



## MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS

The third ordinary meeting of the Council for the 2017/18 session.

The meeting of Union Council was held on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017 in Pippard Lecture Theatre at 6.30pm.

### Present

Role	Name
Council Chair	Owen Heaney
ICU President	Alex 'Chippy' Compton
ICU Deputy President (Clubs& Societies)	Tom Bacarese-Hamilton
ICU Deputy President (Education)	Nick Burstow
ICU Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Matt Blackett
ICU Deputy President (Welfare)	Fintan O'Connor
ICSMSU President	Rhys Smith
RCSU President	Michael Edwards
RSM President	Robert Tomkies
GSU President	Luke McCrone
Sports Sector Chair	James Medler
Arts & Entertainments Sector Chair	Peter Bridgman
Community Sector Chair	Scott Redmond
Recreation Sector Chair	Thomas Pleece
Knowledge Sector Chair	Ellis Skinner
CGCU Academic Affairs Officer (Undergraduate)	Alejandro Luy
ICSMSU Academic Officer for Clinical Years	Saniya Mediratta
RCSU Academic Affairs Officer (UG)	Abhijay Sood

RSM Academic Liaison Officer	Alice Bennett
GSU Academic & Welfare Officer - Life Sciences	Oliver Naef
CCGU Welfare Officer	Damian Coveney
RCSU Welfare Officer	Shervin Sabeghi
Council Ordinary Member (UG Engineering)	Joseph El-Kadi
Council Ordinary Member (UG Engineering)	Maurice Yap
Council Ordinary Member (UG Engineering)	Paul Balaji
Council Ordinary Member (PG Engineering)	Xin Rong
Council Ordinary Member (UG Natural Sciences)	Ansh Bhatnagar
Council Ordinary Member (UG Natural Sciences)	Michaela Flegrova
Council Ordinary Member (UG Medicine)	Dan Faehndrich
Council Ordinary Member (Non Faculty)	Peace Anyasado
Black & Minority Ethnic Students Officer	Chimdi Igwe
Ethics and Environment Officer	Rhidian Thomas
Gender Equality Officer	Anna Wilson
International Officer	Rana Khan
Mental Health Officer	Ariana Sadr-Hashemi
Observers	James Target  Lloyd James  Andrew Hill  Fred Fyles (Felix Editor)

**Apologies:**

RSM Student Welfare Officer	Helen Money-Kyrle
Council Ordinary Member (UG Engineering)	Milia Hasbani
Council Ordinary Member (PG Medicine)	Monica Alabi

Council Ordinary Member (UG Natural Sciences)	Rebecca Neil
CGCU President	Claudia Caravello
ICSMSU Welfare Officer	Stephen Naulls

**Absent:**

Silwood Park Chair	Nils Bouillard
Culture Sector Chair	Lanqing Chen
Media Chair	Andrew McLean
ICSMSU Academic Officer for Biomedical Student	Jordi Morwani
ICSMSU Academic Officer for Science Years	Sardar Ijaz
ICSMSU Academic Officer for Early Years	Lasith Ranasinghe
GSU Academic & Welfare Officer - Business School	Sidrah Ahmed Pai
GSU Academic & Welfare Officer - Engineering	Yasin Cotur
GSU Academic & Welfare Officer - Medicine	Anwar Sayed
GSU Academic & Welfare Officer - Physical Sciences	Luke Delmas
Council Ordinary Member (PG Engineering)	Brett Parkinson
Council Ordinary Member (PG Engineering)	Prateek Tripathi
Council Ordinary Member (PG Natural Sciences)	Ansh
Council Ordinary Member (UG Medicine)	Azmi Rahman
Campaigns Officer	Connor Qiu
Disabilities Officer	Hisham Abdel Aty
LGBT+ Officer	Alessio Incitti

**Minute –Taker: Suryani King, Democracy Administrator**

## 1. Chair's Business

### 1. Welcomes

The Chair welcomed council to the meeting.

### 2. Apologies

The chair states that there are many apologies and does not go into detail. The chair then kicks the evening off with a test vote to thank Yani for her work supporting council. After a technical difficulty the motion is passed. Yani is very pleased with this and would like to thank council for their kindness that they have shown.

### 3. Minutes

**A. Received:** minutes presented as tabled

**B. Discussion:**

The A & E Chair makes a point of clarification on point 3.C and suggests an amendment of the wording "*future amendments*" to "*amendment*"

**C. Resolve:** To Accept the Minutes from a last council and its suggested amendment – PASSED

Accept: 96.55% Reject: 0% Abstain: 3.45%

## 4. Matters Arising

the Union President updates council on their decision on the tankards policy. Challenges against Chaps, Links and XVs have not been upheld. Some of the challenges against the 22s have been upheld given the evidence presented. The 22s President has been informed that they have 2 months to evidence their adherence to the safe space policy or their tankards will be removed from the bar. This is in line with the Enforcing the Equal Opportunities Policy.

## Matters for Report

### 5. Felix Report

A. Received: The paper was summarised and presented by the Felix Editor

B. Discussion: none.

C. Resolved: To Accept the Felix Report – PASSED

Accept: 93.1 % Reject: 0% Abstain: 3.45% Spoiled: 3.45%

D. Actions: None.

### 6. Union President Report

A. Received: The report was summarised and presented by the Union President

B. Discussion:

i. There was a discussion of the change in the timetable for elections, reducing the timeframe for voting and campaigning to 1 week. There was a number of questions raised showing concerns of the equality of coverage.

ii. Due to time constraints the council agreed to move the discussion to Any Other Business

C. Resolve: To Accept the Union President Report – PASSED

Accept: 90% Reject: 3.33% Abstain: 6.67%

D. Actions: None.

## **7. DPCS Report**

A. Received: Presented as tabled

B. Discussion

i. Interim room bookings explained and updated with a soft launch.

ii. The Sport Imperial coaches status was explained

C. Resolved: To Accept the Deputy President (Clubs and Societies) Report – PASSED

Accept: 96.67% Reject: 0% Abstain: 3.33%

D. Actions: None.

## **8. DPE Report**

A. Received: Presented as tabled

B. Discussion: None.

C. Resolved: To Accept the Deputy President (Education) Report – PASSED

Accept: 96.67% Reject: 0% Abstain: 3.33%

D. Actions: None.

## **9. DPFS Report**

A. Received: Presented as tabled

B. Discussion:

i. The Sport Sector chair clarifies the funding of minibuses. That it is currently being subsidised by the Sports Sector

C. Resolved: To Accept the Deputy President (Finance and Services) Report – PASSED

Passed unanimously

D. Actions: None.

## **10. DPW Report**

A. Received: The report was summarised and presented by the Deputy President Welfare

B. Discussion:

i. The status of bursaries and grants were explained, clarify what is being lobbied

- ii. There was a question raised with regards to sexual harassment. But due to time constraints and the out of context nature of this question this was moved to Any Other business
- C. Resolved: To Accept the Deputy President (Welfare) Report – PASSED  
Accept: 93.55% Reject: 0% Abstain: 6.45%
- D. Actions: None.

### **Matters for Decision**

#### **11. Union Awards Policy**

- A. Received: The paper was summarised and presented
- B. Discussion:
  - i. The distinction between Honorary Life Membership and awards was clarified. Honorary Life Membership being paid and award being given to volunteers.
  - ii. There was a discussion of the spectrum of being a volunteer and a paid member of the union with regards to awards
  - iii. There was a discussion of the structure of group structures of Constituent Unions and management group, with a reflection of the decisions made at last council.
- C. Resolve: None.
- D. Actions: Union President to put this to a work stream

#### **12. Proposal to Improve Accessibility of Union Activities for People Who Are Neurodivergent**

- A. Received: The paper and the reading list was summarised and presented by the Mental Health Officer
- B. Discussion
  - i. It was clarified that 2 hour meetings means 2 hours of activity, therefore can be longer than 2 hours. This time period is only a recommendation by charities.
  - ii. There was a further discussion on the recommendation and how up to date the document is, concluding that is may not be up to date.
  - ii. There was a discussion on the paper including the stimulus of the recommendation of yellow paper, the recyclability of the paper and the feasibility of the paper. This concluded that the feasibility of the paper will need to be researched.
  - iv. Suggested amendment to remove clause 2 to allow flexibility.
- C. Resolved: To accept the paper with the suggested amendment to remove clause 2 – PASSED  
Accept: 67.74% Reject: 12.9% Abstain: 19.35%
- D. Actions: None.

#### **13. Motion of No Confidence**

- A. Received: The Chair summarised and present the paper. The Council Ordinary Member (UG Engineering), Joseph El-Kadi, made a statement in their own defence. As The Chair was presenting the paper they stepped down from their positions the RCSU President volunteered to be chair.
  
- B. Discussion:
  - i. The council member agreed to adhere to Chatham house rules
  - ii. There was a discussion of the term “motion of no confidence” with no real answer arising.
  - iii. It was clarified that the Union did not investigate the case. Clause 6 a. will be amended to state that the Union did not investigate the case.
  - iv. It was raised that the stats were incorrect and will therefore need to be amended with the correct number of emails sent of 500 – 600.
  - v. The Felix Editor read out a statement by the Chair of MechEng Society. Please see paper... for the statement)
  
  - vi. There was vote to extend the meeting by 10 minutes.  
Accept: 76.67% Reject: 20% Abstain: 3.33%
  
  - vii. There was a discussion of the elections complaint procedure and timeframe. In light of this it was felt that a better system of protection is needed. Therefore it was noted that this issue will be taken to the Governance Steering Group.
  - viii. The union notes that this is only procedure for this kind of case. It is regrettable that this is process and it is not the belief that this individual cannot fulfil the role, it is an error in the system.
  - ix. Both parties closed with a final statement.
  
- C. Resolved: Motion of No Confidence - REJECTED
  
- D. Actions: Paper to be taken to the Governance Steering Group to discuss the procedures for elections rule breaking

### **Matters for Discussion**

#### **14. Disciplinary Motions and the Constitution Review**

Due to time constraints this paper was unable to be presented and will be moved to next council

#### **15. AOB**

##### **Cancelling a Union Council in January**

- A. Received: The Union President verbally presented a case for scrapping a council in January as there were two sessions.
  
- B. Discussion: none
  
- C. Resolved: To accept the motion to cancel the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018 Union Council – PASSED  
Unanimous groan and yes

D. Actions: Cancel Union Council on the 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018

**Sexual Harassment as reported in Felix**

- A. Received: The Felix editor asked for an update on the situation
- B. Discussion: The union president explained the status, that this is an ongoing appeal.
- C. Resolve: None
- D. Actions: none

*There were other issues moved to AOB in this session however as time had run out, it has now been held to Councils fourth ordinary session.*

**Merry Christmas**

The Deputy President Education concluded the session by wishing everyone a *Merry Christmas*