshop/Filming for PG election/PG Trip to the Norwich Market/SSF PGR student meeting/PG Lake walk/Aurora Student Council/Management Committee/SCI GSE/Regular catch up with UEA Academic team/ENV PGT SSLC/Black History Month Project Planning/HUM GSSF/LTQCs/Webinars for the Chair of Trustee Board Training/Talk (An Audience with Baroness Doreen Lawrence OBE)/Open Day/HUM Decant Group/Meeting with VC/Interview/Chair Coaching/DEV PGT SSLC/PG Coffee & Cake/SCI PGR Social/BAME Staff Network/Conference (Next Steps for Tackling Racial Discrimination in HE)/HUM AT Working Group/Catch up with the Trustees/Antisemitism Training by Union of Jewish Students/Non Academic Complaint Panel/Meeting with the external HR regarding placement/Senate/NBS E&D meeting/Disability Awareness Month Planning/Glitch Online Harassment Training/Board Meeting/Meeting about review of timetabling/PG Committee/Study Abroad Business Continuity/PG Party/Aurora Biannual/Design Thinking Workshop/Meeting with the APVC of the Doctoral College

### AOB:

PG Election – Postgraduate Committee members, PG Trustee, and The Chair of the PG Assembly have been elected.

#### PG Sports:

PG Yoga (£2) Wednesdays 18:00-19:00

PG Badminton (£1) Thursdays 18:00-19:00

PG Football (£1) Fridays 18:00-19:00

Catch up with PGTs and PGRs

For further detail, contact me at: a.hida@uea.ac.uk

# **Ivo Garnham- Undergraduate Education Officer**

- Attended Faculty Learning and Teaching Quality Committees for all faculties
- Multiple meetings re Timetable Project Review Board
- Recruitment work for multiple roles within SU
- Attended Digital Transformation Steering Committee with University Council
- Attended Library Forum



- Attended University Senate
- Attended opening of Broadcast House in the city centre
- Met with health sciences post-reg course reps
- Begun preparations for Education Committee

# **Aaron Campbell- Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer**

**TBC** 

# **Elizabeth Payne- Activities and Opportunities Officer**

**Meetings**: University Finance Committee

**Estates Committee** 

Welcome Engagement group

**University Council** 

Working on an international travel policy for clubs and socs, through teaming up with Outgoing our Tour Provider

Movember is underway, we have a couple of tournaments and fundraisers going on throughout the month, so get involved!

Sponsorship policy for clubs and socs has been approved and uploaded onto the su website.

Planning for Disability Awareness month within the union and also with UEA Sport.

Working with Pride and the university support services on a Transition Repayment Scheme

We received anti-Semitism training from Union of Jewish Students.

On the interview panel for the Student Experience and Education Pro-Vice Chancellor.

# **UC06** | Society and Peer Support Group Constitutions- to approve

Society	About	Exec's	Notes	
Name		Recommendation		
The	The society will help	Approved	No notes given, Exec was	
International	students gain skills and		happy with the society	
Perspective	networks in the			
	International Affairs			
	sector and beyond. A			
	Personal Development			
	Soc			



	T		T I	
Mindful	Mindfulness component	Approved on	Concept liked by Execs –	
Medics	and focus upon Med	basis of	good idea	
	Students as main key	signposting Uni		
	differences to	and SU support	Safeguarding	
	Headucate.	services as part	concerns I.e. difficult	
	Feels like a support	of Committee	conversations – opening up	
	group for Med	Training	as result of the activity –	
	Students	Training	clear training and support	
	Students		required	
Renaissance	Setting up Society to	Approved	Concerns over space	
Faire	put on an event(s).	πρριονέα	availability, risk assessment	
Society	The concept has a big		process, would the scale of	
Society	following.		this require Union	
	Tollowing.		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
			involvement/organization	
ABACUS	A space for anyone,	Approved	Society previously removed	
(ABACUS:	especially		2+ years ago by Execs.	
Association	British Chinese people,		CSSA as quite closed off -	
of British	to come together.		issues should be addressed	
and Chinese	It brings an		here I.e. inclusivity training.	
University	opportunity to make			
Students).	new friends from		CSSA happy for ABACUS to	
,	different cultural		exist but there could be	
	backgrounds and		Chinese speaking vs British	
	especially from your		speaking challenges	
	own cultural		Speaking chancinges	
	background.			

# **UC07** | **Policy Papers-** to approve

# Motion title: Changing officer name and amendment to the byelaws 4.3: the officer remit for the Postgraduate Education Officer

Proposer: Ayane Hida (Postgraduate Education Officer)

Seconder: Lizzie Payne (Activities & Opportunities Officer), Aaron Campbell (Welfare, Community, & Diversity Officer), and Ivo Garnham (Undergraduate Education Officer)

# Summary (200 words)

Historically there is never Postgraduate Education Officer but rather Postgraduate Officer in terms of what this role has been playing. Postgraduate students consist of Postgraduate taught (masters) and Postgraduate Research (researcher and PhD) students, which are 30% of the whole student population at UEA. Since the majority of the students are undergraduate students, most things at university tend to target at them and not postgraduate students. This has led to lack of postgraduates' engagement. Undertaking by Postgraduate Education Officer to Postgraduate officer to better reflect the work undertaken by the officer. The other four full-time officer positions are traditionally filled with undergraduate students.

In the U.K., there are the sabbatical officers for the postgraduate students in the different students' unions; however, their title are 'Postgraduate Officer' instead of 'Postgraduate Education Officer'. Having the officer who only support the education part of postgraduates limits their/SU's ability to support our postgraduate students' community. There are three other full-time officer who support all students in their remit but having no postgraduate experience made them challenged from supporting postgraduate students. Therefore, stretching the remit of the postgraduate education officer would support postgraduate students widely by working with the other full-time officers.



#### **Council notes**

- 1. Postgraduate Education Officer's current remit does not support fully the experience of the postgraduate students at UEA.
- 2. UEA postgraduate students are about 30% of the whole students' population. They are often overlooked at the events university/SU conduct.
- 3. UEA current officer structure not updated there is no PG Education Officer

#### **Council Believes**

- 1. We believe that historically Postgraduate Education Officer is not only education but they always have done postgraduates' welfare, engagement experience and activity etc.
- 2. There is lack of university support for postgraduate students' life
- 3. By limiting role to only education, Postgraduate Education Officer is unable to attend appropriate meeting to support postgraduates
- 4. There is no clear representative & route for postgraduate welfare and experience

## **Council Resolves**

- 1. To remove all mention of the 'Postgraduate Education Officer' in our current byelaws and replace with the 'Postgraduate Officer'
- 2. To update following Bye Laws to reflect council resolves 1
- 3. To amend byelaws 4.3 to say the following:
- a) 4.3 The Postgraduate Officer shall be elected by and from postgraduates and shall take a lead on:
- b) 4.3.1 Securing positive change for postgraduate UEA students in their experience, education and research;
- c) 4.3.2 Being the voice of UEA students on postgraduate experience, education and research to the University;
- d) 4.3.3 Working with members of University staff, through formal meetings and informal discussions, to achieve improvements in postgraduate experience, education and research;
- e) 4.3.4 Having joint responsibility for building support for changes in University and Government education policy and practice by coordinating the collation of evidence of student opinions and commissioning new research;
- f) 4.3.5 Having responsibility for developing, supporting and training postgraduate student representatives from across the University;
- g) 4.3.6 Being politically accountable for support for the Graduate Students Association;
- h) 4.3.7 Being the Union's main link to NUS' Postgraduate Section; and
- i) 4.3.8 Being a member of the Education Sub- Committee
- 4. To mandate the Postgraduate Officer to work with the Activities & Opportunities Officer to improve the experience of the postgraduates
- 5. To mandate the Postgraduate Officer to work with the Undergraduate Education Officer to support the postgraduate taught students' academic experience for taught program
- 6. To mandate the Postgraduate Officer to work with the Welfare, Community & Diversity Officer to support the wellbeing and equality for the postgraduates
- 7. To mandate the Postgraduate Officer to work with the representatives from the mature students to ensure that the Scholars Bar and Graduate Centre Lounge Area are for the postgraduate and mature students



# Motion Name: Policy to Establish a 'Quiet Space' in the former Nap Nook

Proposer: Megan Anderson (Disability Officer) Seconder: Patrycja Poplawska (Women's+ Officer)

#### Summary

This motion proposes to mandate the Student Union (SU) to establish a 'Quiet Space' (the 'Space') in the former Nap Nook, which is now used as an office space, in Union House. We believe that there is clear demand among the student body for such space to be established. The aim of the Space is to reduce issues for and improve the experience of students who need space to take care of their mental health, sensory processing, or just to take a break from the noise of campus during a stressful day.

#### **Council Notes:**

- The former nap nook was a space established due to the importance of sleep for students, particularly those with disabilities which mean they require more rest at times throughout the day. At the beginning of the pandemic this room was shut due to hygiene and safety reasons and was later made into an office space now housing the Venues department, without consulting Union Council, and this council has not been made aware of any planned changes to the use of this room.
- There is a higher dropout rate amongst students with disabilities. The House of Commons reported that in 2016/17 the non-continuation of students with disabilities was 13.2% at its highest and 2.5% at the lowest compared to non-disabled students. The Space can help reduce the dropout rate by decreasing the stress on students who find themselves to be overstimulated.
- When surveying autistic students about what accommodations they would like to see on campus, one of the most frequently requested suggestions was a neurodivergence, sensory friendly space for them to go and "stim" in. (Sarrett, J.C, 2017,. Autism and Accommodations in Higher Education: Insights from the Autism Community) The Space would be an accepting place or get away from the busy world of campus life, room in which they can go to be themselves without experiencing any judgemental looks, comments or feelings from any other students or staff members.
- Union house is the most accessible of all buildings on campus and, being the heart of the Student Union, a place for students to come and relax during their time at UEA. This makes it the most appropriate for the location of the Space.

#### Council Believes:

- The Space will benefit many students, especially those with sensory overload sensitivities, anxiety and many other disabilities that require a quiet space to rest. While some may argue that the library is a form of a Quiet Space, the amount of people and size of the building is can be very overwhelming and cause anxiety with the association of work. There are no places to sit and relax, as the study desks and cubes are designated workspaces and using them in a different manner can unfortunately cause disruption or frustration for other students.
- The room that was the nap nook is the ideal location due to its placing on campus and accessibility.
- This room should not be deemed the new Nap Nook and so, to reduce association with it, there should be set opening hours during the daytime, such as but not limited to 8am –6pm. There should be more chairs than beanbags so people will still be able to rest. There should be staff maintenance which will reduce the risk of poor hygiene that the nap nook had. The change of name to Quiet Space will take away the negative connotations associated with the nap nook.
- To ensure the room is functional and meets the needs of students, there should



be regular reviews and feedback requests to see how the Space can be improved.

# **Council Resolves:**

- 1. Mandate the Welfare, Community, and Diversity Officer to work alongside the Disability Officer to establish the 'Quiet Space' in the former nap nook room by the beginning of second semester (17thJanuary 2022), with rules around laptop usage in the space (with potential other guidelines being established by the Welfare, Community and Diversity Officer and Disability Officer) in order to provide a space free of the sensory inputs that can become overwhelming around campus.
- 2. uea(su) will be responsible for ensuring proper maintenance of the room and will be held to account by full-time and part-time officers after it's establishment.
- 3. uea(su) will provide marketing materials for the space and advertise its establishment on uea(su) social media pages and email newsletters

# Name of your motion: Better defining anti-Semitism, amending policy #2431

Proposer: Sophie Ciurlik Rittenbaum (Sustainability Society Council Rep) Seconder: Serene Shibli Sexton (People of Colour Student Officer)

#### **Summary:**

To adopt the Jerusalem Declaration on Anti-Semitism (JDA) definition of anti-Semitism in order to prevent and categorise anti-Semitism against Jewish students and staff.

#### **Council Notes**

- 1. Antisemitism has risen by 22% year on year (2017-2018, CST) and continues to be an issue for Jewish students on campus.
- 2. Leaders of the Jewish community in the UK and worldwide have sought to create a definition of anti-Semitism to be adopted by political parties and other institutions
- 3. The JDA is a definition of anti-Semitism that does not define anti-Zionism as inherently anti-Semitic. Its authors include Jewish and Israeli scholars. Its 200+ signatories have a diverse range of views on the question of Israel-Palestine.
- 4. UEASU must recognise Holocaust Memorial Day and support Jewish students has been adopted into policy precedent as of December 2019.
- 5. The author of the IHRA definition of anti-Semitism, Kenneth Stern, believes his definition is being misused as an institutional silencing tool of anti-Zionist political speech.
- 6. Over 40 Jewish groups have coalesced as the Jewish Voice for Peace to oppose the IHRA in favor of a definition of anti-Semitism that does not conflate critique of Israel's policies with anti-Semitism.
- 7. The IHRA definition has been used to silence Jewish people criticizing Israel's policies, undermining Jewish people's ability to define anti-Semitism.

# **Council Believes**

1. Council believes that anti-Zionism is not inherently anti-Semitic. Therefore, the SU would better serve Jewish students and Palestinian students by adopting the JDA definition of anti-Semitism.

# **Council Resolves**

- 1.The Students' Union should formally adopt the JDA definition of antisemitism on campus:
- "Antisemitism is discrimination, prejudice, hostility or violence against Jews as Jews (or Jewish institutions as Jewish)."1
- 2. To lobby the university to formally recognise this definition to be used in all processes in which a complaint about antisemitism on campus or towards or by a student or



	References  1 The Jerusalem Declaration on Antisemitism   JDA  2 https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2019/dec/13/antisemitism-executive-order-trump-chilling-effect  3 https://jewishvoiceforpeace.org/2018/07/first-ever-40-jewish-groups-worldwide-oppose-equating-antisemitism-with-criticism-of-israel/  4 https://www.theguardian.com/education/2017/sep/29/manchester-university-censors-title-holocaust-survivor-speech-criticising-israel	
UC08	Any other Business / Open Discussion- to discuss  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.	
UC09	Date, time and place of next meeting Thursday 9th December 2021, 6pm, Microsoft Teams	