

Draft Minutes of UCL Union Council

**Tuesday 3 March 2009 at 6pm
in the JZ Young Lecture Theatre
Anatomy Building**

Present

See attached attendance list

Observers

Aniket Nadgir
Jonathan Cornell
Joshua Blacker
Alasdair Gibb
Elizabeth Aspinall
Sean Bye
Grace Barnett
Yee Yen Goh
Andrew Caddy
Juliet Flynn
Kirby Stebbing
Elly Lock
Akif Khawaja
Franciscus Prins
Thomas Lees
Eleanor Keeler
Will Tanner
Sol Gamsu
Naomi Kopler
Emma Nattfogel

The Chair opened the meeting at 18:03.

UC08/06/1 Apologies

UC08/06/1.1 Apologies were noted as per the attached attendance list.

UC08/06/2 Announcements

UC08/06/2.1 UCLU Elections – Voting opens 27 February until midnight, 5 March
www.uclunion.org/elections

NOTED

UC08/06/2.2 Student Campaigns 2009/10 - Student Affairs Committee has announced the opening of bids for campaigns. Giving you the opportunity to get your voice heard on the issues that mean most to you. Deadline for bids: 20 March 2009. Find out more at: <http://www.uclunion.org/campaigns>

NOTED

UC08/06/2.3 NUS Conference: Close of Emergency Motions, 1pm 17 March 2009

NOTED

UC08/06/2.4 The Faculty Representative for Social & Historical Sciences (JH) announced that the Drama Society's production of Henry IV was taking place on Thursday and Friday evening. Tickets were available for purchase online.

NOTED

UC08/06/3 Data Protection Act

UC08/06/3.1 There were no further objections to names and initials being published on the internet.

UC08/06/4 Minutes of the last meeting

UC08/06/4.1 Minutes of the meeting dated 10 February 2009

Following a vote to approve the minutes, the Chair declared that there was a clear majority and the minutes dated 10 February 2009 were

APPROVED

and the Chair signed the minutes to confirm them as a true and accurate record.

UC08/06/5 Matters Arising

UC08/06/5.1 Nominations to Senior Treasurer

The Chair advised that the nominations process would be announced soon.

UC08/06/6 Acceptance of the Agenda

The Chair advised members that three emergency motions had been submitted and were available to members. The Chair advised members that each emergency motion would have to be accepted onto the agenda for the meeting.

UC08/06/6.1 Emergency motion on cutbacks in Higher Education

The Student Activities Officer raised a point of information asking the proposer of the emergency motion whether the motion was emergent.

The Faculty Representative for Arts & Humanities (JC), as proposer of the emergency motion responded that it was meant to be submitted to the Annual General Meeting but the deadline had passed.

The Education Officer raised a point of information to ask whether the resolutions of the emergency motion were constrained by time.

The Societies Officer responded that the issues required urgent attention therefore support needs to be given as soon as possible.

The Chair moved the meeting to a vote on whether to accept the emergency motion onto the agenda.

Following a vote, the Chair declared that there was a clear majority and the *Emergency motion on cutbacks in Higher Education* was

ACCEPTED

onto the agenda under Any Other Business.

UC08/06/6.2 Emergency motion to Union Council: call for a referendum

The Chair advised members that an earlier meeting of Governance Committee had struck out point 1 of Union resolves.

The Chair moved the meeting to a vote on whether to accept the emergency motion onto the agenda.

Following a vote, the Chair declared that there was a clear majority and the *Emergency motion to Union Council: call for a referendum* was

ACCEPTED

onto the agenda under Any Other Business.

UC08/06/6.3 Emergency motion: call for referendum on motions proposed in the AGM on 27th February 2009

The Chair advised members that an earlier meeting of Governance Committee had reworded point 1 of Union resolves which now reads “that the General Secretary call an emergency meeting of Governance Committee to discuss the violations of the constitution”. The Chair also advised that Governance

Committee had moved point 2 of Union believes to the Union notes section.

Ric Lipson arrived (18:13)

The Chair moved the meeting to a vote on whether to accept the emergency motion onto the agenda.

Following a vote, the Chair declared that there was a clear majority and the *Emergency motion: call for referendum on motions proposed in the AGM on 27th February 2009* was

ACCEPTED

onto the agenda under Any Other Business.

UC08/06/6.4 Acceptance of the Agenda

Following a vote, the Chair declared that there was a clear majority and the agenda was

ACCEPTED

with the additions noted above.

Academic Affairs Officer arrived (18:14)

UC08/06/7 Union Executive Minutes

Members noted that the Union Executive had not met since the last meeting of Union Council.

UC08/06/8 Committee Reports

UC08/06/8.1 Activities Board Minutes of 29 January 2009

Members

RECEIVED

the minutes of Activities Board Minutes dated 29 January 2009.

UC08/06/8.2 Elections Committee Minutes of 30 January 2009

Members

RECEIVED

the minutes of Elections Committee Minutes dated 30 January 2009.

UC08/06/8.3 Finance Committee Minutes of 27 January 2009

Members

RECEIVED

the minutes of Finance Committee Minutes dated 27 January 2009.

UC08/06/9 Motions to Union Council

Members noted that there had been no ordinary motions submitted to this meeting.

UC08/06/10 Special Resolutions to Union Council

UC08/06/10.1 Special Resolution: Welfare Groups and Officers

The Welfare Officer provided a speech proposing the second reading of the Special Resolution.

There was no speech against.

The Chair moved the meeting to a recorded vote on the Special Resolution and the following votes were recorded:

For: 30

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

The Chair declared that as there was a clear two-thirds majority, the *Special Resolution on Welfare Groups and Officers* was

CARRIED.

Special Resolution: Welfare Groups and Officers

This Union notes:

- 1. That the Welfare Officer and the Student Activities Officer have set up a system of welfare groups and networks for peer support.*

This Union believes:

- 1. That these networks will be overseen by officers on Council.*
- 2. That the job descriptions of existing officers do not reflect any responsibility*

This Union resolves:

- 1. To change the standing orders as follows (appendix 1), and to renumber the job roles according to the new alphabetical order.*

2. To elect the LGBT Officer cross-campus in the autumn term 2009, and thereafter in the spring term.
3. To mandate the Finance and Democracy Officer and Elections Committee to investigate the potential for elections of interest group officers to be limited to students who self-define as members of the group.

Proposer	Department/Year	SN
Kate Rowley	Archaeology, affil.	40668255

Seconders

Edward Steward	History, affil.	40135268
Jennifer Currigan	Medicine, affil.	20266356
Charlie Clinton	Laws, affil.	50082506
Billy Street	SSEES, affil.	52200900
Daniel Sommer	Medicine, 3	60045661
Dave Edwards	SSEES, 3	50098138
N J Macdonald	Biomedical Sciences, affil.	50081833
Clare Harding	Geography, 3	50386116
Rowan Bevan	Biological Sciences, intercalated	843549
Dirk Forsyth	Jewish History, 4	50377354
Nicki Challenger	SSEES, 4	50462395

Appendix 1 (changes shown by underline or strikethrough)

Section 6 – Job Descriptions

XXI. Non-Executive Officers: General

A. Non-Executive Officers shall:

4. be elected in accordance with the standing orders for elections, except for the Arts, Societies and Sports Officers, who shall be elected by the Arts, Societies and Sports Boards. ~~and the LGBT Officer who will be elected by the LGBT Society.~~

XXII. Black and Minority Ethnic Students' Officer

A. shall be a non-executive officer;

B. shall be the president of the Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Students' group;

C. shall self-define as black and/or minority ethnic student;

D. shall attend Student Affairs Committee and be responsible for bringing any matters or campaigns relating to black and/or minority ethnic students to the attention of this committee.

E. shall represent the interests of students facing potential racial discrimination within the Union;

F. shall attend Union Council and Social Colours Committee.

G. shall liaise where appropriate with the NUS Black Students' Campaign.

H. shall be ex-officio delegate on behalf of UCL Union to NUS Black Students' Conference and NUS Anti-Racism, Anti-Fascism Conference.

XXIV. International Students' Officer

- A. shall be a non-executive officer;
- B. shall be the president of the International Students' group;
- C. shall be a student whose normal place of residence is outside the UK;
- D. shall represent the interests of international students within the Union;
- E. shall attend Union Council and Social Colours Committee;
- F. shall attend Student Affairs Committee and be responsible for bringing any campaigns relating to international students to the attention of this committee;
- G. shall help and advise in the running of International Student Orientation Programmes;
- H. shall attend College Fees Committee.

XXV. Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Students' Officer

- A. shall be a non-executive Officer;
- B. shall self-define as lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans;
- C. shall be the president of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Students' group;
- D. shall represent the interests of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans students within the Union.
- E. shall attend Student Affairs Committee and be responsible for bringing any matters or campaigns relating to lesbian, gay, bisexual or trans students to the attention of this committee;
- F. shall attend Union Council and Social Colours Committee;
- G. shall liaise on behalf of UCL Union with the NUS Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Campaign;
- H. shall attend NUS Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans Students' Conference alongside 3 delegates elected by the Lesbian, Gay Bisexual and Trans Society.

XXXIV. Disabled Students Officer

- A. shall be a non-executive officer;
- B. shall self define as disabled;
- C. shall be the president of the Disabled Students' group;
- D. shall attend Student Affairs Committee and be responsible for bringing any matters or campaigns relating to disabled students to the attention of this committee;
- E. shall represent interests of disabled students within the Union;
- F. shall attend the College Disabilities Committee.
- G. shall attend Union Council and Social Colours Committee.
- H. shall be ex-officio delegate on behalf of UCL Union to NUS Disabled Students Conference.
- I. shall liaise on behalf of UCL Union with the NUS Disabled Students campaign.

XXXVI. Women's Officer

- A. shall be a non-executive officer;
- B. shall self-define as a woman;
- C. shall be the president of the Women Students' group;
- D. shall represent the interests of women students within the Union;

- E. shall attend Student Affairs Committee and be responsible for bringing any matters of campaigns relating to women to the attention of this committee;*
- F. shall be ex-officio delegate to NUS Women's Conference;*
- G. shall attend Union Council and Social Colours Committee.*

R. Student Affairs Committee

Membership

Chair (joint) Education Officer and Welfare Officer

*Secretary Academic Affairs Officer
All other Sabbatical Officers
Clubs & Societies Officer
C&EO Officer
E&E Officer
BME Officer
Disabled Students' Officer
LGBT Officer
P&E Officer
Clinical Vice-President (Archway)
Clinical Vice-President (Bloomsbury)
Clinical Vice-President (Hampstead)
Clinical President
Pre-Clinical President
Pre-Clinical Vice-President
Part-Time Students' Officer
Women's Officer
International Students' Officer
Mature Students' Officer
PGA President
PGA Vice-President
SSEES Site President
6 members elected by and from Council*

In attendance Union staff as required by the agenda

Assessor General Manager

Subject to any general or particular direction that may be given from time to time by Council,

Student Affairs Committee is charged to:

1. Governance

- a. Elect students to the following College Committees:
 - i. Committee for Equal Opportunities;*
 - ii. Committee for People with Disabilities;*
 - iii. Joint Staff Student Committee;*
 - iv. Academic Board;*
 - v. Discipline Committee;*
 - vi. Faculty Boards;*
 - vii. Quality Management Enhancement Committee;*
 - viii. Other relevant College Committees as determined by Union Council.**
- b. Elect one student to Social Colours Committee.*

c. Consider the minutes of the Hall Reps Sub-Committee.

2. General

a. Provide a forum where issues relating to academic matters and matters relating to student welfare can be raised.

b. Consider academic, academic support and student welfare issues raised at Union

and/or College committees and make recommendations to Council as appropriate.

c. Develop awareness of student welfare related issues and coordinate information and training as appropriate.

d. Monitor the provision and usage of student welfare services within the College and make recommendations to Council as appropriate.

e. Monitor the provision of academic support facilities and make recommendations to Council as appropriate.

f. Monitor Union and College progress on equal opportunities and make recommendations to Council as appropriate.

g. Monitor the Union's ethical and environmental performance and make recommendations to Union Council and other standing committees.

h. Coordinate the campaigning activity of the Union.

i. Coordinate and oversee the actions of the welfare groups.

3. Authority

a. Student Affairs Committee will undertake its business in accordance with a timetable of key tasks approved by Union Council.

b. Student Affairs Committee will report to Council by submission of the minutes of each meeting of the Committee.

UC08/06/10.2 Special Resolution to move the PGA Executive Elections

The Medical & Postgraduate Students' Officer provided a speech proposing the first reading of the Special Resolution.

There was no speech against.

The SSEES Welfare Officer requested a point of information to ask whether the move should also apply to the election of SSEES Executive Officers.

The Medical & Postgraduate Students' Officer responded that his proposal related to the PGA Executive Officer elections because of the different academic session for postgraduate studies.

The Chair moved the meeting to a recorded vote on the Special Resolution and the following votes were recorded:

For: 32

Against: 2

Abstentions: 0

The Chair declared that as there was a clear two-thirds majority, the *Special Resolution to move the PGA Executive elections* was

CARRIED for a second reading.

Special Resolution to Move the PGA Executive Elections

This Union Notes:

1. *The PGA Executive is currently elected in the Spring Elections.*
2. *In the last two elections, no candidates stood for any of these positions.*
3. *There are over 8,000 postgraduate students at UCL, many of whom study over the summer.*
4. *That Elections Committee and the Postgraduate Association Executive Committee both support this move.*

This Union Belives:

1. *That changing the date of the PGA Elections would allow all postgraduate students to stand for positions, one year masters, two year masters, and PhD students. The current system is discriminates against one year postgraduate students.*
2. *The PGA Executive would serve UCL's postgraduate students much better if they were to stay together throughout the summer, as they could hold events and provide continued academic and welfare support.*
3. *That the Sabbatical Officer and PGA President should continue to be elected in the Spring to provide a degree of continuity with the change of Executive Committees.*
4. *That holding the elections in October will allow for better representation of UCL's 8,000 postgraduates.*

This Union Resolves:

1. *To accept the attached appendices and re-number accordingly.*
2. *To mandate the current PGA Executive to hand over to next year's Executive in the form of a written report.*
3. *For the current PGA Executive to continue in their roles under the new Standing Orders, not those of they were elected by.*
4. *To only elect PGA Executive Officers in the Autumn Term.*

Appendix 1

To be inserted between IV. D. and IV. E.

- IV. E. The term of office for Postgraduate Association Executive Officers, bar the Medical and Postgraduate Students' Officer and PGA President, shall be immediately after the elections in the autumn term until the 31st of August.*

RECEIVED

an oral report from the Finance & Democracy Officer, which included co-ordinating arrangements for the Annual General Meeting, overseeing the elections, progressing with improvements for the bars and looking at the Union's budgets.

UC08/06/11.4 Medical & Postgraduate Students' Officer

Members

RECEIVED

an oral report from the Medical & Postgraduate Students' Officer, which included launching a new medics website and co-ordinating the RUMS Annual General Meeting; and preparing for the PGA Annual General Meeting.

UC08/06/11.5 Student Activities Officer

Members

RECEIVED

an oral report from the Student Activities Officer, which included co-ordinating the arrangements for colours and their respective balls, deciding on award categories, planning for this year's arts festival, preparations for the Annual General Meeting, overseeing clubs and societies Annual General Meetings, preparing for the elections of the Arts, Societies and Sports Officers which will take place at the next round of meetings of the relevant boards and looking at the sports coaching budgets.

UC08/06/11.6 Welfare Officer

Members

RECEIVED

an oral report from the Welfare Officer, which included agreement at the UCL Joint Staff Student Committee to support larger quiet contemplation facilities and that costs for attending graduation ceremonies at UCL were the highest in the country. She further reported that she had worked with UCL Student Accommodation Committee on the provision for Trans-Safe accommodation. She notified members that there had been several cases of mumps in student residences and concerned students should be directed to the Dean of Students (Welfare).

UC08/06/11.7 General Secretary

Members

RECEIVED

an oral report from the General Secretary, which included preparations for the Annual General Meeting.

UC08/06/11.8 Academic Affairs Officer

Members

RECEIVED

an oral report from the Academic Affairs Officer, which included working with the Quiet Contemplation Room campaign and looking to fulfil his mandates from policy passed at the recent Annual General Meeting.

UC08/06/11.9 Clubs & Societies Officer

Members

RECEIVED

an oral report from the Clubs & Societies Officer, which included preparations for Arts, Societies and Sports Balls; attending clubs and societies Annual General Meetings; and co-ordinating the intersociety football tournament.

UC08/06/11.10 Campaigns & Equal Opportunities Officer

Members

RECEIVED

an oral report from the Campaigns & Equal Opportunities Officer, which included preparing for the RAG (Raising and Giving) campaign week.

UC08/06/11.11 Environment & Ethics Officer

Members

DEFERRED

the report from the **Environment & Ethics** Officer as she was absent from the meeting.

UC08/06/11.12 Promotions & Entertainments Officer

Members

RECEIVED

an oral report from the Promotions & Entertainments Officer, which included assisting with the organisation and promotion of Club Neon which has moved to seOne, promoting VodPop and drafting a proposal for an Entertainments Committee to be considered at a future meeting of Union Council.

UC08/06/11.13 Postgraduate Association President

Members

DEFERRED

the report from the Postgraduate Association President as he was absent from the meeting.

UC08/06/11.14 Pre-Clinical President

Members

RECEIVED

an oral report from the Pre-Clinical President, which included exam support, guidance for students going into their intercalating year and organising a recent social event.

UC08/06/11.15 Clinical President

Members

DEFERRED

the report from the Clinical President as he was absent from the meeting.

UC08/06/11.16 SSEES Site President

Members

RECEIVED

an oral report from the SSEES Site President, which included preparations for the Annual SSEES Spring Ball.

UC08/06/11.17 Any other reports from Union Council Members

No other reports were provided.

UC08/06/12 Questions to Officers

The Societies Officer asked the Communications & Services Officer on what the plans were with regards to refurbishment of the bars.

The Communications & Services Officer responded that he was waiting for the results from the current membership survey to be available before taking the matter further. He also outlined that further student consultation would take place in the future.

The RUMS Clinical Vice President (Hampstead) asked the Communications & Services Officer when recycling facilities would be available in Union outlets.

The Communications & Services Officer responded that there were already recycling facilities at Union outlets and more were on order.

The RUMS Clinical Vice President (Bloomsbury) asked the Communications & Services Officer whether students could opt out of the all student emails.

The Communications & Services Officer responded that this was a matter for the College, as the Union all student email was sent via the College's all student mail facility. He advised that he was happy to look into this.

The Societies Officer raised concerns for a set lunch hour in the proposed Common Timetable.

The Education Officer responded that there would be no teaching scheduled to take place during a set hour as provided in the Common Timetable, this was to ensure that all students would be entitled to a lunch break.

The Faculty Representative for Arts & Humanities (IH) advised that she was under the belief that the final model for the Common Timetable had yet to be confirmed.

Amanda Smith left (18:31)

The Education Officer responded that special cases would be considered for variation from the agreed model on a department by department basis.

The RUMS Clinical Vice President (Hampstead) asked whether the Common Timetable would apply to medical students.

Amanda Smith returned (18:33)

The Education Officer advised that the Common Timetable would not apply to the Medical School at present nor would it apply for postgraduate students.

UC08/06/13 Any Other Business

UC08/06/13.1 Emergency motion on cutbacks in Higher Education

The Observer (SG) provided a speech proposing the emergency motion. As the proposer, he advised that he would amend the motion by:

- removing point 1 of Union resolves
- adding the following text “This occupation was successful in achieving their demands.” to the end of point 2 of Union notes.

The Welfare Officer requested a point of information from the proposer as to whether the motion would mandate UCL Union to support any action by the Universities & Colleges Union (UCU), even if this was detrimental to our members.

The Observer (SG) responded that the mandates were specific to this campaign.

The RUMS Clinical Vice President (Bloomsbury) requested a point of information from the proposer as to the stance taken by London Metropolitan University Students' Union.

The Observer (SG) responded that London Met students were in support and imagined that their students' union would also be in support.

The Education Officer requested a point of information from the proposer as to what he knew about UCL's position with the casualisation of staff.

The Observer (SG) responded that PhD students working as teaching assistants were the closest comparison at UCL at present.

The RUMS Clinical Vice President (Bloomsbury) provided a speech against the emergency motion.

The Promotions & Entertainments Officer requested a point of information from the RUMS Clinical Vice President (Bloomsbury) as to whether she was aware of the press coverage on the London Met situation.

The RUMS Clinical Vice President (Bloomsbury) responded that she was aware but did not want to harm relations with other students' unions.

The Faculty Representative for Arts & Humanities (JC) requested a point of information from the RUMS Clinical Vice President (Bloomsbury) as to whether she was aware that London Metropolitan University Students' Union was asking for support from other students' unions.

The RUMS Clinical Vice President (Bloomsbury) stated that she felt that this would be overstepping the mark and infringe upon another Union's affairs.

The Faculty Representative for Arts & Humanities (IH) advised that she recalls that UCL Union had provided support for London Metropolitan University Students' Union on a previous occasion.

The Communications & Services Officer raised the procedural motion to move to the vote.

Following a vote, the Chair declared that as there was a clear majority and the procedural motion to move to the vote was

CARRIED.

The Chair moved the meeting to a recorded vote on the emergency motion and the following votes were recorded:

For: 21

Against: 10

Abstentions: 3

The Chair declared that as there was a clear majority, the *Emergency motion on cutbacks in Higher Education* was

CARRIED.

Emergency motion on cutbacks in Higher Education

This union notes:

- 1. That several universities across the country have recently announced plans to cut staff numbers, teaching times and in some cases whole departments.*
- 2. Most recently, as of February 18th 2009, students at Byam Shaw School of Art, part of Central St Martins and University of the Arts London have occupied their building in protest at cuts in teaching time and class and materials budgets, casualisation and outsourcing of staff, lack of democratic decision-making and consultation over the future of their course and school. This occupation was successful in achieving their demands.*

3. In early February 2009, the University of Reading announced plans to axe its successful department of School of Health and Social Care, which received a good research score in the recent RAE exercise and in 2004-05 taught 355 students .

4. Prior to this in mid-January, as a result of the Higher Education Funding Council for England's plans to claim back £38m on top of an £18m cut in teaching allocations, the management of London Metropolitan University announced plans to cut 330 members of staff. Through cuts in teaching time available this will inevitably impact on students.

This union believes:

1. That current and potential future students at the University of Reading, Byam School of Art and London Metropolitan University will suffer as the result of any funding cuts and cuts to staff numbers.

2. That students in all institutions should have a democratic and fully participatory role in all decisions affecting the future of their university and studies.

3. That the general casualisation of staff employment in the higher education sector puts student experience at risk through increased stress experienced by teachers due to job insecurity and poorer employment conditions and pay.

4. That a core function of UCLU is to protect and ensure its students' academic experience. This is an ideal common to many, if not all, students unions and other forms of student representation nationally and internationally.

5. That UCLU ought to express support and solidarity with students and staff who are currently facing and fighting cutbacks at their institution, whether regionally, nationally or even internationally.

6. That the actions of HEFCE in reclaiming money from London Metropolitan University though legal, jeopardize the education of students.

7. During a time of economic crisis and downturn, universities should be increasing not decreasing their ability to teach as many students as possible whilst maintaining standards, cuts to staffing numbers will not encourage this.

This union resolves:

1. That all members of the union executive should sign, on behalf of students of UCLU, the petition opposing cuts at London Metropolitan University . Furthermore the Education and/or the Academic Affairs Officers should draft a letter, on behalf of the students of UCLU supporting the demands of the petition which should be sent to the management of London Metropolitan University.

2. That the Union Executive should draft a letter, and specifically the Education and/or the Academic Affairs Officers, to be sent to the UCL UCU branch supporting the national campaign demands of the UCU against casualisation of staff. A similar letter should also be addressed to UCL management with the explicit request for an analysis of how casualisation of staff at UCL affects staff working conditions and how this may impact on students. Any responses to either letters should be posted on the UCLU noticeboard.

Proposer

<i>Sol Gamsu</i>	<i>European Social and Political Studies/2</i>	<i>60692</i>
<i>Michael Chessum</i>	<i>History/1</i>	<i>703787</i>
<i>Jonathan Moses</i>	<i>History/2</i>	<i>703309</i>
<i>Andrew Weir</i>	<i>MA Syntax</i>	<i>832110</i>
<i>Samuel Crews</i>	<i>BA SSEES/2</i>	<i>703131</i>
<i>Jo Casserly</i>	<i>European Social and Political Studies/2</i>	<i>713027</i>
<i>Nassos Styuanou</i>	<i>European Social and Political Studies/2</i>	<i>709075</i>
<i>Philippa Owen</i>	<i>European Social and Political Studies/2</i>	<i>702937</i>
<i>Harriet Redman</i>	<i>Bartlett/3</i>	<i>60098548</i>
<i>Geneva Hutton</i>	<i>European Social and Political Studies/2</i>	<i>718789</i>
<i>Sean Kilmurroy</i>	<i>Masters Engineering</i>	<i>831505</i>

UC08/06/13.2 **Emergency motion to Union Council: call for a referendum**

The Student Activities Officer requested a point of information from the Chair as to whether a two-thirds majority would be required for the call for a referendum to be valid.

The Chair responded that in accordance with the Standing Orders, a two-thirds majority was required for a call for a referendum.

The Anti-Racism Officer provided a speech proposing the emergency motion.

The Chair asked whether there were any amendments from the floor.

The Campaigns & Equal Opportunities Officer requested a point of information from the Anti-Racism Officer as to whether he was calling a referendum because the vote taken at the recent Annual General Meeting was unrepresentative of the student body.

The Anti-Racism Officer responded that this was indeed the case.

The Faculty Representative for Arts & Humanities (JC) requested a point of information from the Anti-Racism Officer as to whether he regarded that the guillotine applied to motion debates at the Annual General Meeting was sufficient for the attendance concerns.

The Anti-Racism Officer responded that he believed that a referendum was the best way forward.

The Welfare Officer requested a point of information from the Chair as to why the guillotine was set.

The Chair responded that the guillotine on motion debates was set by Governance Committee after consideration of student concerns about religious practice.

There was a general discussion on the floor.

The Faculty Representative for Life Sciences (AW) provided a speech against the motion.

The Faculty Representative for Life Sciences (AW) requested a point of information from the Chair as to whether Governance Committee reviewed motions at present.

The Chair advised that Governance Committee did indeed review motions at present.

There was a general discussion of the floor about the referendum question as provided in the emergency motion, it was suggested that the question was slightly leading and covered a broad area.

The RUMS Clinical Vice President (Bloomsbury) raised whether the speaker, Faculty Representative for Life Sciences (AW) would be content if the referendum question was rephrased.

The Faculty Representative for Life Sciences (AW) responded that it was not up to him to amend the referendum question.

A discussion followed on the floor about how the referendum question should be rephrased.

The Anti-Racism Officer as proposer of the emergency motion, accepted the amendment of the referendum question under point 2 of Union resolves to read as follows "Should your Union refrain from making a statement that condemns or supports either side of the Israel/Gaza conflict?"

The Communications & Services Officer raised the procedural motion to move to the vote.

Upon request from the floor, the Communications & Services Officer provided a speech for the procedural motion.

The Faculty Representative for Arts & Humanities (IH) provided a speech against the procedural motion.

The Communications & Services Officer provided a further speech for the procedural motion

The Faculty Representative for Arts & Humanities (IH) provided a further speech against the procedural motion.

Following a vote, the Chair declared that as there was a clear majority and the procedural motion to move to the vote was

CARRIED.

The Chair moved the meeting to a recorded vote on the emergency motion and the following votes were recorded:

For: 25

Against: 8

Abstentions: 1

The Chair declared that as there was a clear two-thirds majority, the *Emergency motion to Union Council: call for a referendum* was

CARRIED.

Emergency Motion to Union Council: Call for a referendum

This Union Notes:

- 1. UCL is currently promoting itself as London's Global University; driven by the wide range of students it is host to from all over the world and from almost every political, religious and cultural persuasion.*
- 2. That UCLU exists to provide for the intellectual, cultural and physical needs of every single one of its members, which includes all students of UCL unless they opt out.*
- 3. That the UCLU AGM took place on Friday 27th February 2009.*
- 4. The timing of the AGM was problematic for many students who were unable to attend due to religious commitments or university studies.*
- 5. That there were many UCL students left outside of the AGM because there was no space for them.*
- 6. That the motion entitled 'Condemn the Israeli attacks on Gaza' was passed by only 30 votes.*
- 7. That a facebook group has been set up entitled Students against the DISGRACEFUL AGM on Friday 27th February, with over 225 members (at the time of writing).*
- 8. That a referendum allows all UCLU students to have the opportunity to vote.*

This Union Believes:

- 1. That all UCL students should be encouraged and allowed to have a democratic voice.*
- 2. That many students feel that they were unable to express their opinion.*
- 3. That if the AGM had fallen at any other time or had a greater capacity, the fate of the 2 motions relating to the Middle East ('Support Peace and Unity in the Middle East and on Campus' and 'Condemn the Israeli attacks on Gaza') may have been different.*

This Union Resolves:

1. *To call a referendum regarding UCL Union's stance on foreign political conflicts.*
2. *The question to be posed to the UCL student population should be: "Should your Union refrain from making a statement that condemns or supports either side of the Israel/Gaza conflict?"*
If this referendum passes, all motions condemning or postulating about the Middle East Conflict (aside from supporting humanitarian initiatives) shall be stricken from the policy file including the motion to 'Condemn Israel's attacks on Gaza' that was passed at this year's AGM.
3. *To ensure that any future motions regarding political, religious or cultural statements should be reviewed by governance committee prior to being heard to reasonably ensure that they don't have the potential to impact negatively on any group of students.*

Proposed by:

Daniel Sommer 60045661 Medicine/3

Seconded by:

<i>Matthew Appleby</i>	<i>803786</i>	<i>Medicine /1</i>
<i>Alex Nesbitt</i>	<i>700808</i>	<i>Medicine /2</i>
<i>Aaron Hughes</i>	<i>60096717</i>	<i>Medicine /3</i>
<i>Brooke Calvert</i>	<i>800597</i>	<i>Medicine /1</i>
<i>Leo Arkush</i>	<i>60477</i>	<i>Medicine /2</i>
<i>Danielle Banin</i>	<i>60106234</i>	<i>Law/3</i>
<i>Miriam Berber</i>	<i>60137559</i>	<i>Medicine /3</i>
<i>Gabrielle Nejad</i>	<i>732896</i>	<i>History/2</i>
<i>Natasha Hausdorff</i>		<i>Law/1</i>
<i>Simon Friend</i>	<i>50092446</i>	<i>English/3</i>
<i>Catherine Mansoor</i>	<i>60680</i>	<i>Law/2</i>
<i>Joanna Kurzer</i>	<i>60599</i>	<i>Medicine/2</i>
<i>Colin Myer</i>	<i>50219146</i>	<i>English/4</i>
<i>Tom Parkinson</i>	<i>716946</i>	<i>History</i>
<i>Rosanna Rofel</i>		<i>Antient History/1</i>
<i>Jessica Kochaw</i>	<i>713763</i>	<i>Geography</i>
<i>Sarah Taybali</i>	<i>60184070</i>	<i>Medicine/3</i>

The Chair announced that the meeting will take a short recess at 19:07

The meeting reconvened at 19:19

UC08/06/13.3 Emergency motion: call for referendum on motions proposed in the AGM on 27th February 2009

The Observer (TL) provided a speech proposing the emergency motion.

The RUMS Clinical Vice President (Bloomsbury) requested a point of information as to the lack of a referendum question in the emergency motion.

The Chair advised that the referendum question would be “UCL Union should adopt the (motion title)”.

A general discussion of the floor followed.

The Finance & Democracy Officer provided a speech against the emergency motion.

Upon a request from the floor, the Chair projected the Executive Statement.

A further discussion of the floor followed.

The RUMS Clinical Vice President (Bloomsbury) raised the procedural motion to move to the vote.

Following a vote, the Chair declared that as there was a clear majority and the procedural motion to move to the vote was

CARRIED.

The Chair moved the meeting to a recorded vote on the emergency motion and the following votes were recorded:

For: 7

Against: 22

Abstentions: 2

The Chair declared that as there was not a majority, the *Emergency motion: call for referendum on motions proposed in the AGM on 27th February 2009* was

NOT CARRIED.

The meeting closed at 19:38.

Approved minutes signed by the Chair:

Chair: Leo Nicholas, General Secretary

Signed:

Date: _____

DRAFT