

# Motion regarding the Approval of Constituent Union Constitutions

**Proposer:** Lloyd James, Council Chair

**Seconded:** Aishwarya Chidambaram, UG FoNS Council Rep

## **Union Notes:**

1. Currently, the Union Constitution specifies that Constituent Union Constitutions must be approved by Union Council.
2. Constituent Union committee roles are generally outlined in their Constitutions. Consequently, Union Council must approve all changes to CU committee composition and role descriptions, no matter how minor.
3. For a Club, Society or Project, it is the Management Group that has responsibility for approving changes to CSP Constitutions.
4. Most Constituent Unions have a set of Regulations which contain finer details and supplementary information (equivalent to the Union Bye Laws). Some CU Constitutions specify that Regulations do not require the approval of Union Council.

## **Union Believes:**

1. It is not an effective use of Council time to scrutinize the specific details of CU organization, such as committee composition and role descriptions.
2. It is nonetheless good practice for changes to such details to receive some level of scrutiny from outside of the particular CU, as such scrutiny exists for all other CSPs.
3. The Governance and Identity Board, the sub-committee of Union Council which oversees matters of governance and matters relating to Constituent Unions, and which has a membership predominantly composed of CU representatives, is best placed to offer this scrutiny.
4. Scrutiny over some of the core aspects of CU Constitutions, such as CU membership and aims and objectives must still lie with Council to approve.

## **Union Resolves:**

1. To mandate CUs to amend their Constitutions to remove details of committee positions, role descriptions, and subcommittee membership lists, plus any other details that may be expected to change year-on-year, and place these details in Regulation(s) to their Constitution. The revised Constitutions & Regulations are to be approved by Council on or before the final Ordinary Meeting of Council of the 2019/20 academic year.
2. To add a clause under the 'Constituent Unions' section of the Union Bye Laws, stating:
  - a. Constituent Unions shall have Regulations to their Constitution, to which changes must be approved by the Governance & Identity Board or by the Union Council.
    - i. Constituent Union committee roles and role descriptions must be outlined in their Regulations.