

## **2069 Communication Breakdown**

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Seconder: Chris Ball (Non-Portfolio Officer)

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### Union Notes

1. That the vast majority of UEA's student body are unaware of what happens in Union Council, or the kind of decisions that are made.
2. There is currently no policy about the ways in which Union Council representatives are meant to communicate the events of a Union Council meeting to their constituents.
3. The most common ways of communicating with a large group of society members tends to be either by Facebook post or by email.
4. Even when a non-representative attends Union Council, it is likely that they will be unable to follow the technical language and jargon that council uses. Indeed, many representatives find it hard enough as it is.
5. As the proposer is not a course representative or caucus member, different methods of widespread communication may be more effective.
6. The webpage showing how councillors vote is hard to find and difficult to navigate.
7. Many people get voted into Union Council without necessarily knowing the details of the job, or how union council works

### Union Believes

1. UEA students have a right to know what happens in Union Council.
2. It is the responsibility of each Union Council Representative to ensure that their constituents are informed of what takes place in each meeting.
3. The webpage detailing each member of Union Council's voting records should be easy to find and clear to navigate.
4. Before Union Counsellors attend their first meeting they must be explicitly told exactly what happens at Union Council and their role within that, rather than the blanket 'you represent us at Union Council' that is often used to describe the position.

### Union Resolves

1. To require that after each council meeting, each representative sends (in the case of society reps) an email and/or Facebook post detailing the events of union council, (or alternative forms of communication for student officers, caucus reps and course reps) and how they voted on each matter. This must not be filled with minutiae and jargon, but detailed

clearly so that those reading without context of being at the meeting or knowing people on Council can easily follow.

2. To form a small group of (3-6) people who will meet and discuss how to make the aforementioned webpage clearer and more accessible.
3. That group will continue meeting at designated points throughout the year to make sure these methods have been effective.
4. During each society's elections, support should be given to help current committees make it clear to candidates exactly what the union councillor's role is and what would be expected of them in relation to their society.