

# Student Council Meeting Minutes

**Minutes of the seventh meeting of the Student Council held on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2012 at 6pm in Cadman Conference Room, Stoke.**

**Present:** Lawrence Parkes (**LP**- Student Councillor), Charley Hill (**CH**- Student Councillor), Rebekah Kelly (**RK**- Student Councillor), Sam Richardson (**SR**- Student Councillor), Lewis Lay (**LL**- Student Councillor), Jenisha Patel (**JP**- Student Councillor), Christopher Kirk (**CK**- Student Councillor), Holly Hatton Baldwin (**HB**- Student Councillor), Daniel Smith (**DS**- Student Councillor), Nikita Sinha (**NS**- Student Councillor), Laurence Hardy (**LH**- Student Councillor), Caroline Butterwick (**CB**- Disabled Students Forum Chair), Jessica Holdway (**JH**- Student Councillor).

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**In Attendance:** Katy Mitchell (**KM**- Student Trustee & Chair), Katie Wynne (**KW**- Student Engagement Assistant & Secretary), Margaret Mulholland (**MM**- Membership Services Manager), Ithsham Pevrez (**IP**- Student Engagement Assistant), Kim Hargreaves (**KH**- Education & Welfare Officer), Vic Casambros (**VC**- Communications Officer), Jamie Robertson (**JR**- President), Emma Harris (**EH**- Commercial Services Officer), Liat Norris (**LN**- Student Trustee), Anthony Kiely (Non-student), Rochelle Owusu-Antwi (**RO**- Vice President Elect), Gary McNally (**GM**- Student), James Thursfield (**JT**- Student), Richard Bayes (**RB**- Vice President Elect), Beth Moorley (**BM**- Vice President Elect), Tom Meadowcroft (**TM**- Student Councillor Elect).

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**Apologies for Absence:** Kimberley Kirkham (**KK** – Student Councillor), Gary Richardson (**GR**- Student Activities Officer), Matthew Lowe (**ML**- Student Councillor), Rory Wilde (**RW**- Student Councillor), Louise Crane (**LC**- Student Councillor), Lucy Jennings (**LJ** – LGBT Chair).

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**Not Present:** None

**Apologies received with 48 hours of the meeting:** Kyle Tranter (**KT**- Student Councillor)

**All apologies recorded above were accepted.**

No.	Item, Discussion and Action	By Whom and By When
1	<p><b><u>Standing Items</u></b></p> <p><b>Notification of Late Arrival</b> – None</p> <p><b>Notification of Early Departure</b> – <b>CH, RO</b></p> <p><b>Action Points of the Previous Meeting</b> – All action points had been completed or were ongoing items.</p> <p><b>Action: To work with GR on rooms for Student Council meetings.</b></p> <p><b>Action: Policy due to lapse would now become a standing item on the agenda.</b></p>	<p><b>SR</b></p> <p><b>KW</b></p>

**Minutes of the Previous Meeting** – The 14<sup>th</sup> May 2012 Student Council minutes were confirmed as an accurate record.

**Attendance** – Those with 100% attendance for the year were recognised.

**Conflicts of Interest** – **JR** highlighted that the Garden Leave item would be a conflict for the full-time officers, but that no decision was being made.

**Notification of Any Other Business** – **KH** wished to discuss bursaries, **VC** to discuss fundraising and **JH** to discuss social networking. It was proposed that item 2.4 was moved to 2.10 so it followed the NUS Conference Reports. This was voted on:

In favour: 8  
Against: 2  
Abstained: 2

The item moved.

**Disabled Students' Forum** – **CB** highlighted that there would be a Disability Awareness Week starting 8<sup>th</sup> October and the next forum would be on 6<sup>th</sup> June.

**LGBT Forum** – There would be a day in support of equal marriage on 17<sup>th</sup> October.

**Women's Forum** – **EH** highlighted that there were free women's self defence classes going on.

**Reports** – **KH** highlighted that she had not submitted a report as she had been away from work, but would send a report prior to 18<sup>th</sup> May.

**KH**

**JR** highlighted that an appointed trustee had joined the Board of Trustees after being approved by Student Council. This had changed the dynamic of the meetings and that minutes of these meetings were being looked at in terms of confidentiality and would soon be made available online. **JR** also highlighted that when Student Council approve approaching an individual to become a trustee, that this also seen as approval to appoint and admitted this may not have been made clear at the time.

## **2** Items of business

**2.1. Policy Due To Lapse** – To **decide** whether eight recently lapsed policies will be allowed to lapse. (Vic Casambros)

**VC** introduced the policies and recommended to Council that they all be allowed to lapse due to them containing references to specific dates and times which are now irrelevant.

Council discussed keep the policies regarding printing costs and trade unions.

**Council voted unanimously to keep the trade unions motion, but to delete an incomplete sentence in the original motion.**

KW to amend.

**Action: JH and LL agreed to rewrite the printing costs motion and bring to Council next year. They felt this was still relevant to students.**

JH/LL

**2.2. Union Strategy 2017** – To note and ratify progress/feedback/next steps for the Union Strategy 2012-17. (Jamie Robertson)

JR informed Student Council that the officers had been receiving feedback on the Union Strategy via the website, emails and talking to students. This feedback has led to 5 key promises/values, underpinned by 'how' these are going to be achieved, which was included in a document to Council.

JR informed Council that all of the feedback had been positive and that the recommendation from the Trustee Board was to carry on implementing the strategy and talking to students about it with a view for it to be approved at an AGM in the new year.

**Council voted on whether the officers could work on the strategy over summer, with it being taken to an AGM for approval:**

**In favour: 11**

**Abstained: 2**

**2.3 Constitution Working Group** – This group will identify any changes that need making to the Byelaws after the transition year; for approval at the first Student Council meeting in 2012/13. Are there students who would like to be involved?

NS, CK, CB, LP, SR, LL, RK, HB, LN and LH all registered an interest and would be contacted about arranging a meeting in the near future.

**2.4 Green Policy Proposal** – A proposal regarding green issues at the SU. (Lewis Lay)

**The policy was unanimously passed by Student Council.**

**2.5 Mental Welfare Policy Proposal** – A proposal regarding mental welfare issues at the SU. (Lewis Lay)

LL highlighted that 14% of the student body had suffered from mental health and felt students and staff should be more aware of these issues.

**Council unanimously passed the policy with one amendment;** adding the word relevant into 2<sup>nd</sup> to last line: ‘To work to develop a good relationship between the Union and **relevant** charitable organisations.’

**KH, JR, CB and LL to work on this.**

**2.6 Garden Leave** – To note a HR decision regarding officers pay. (Jamie Robertson)

**JR** highlighted the decision to move officers’ handover earlier on in the term, which meant that incoming officers would be starting earlier this year and the outgoing officers would finish up their contracts on garden leave to allow the new team to get started.

**2.7 Student Council Dates 2012/13** – To ask Student Council for feedback regarding dates.

Following a discussion, one change was made, with the plans to elect a Chair of Student Council on 8<sup>th</sup> October, rather than 5<sup>th</sup> November.

**2.8 National Conference** – To receive reports regarding NUS National Conference.

Student Council had read the attached reports, with **LH’s** being published by OMG.

**2.9 To Condemn Liam Burns** – To decide whether to condemn Liam Burns. (Liat Norris)

**LN** felt that Liam Burns had inappropriately taken up time as the NUS Conference by playing an advert, rather than focusing on discussing motions. **KH** informed Council that she had spoken to Liam who had apologised for doing so and informed her that he had been mandated to do it.

The Chair took an Indicative vote:

In favour: 1

Against: 6

Abstained: 6

Council discussed taking ‘parts’ of this policy to pass:

For Parts: 11

Against Parts: 1

Abstained: 1

The parts Council wanted to pass were number 4 from ‘what’, number 2 from ‘for officers to do’ and numbers 1 and 2 from ‘why’.

Vote on parts to be accepted as policy:

For: 12

	<p>Against: 0 Abstained: 1</p> <p>Vote on whole document:</p> <p>For: 3 Against: 8 Abstained: 2</p> <p>The parts of the document were passed.</p> <p><b>Action: To write up the new version of the policy, write to NUS by the end of May and distribute to Student Council.</b></p> <p><b>2.10 Diversity Survey</b> – Please can all Student Council members fill in the following survey? <a href="http://Www.Surveymonkey.Com/S/ZCLPWDS">http://Www.Surveymonkey.Com/S/ZCLPWDS</a></p> <p>Student Councillors were asked to fill in the survey.</p> <p><b>2.11 End of Year Event</b> – Student Council are invited to the Students' Union end of year event on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July. (Jamie Robertson)</p> <p><b>JR</b> invited all of Student Council to attend the event.</p>	VC
4	<p><b><u>Any Other Business</u></b></p> <p><b>KH</b> highlighted that she had been to a meeting which discussed bursaries and fee waivers and would forward all members an email to ask for their guidance.</p> <p>She also let Student Council know that over 70 nominations had been received for the Student Led Teaching Awards and asked for the SLTA committee to stay behind at the end of the meeting to arrange a meeting.</p> <p><b>JH</b> wanted to warn students about what they put up on social networks following lecturers having being mentioned by name on Twitter and now being investigated by the University. She urged Student Council members to encourage students to use proper methods for this.</p>	
5	<p><b><u>Date, Time and Place of Next Meeting</u></b></p> <p>This was the last meeting of the 2011/12 academic year.</p>	