

**Draft Minutes of UCL Union Council**

**Tuesday 9 December 2008 at 6pm  
in the J Z Young Lecture Theatre  
Anatomy Building**

**Present**

See attached attendance list

**Observers**

Anika Mashru  
Pontus Lofquist  
Daniel Lane  
Matt Bunn  
Joe Kirby  
Vincent Fourcade

The Chair opened the meeting at 18:09.

**UC08/03/1 Apologies**

UC08/03/1.1 Apologies were noted as per the attached attendance list.

**UC08/03/2 Announcements**

UC08/03/2.1 Winter Ball: 9pm-3am, Thursday 11 December at Egg. Tickets £10 to include a Pimms Reception with festive Jazz and Blues. Tickets available online at [www.uclu.org](http://www.uclu.org) and Union outlets.

**NOTED**

UC08/03/2.2 NUS Extraordinary Conference: a further Extraordinary Conference had been called by the NUS, taking place on Tuesday 20 December in Wolverhampton. The Education Officer as leader of the NUS delegation, asked members that were interested in filling the vacant seats on the delegation to get in touch with him by Thursday 11 December.

**NOTED**

UC08/03/2.3 Union Council Attendance: The Chair drew members attention to attendance at meetings of Union Council and reported that Elections Committee may remove members from Union Council if they missed three meetings in succession.

**NOTED**

**UC08/03/3 Data Protection Act**

UC08/03/3.1 There was one further objection noted for their name and initials being published on the internet.

**UC08/03/4 Minutes of the last meeting**

UC08/03/4.1 The minutes of the meeting dated 18 November 2008 were projected.

Members reviewed the minutes and the meeting moved to a vote to approve the minutes.

Following the vote, the Chair declared that there was a clear majority and the minutes dated 18 November 2008 were

**APPROVED**

as a true and accurate record.

**UC08/03/5 Matters Arising**

**UC08/03/5.1 Charity Registration and Trustees**

The Medical & Postgraduate Students' Officer presented a tabled report on the results of the student consultation on the make up of a trustee board. Members discussed the report and the options available. Members noted that there was a current poll on the Union website to provide an indication of student preference on a mission statement for the Union.

*Ed Steward leaves (6:24pm)*

Members took an indicative vote on the different membership models for the trustee board:

Model 1 – 7 Students; 6 Sabbaticals; 4 UCL Staff (from specified departments); and 4 Alumni (with portfolios).

Model 2 – 6 Students; 6 Sabbaticals; 3 UCL Staff (from specified departments); and 3 Alumni (with portfolios)

Model 3 – 6 Students; 6 Sabbaticals; 2 UCL Staff (from specified departments); 2 Alumni (with portfolios); and 1 Professional (with a portfolio).

The following votes were noted:

Model 1 – 6 votes

Model 2 – 11 votes

Model 3 – 11 votes

As Models 2 and 3 received the same number of votes, a further indicative vote was taken and the following votes were noted:

Model 2 – 14 votes

Model 3 – 16 votes

Members

### **NOTED**

that the Medical & Postgraduate Students' Officer would submit a motion to Union Council based on the indicative preferred model.

Members held a discussion on the mechanisms to elect student trustees and whether places should be designated to different representative groups.

Members took an indicative vote on whether all student trustees should be elected by cross campus ballot or whether three should be reserved to be elected from and by Union Council.

The following votes were recorded:

All elected by cross campus ballot – 16 votes

Three to be elected by cross campus ballot and three to be elected by and from Union Council – 12 votes

Abstentions – 1 vote

Members held a discussion on the mechanisms to appoint other members of the trustee board, such as UCL staff, UCL alumni and professionals.

*Adam Sawyer leaves (6:36pm)*

The following points were noted from the discussion:

- These trustees should be appointed to serve for four years;
- The appointments should be staggered to allow for a balanced spread;
- UCL staff appointed would only be eligible to serve whilst they remained employed by UCL.

The Medical & Postgraduate Students' Officer advised that the finer details will need to be worked out before this is brought back to Union Council for consideration.

Members took an indicative vote on whether there should be a student specific quorum requirement.

The following votes were recorded:

For student specific requirement – 8

No student specific requirement – 20

Members noted as these votes were indicative and a motion to Union Council would follow, any member that was unhappy with the motion as submitted could propose amendments to the motion.

**UC08/03/6 Acceptance of the Agenda**

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

**ACCEPTED**

as circulated.

**UC08/03/7 Union Executive Minutes**

UC08/03/7.1 Members

**RECEIVED**

the minutes of the Union Executive dated 11 November 2008.

**UC08/03/8 Elections to Union Standing Committees**

UC08/03/8.1 **2 postgraduate representatives to Postgraduate Association Executive Committee**

As there were no nominations from the floor, the election of representatives to the Postgraduate Association Executive Committee was

**DEFERRED**

to the next meeting of Union Council.

**UC08/03/9 Election to College Committees**

UC08/03/9.1 **Part-time student representative to Joint Staff Student Committee (1 Rep)**

As there were no part-time students present, the election of a part-time student representative to the UCL Joint Staff Student Committee was

**DEFERRED**

to the next meeting of Union Council.

**UC08/03/10 Committee Reports**

**UC08/03/10.1 Activities Board Minutes of 16 October 2008**

Members

**RECEIVED**

the minutes of Activities Board dated 16 October 2008.

**UC08/03/10.2 Elections Committee Minutes of 24 October 2008**

Members

**RECEIVED**

the minutes of Elections Committee dated 24 October 2008.

**UC08/03/10.3 Finance Committee Minutes of 16 October 2008**

Members

**RECEIVED**

the minutes of Finance Committee dated 16 October 2008.

**UC08/03/10.4 Finance Committee Minutes of 21 October 2008**

Members

**RECEIVED**

the minutes of Finance Committee dated 21 October 2008.

**UC08/03/10.5 Governance Committee Minutes of 12 November 2008**

Members

**RECEIVED**

the minutes of Governance Committee dated 12 November 2008.

**UC08/03/10.6 Student Affairs Committee Minutes of 10 November 2008**

Members

**RECEIVED**

the minutes of Student Affairs Committee dated 10 November 2008.

**UC08/03/11 Motions to Union Council**

**UC08/03/11.1 Motion to the UCL Union Council: UCL Union should allow minor stakes in Poker Tournaments on UCL Union Premises.**

The Chair advised that Governance Committee had wished to seek legal advice on the legalities of gambling on campus. Governance Committee had recommended that the motion be deferred in the case that the legal advice was pending.

Members resolved that the motion be

**DEFERRED**

to the next meeting of Union Council pending legal advice.

**UC08/03/12 Special Resolutions to Union Council**

**UC08/03/12.1 Special Resolution regarding Liberation Officers – Second Reading**

As the proposer of the Special Resolution was no longer a member of the Union Council, the Finance & Democracy Officer provided a speech to propose the motion.

Members noted the amendment submitted.

As the proposer of the amendment was not in attendance, the Finance & Democracy Officer provided a speech to propose the amendment.

As proposer of the Special Resolution, the Finance & Democracy Officer accepted the amendment as submitted.

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

For: 24

Against: 0

Abstentions: 4

The Chair declared that as there was a clear two-thirds majority, the Special Resolution regarding Liberation Officers was

**CARRIED**

for a second reading at the next meeting of Union Council. The Chair advised Union Council that Governance Committee had ruled that if a Special Resolution was amended between readings, two readings of the same Special Resolution would still be required.

**Special Resolution to do a Jack Bayer by defending and extending the rights & representation of students**

*This Union Notes:*

1. *That the NUS currently operate 4 “liberation” officers, of which 3 are represented on UCL Union’s council.*
2. *That whilst there is no Anti-racism, Anti-fascism Officer (hereby referred to as ARAF) at NUS, there is a separate ARAF committee and conference.*
3. *That in recent elections the British National Party gained a seat on the Greater London Assembly this year.*
4. *That the NUS have changed their students with disabilities officer to disabled students’ officer.*
5. *That we currently have a campaigns and equal opportunities officer (CEO) who is an executive officer.*
6. *That the Union put on its first one world week this year with the aims to promote the diversity of our student body.*

*This Union Believes:*

1. *That the union should try to meet the needs of its black and minority ethnic students.*
2. *That Racism and Fascism are real threats affecting our students.*
3. *That the union should fight racism and fascism.*
4. *That fascists seek to remove diversity from this country and hence this university and union, principles on which we were founded.*
5. *That students can be disabled by society.*
6. *That the CEO should be an extra voice to that of the Education and Welfare Officers on the executive, highlighting the needs of student interest groups.*

*This Union resolves:*

1. *To amend that responsibilities of the CEO to include the line:  
“6. Will represent the needs of student interests groups by meeting the womens, disabled, BME, LGBT, mature and International Students Officers along with the Education and Welfare at least on a termly basis.*

**AND HENCE READ:**

**C. Responsibilities:**

1. *To co-ordinate all campaigns relating to the welfare of students at UCL;*
  2. *To ensure that UCL Union operates at all times in a manner consistent with its Statement of Equal Opportunities;*
  3. *To liaise with the relevant Executive Officers to ensure that the publicity for campaigns and other welfare issues is sufficient and is displayed at all sites;*
  4. *To represent the interests of students facing potential discrimination within the Union;*
  5. *To meet at least fortnightly with the Education and Welfare Officers*
  6. *Will represent the needs of student interests groups by meeting the womens, disabled, BME, LGBT, mature and International Students Officers along with the Education and Welfare officers at least on a termly basis*
2. *To amend the aims of the CEO to include the line:  
“They will represent the needs of student Interest groups on the executive committee along with the Education and Welfare Officers”*

**AND HENCE READ**

**A. The Aims of the officer are:**

1. To be responsible for representing the views of students on welfare issues, both individually and collectively. They will take the leading role in all welfare campaigns in the Union and ensure that UCL Union provides equal opportunity for all students. They will represent the needs of student Interest groups on the executive committee along with the Education and Welfare Officers

3. To amend the post of Students with Disabilities Officer to Disabled Students Officer and amend the line:

B. shall self define as having a disability

To:

B. shall self define being disabled

**AND HENCE READ**

**XXX. Disabled Students' Officer**

A. shall be a non-executive officer;

B. shall self define as being disabled;

C. shall attend Student Affairs Committee and be responsible for bringing any matters or campaigns relating to Disbaled Students to the attention of this committee;

D. shall represent interests of disabled students within the Union;

E. Shall attend the College Committee for People with Disabilities.

F. shall attend Union Council and Social Colours Committee.

G. shall be ex-officio delegate on behalf of UCL Union to NUS Disabled Students' Conference.

H. shall liaise on behalf of UCL Union with the NUS Disabilities campaign.

4. To amend all references to students with disabilities in the standing orders to disabled students.

5. To amend the numbering of officers in the Standing Orders and union committee membership accordingly

6. To change the Anti-racism officer to Black and Minority Ethnic Students' Officer with the following portfolio:

**Section 6 – Job Descriptions**

**XXII. Black and Minority Ethnic Students' Officer**

A. shall be a non-executive officer;

B. shall self-define as black and/or minority ethnic (BME) student;

C. shall attend Student Affairs Committee and be responsible for bringing any matters or campaigns relating BME students to the attention of this committee.

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

E. shall attend Union Council and Social Colours Committee.

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

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

7. To add the following line to Non-Executive Officers:

“B. Student Interest groups will be: BME Students, Disabled Students, International Students, LGBT students and Mature Students.”

*Proposer:*

*Kate Rowley*                      *Archaeology, afil.*    40668255

*Seconders:*

*Edward Steward*                *History, afil.*            40135268

*Jennifer Currigan*               *Medicine, afil.*         20266356

*Charlie Clinton*                 *Laws, afil.*                50082506

*Billy Street*                      *SSEES, afil.*             52200900

*Daniel Sommer*                 *Medicine, 3*               60045661

*Alex Nesbitt*                      *Medicine, 2*               700808

*Avni Hindocha*                  *Medicine, 2*               702737

*James Streetley*                 *Life Sciences, 3*         60407854

*Nathanael Macdonald*         *Life Sciences, afil.*     51885911

*Jonathan Cornell*                *Medicine, 3*               50147562

**UC08/03/13 Term 2 & Term 3 Committee Schedule**

Members

**APPROVED**

the revised Committee Schedule for terms 2 and 3.

**UC08/03/14 Officer Reports**

**UC08/03/14.1 Education Officer**

Members

**DEFERRED**

the report from the Education Officer as he had already left the meeting.

**UC08/03/14.2 Communication & Services Officer**

Members

**RECEIVED**

the Communication & Services Officer's report as provided on the Union Notice Board.

**UC08/03/14.3 Finance & Democracy Officer**

Members

**RECEIVED**

an oral report from the Finance & Democracy Officer, which included developing the incentive scheme for Union Council members and attending meetings.

**UC08/03/14.4 Medical & Postgraduate Students' Officer**

Members

**RECEIVED**

the Medical & Postgraduate Students' Officer's report as provided on the Union Notice Board.

*Amanda Smith leaves (6:50pm)*

**UC08/03/14.5 Student Activities Officer**

Members

**RECEIVED**

the Student Activities Officer's report as provided on the Union Notice Board.

**UC08/03/14.6 Welfare Officer**

Members

**DEFERRED**

the report from the Welfare Officer as she was absent from the meeting.

**UC08/03/14.7 General Secretary**

Members

**RECEIVED**

an oral report from the General Secretary, which included Governance Committee's decision to strike the Union Policy on Standing Orders Improvements from the Union Policy File as it was thought to be unconstitutional.

**UC08/03/14.8 Academic Affairs Officer**

Members

**DEFERRED**

the report from the Academic Affairs Officer as he was absent from the meeting.

**UC08/03/14.9 Clubs & Societies Officer**

Members

**RECEIVED**

an oral report from the Clubs & Societies Officer, which included preparations for the One World Week and Colours.

**UC08/03/14.10 Campaigns & Equal Opportunities Officer**

Members

**DEFERRED**

the report from the Campaigns & Equal Opportunities Officer as he was absent from the meeting.

**UC08/03/14.11 Environment & Ethics Officer**

Members

**DEFERRED**

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

**UC08/03/14.12 Promotions & Entertainments Officer**

Members

**RECEIVED**

an oral report from the Promotions & Entertainments Officer, which included preparations for the Winter Ball and promotions for VodPop.

**UC08/03/14.13 Postgraduate Association President**

Members

**DEFERRED**

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

**UC08/03/14.14 Pre-Clinical President**

Members

**DEFERRED**

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

**UC08/03/14.15 Clinical President**

Members

**RECEIVED**

the Clinical President's report as provided on the Union Notice Board.

**UC08/03/14.16 SSEES Site President**

Members

**RECEIVED**

an oral report from the SSEES Site President, which included attending SSEES Committees, addressing concerns over coursework submission procedures with the Director of SSEES, introducing coffee making facilities in the SSEES Common Room, setting up a SSEES Film Group and organising the SSEES Christmas Party last week.

**UC08/03/14.17 Any other reports from Union Council Members**

No other reports were provided.

**UC08/03/15 Questions to Officers**

There were none.

**UC08/03/16 Any other business**

**UC08/03/16.1 Emergency motion to UCL Union Council: NUS Women's Conference**

The Women's Officer provided a speech proposing the emergency motion.

There no amendments.

There was no speech against.

*Amanda Smith returns (7:00pm)*

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

For: 18

Against: 2

Abstentions: 7

The Chair declared that the emergency motion re NUS Women's Conference was

**CARRIED.**

*Motion to UCL Union Council: NUS Women's Conference*

*This Union notes:*

- 1. That the deadline for motions to NUS Women's Conference 2009 is in December 2008;*
- 2. That motions to NUS Women's Conference must be sent by Constituent Members of the NUS and therefore must be agreed by the CM's governing body;*
- 3. That Council will not meet again before this deadline;*
- 4. That Union Executive agreed to submit the motion "Miss University London Competition" to NUS National Conference 2009.*

*This Union believes:*

- 1. That women are objectified on a daily basis, both on and off campus;*
- 2. That UCL Union have taken a stand against misogyny this year;*
- 3. That, despite protests, Miss University London is going ahead.*

*This Union resolves:*

- 1. To take a stand in the national women's movement by submitting the following motion (appendix 1) to NUS Women's Conference 2009;*
- 2. To also submit the motion "Miss University London Competition" (appendix 2), passed at Council on Tuesday 18th November 2008, amended to be nationally relevant.*

*Proposer:*

*Mary Williamson                      60069131                      Mathematics, 3*

*Seconders:*

<i>Kate Rowley</i>	<i>40668255</i>	<i>Archaeology, Affiliate</i>
<i>Ed Steward</i>	<i>40185263</i>	<i>History, Affiliate</i>
<i>Billy Street</i>	<i>52200900</i>	<i>SSEES, Affiliate</i>
<i>Charlie Clinton</i>	<i>50082506</i>	<i>Laws, Affiliate</i>
<i>Kathryn Jackson</i>	<i>50024735</i>	<i>Mathematics, 3</i>
<i>Lyon Saha</i>	<i>60303257</i>	<i>Mathematics, 3</i>
<i>Rhiannon Byers</i>	<i>60462141</i>	<i>Mathematics, 3</i>
<i>Sophie Constantino</i>	<i>703011</i>	<i>Neuroscience, 2</i>
<i>Yumna Ahmed</i>	<i>704652</i>	<i>Biomedicine, 2</i>

Giovanna Amorosi

60225133

MAPS, 3

### **Appendix 1**

#### *Motion to NUS Women's Conference: Women, Not Sex Objects*

##### *Conference believes:*

- 1. We are bombarded with sexist images that represent women as sexual objects rather than as real people*
- 2. This objectification process dehumanises women*
- 3. The first step of any oppression is the dehumanisation of the group which is oppressed*
- 4. The more it becomes acceptable to portray and to view women as a sum of body parts, the easier it becomes to mistreat, to disrespect and to act out violence towards women as a group*
- 5. We live in a society in which sexual and physical violence against women is endemic*
- 6. Organisations which work on the issue of VAW link the objectification of women and the mainstreaming of the sex industries with attitudes that underpin violence against women.*

##### *Conference further believes:*

- 1. That the licensing of lap dancing clubs in the same category as cafes has acted like a green light to the industry*
- 2. That this has encouraged the mainstreaming of the sex industry, with pole dancing kits including pink garters and toy money being sold by leading retailers*
- 3. That lap dancing clubs are part of the sex industry, not the leisure industry*
- 4. That lap dancing clubs promote the idea of women as sexual objects, not real people.*
- 5. That lap dancing clubs are linked to sexual exploitation; women have to pay to work and are fined for being late or not wearing club merchandise; the only way to earn a wage is through private dances; the high ratio of dancers to customers makes competition rife; this leads to pressure to offer extra sexual services to attract clients.*
- 6. That research shows that lap dancing clubs create 'no-go' areas for women who feel unsafe walking past clubs at night*
- 7. That lap dancing clubs are linked to sexism in the workplace with a survey in The Economist giving the corporate use of strip clubs as the primary reason for so few high level women in business*
- 8. That the growing sexualisation of girls is an issue of concern*
- 9. That the glamorisation of lap dancing clubs is linked to 63% of girls surveyed saying they would rather be glamour models than doctors or teachers*
- 10. That this reinforces male domination of positions of power and influence in society*
- 11. That challenging sex-object culture doesn't mean that you are anti-sex, it means you are anti-sexism*

##### *Conference resolves:*

1. *To support the Stripping the Illusion Campaign to lobby for a change in the licensing of lap dancing clubs so that they are recognised as part of the sex industry*
2. *To help strip the illusion that lap dancing clubs are harmless fun*
3. *To support Object in challenging the objectification of women in the media and popular culture through things like lads mags, the mainstreaming of lap dancing clubs, music videos and Page 3.*
4. *To raise awareness about the fact that opposing the sexist portrayal of women is not censorship, it is taking a political stance against sexism.*

## **Appendix 2**

### *“Miss University” Beauty Pageants*

#### *Conference believes:*

1. *That women have been admitted to university to study on equal terms with men since 1878;*
2. *That “Miss University” contests have been taking place throughout London and will culminate in the “Miss University London” final in early 2009;*
3. *That similar contests are run throughout the UK including ‘Miss Student Body’ in Edinburgh;*
4. *That the website for Miss University claims that they send “scouts and representatives” to Campus.*

#### *Conference further believes:*

1. *That the Miss University contests contravene the NUS Equal Opportunities Statement;*
2. *That the contests undermine the academic achievements of female students and the universities that they represent;*
3. *That no university name should be associated with misogynistic events;*
4. *Whilst we respect the rights of individuals to enter, student unions should not support or endorse the pageant.*

#### *Conference resolves:*

1. *Not to allow beauty pageants to take place on campus, and to fight the use of any Constituent Member’s name by the organisers of these events;*
2. *To not allow beauty pageant representatives on campus;*
3. *To mandate the Women’s Committee to support national campaigns against these pageants.*

UC08/03/16.2 The Finance & Democracy Officer thanked members for their attendance this term and advised that UCL could not ignore decisions taken by this Union Council as all decisions were conducted in a legitimising way.

*The meeting closed at 19:23.*

Approved minutes signed by the Chair:

Chair: Leo Nicholas, General Secretary

Signed:

\_\_\_\_\_

Date:

\_\_\_\_\_

DRAFT