

CITY UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION

**MINUTES OF UNION COUNCIL MEETING HELD TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER
2005 AT 5PM IN ROOM CM 353**

Part One – Preliminary Items

1. Members present and apologies

See attached list.

2. Introductions

All Union council members were invited to introduce themselves.

3. The Constitution

Members were advised to visit www.cusuonline.org to familiarise themselves with the Students' Union Constitution.

Part Two – Terms of Reference

4. Union Council

Members given Paper A – Section 2.1 of the Students' Union constitution "Union Council".

The role of Union Council was explained to the members. The quorum (minimum number of members required at a meeting for it to be deemed valid) for Union Council is eight.

5. Executive Committee

Members given Paper B – Section 2.5 of the Students' Union constitution "Executive Committee".

The role of Executive Committee was explained to the members.

Part Three – Election

6. Electing a Chair

TA and IS ran for chair. After brief speeches by both parties, AL presided over a vote. TA – 9, IS – 5, Abstain – 3. TA elected as chair of Union Council.

7. Electing Council Representatives

Four council members are allowed to sit on the Executive Committee. AIY, MB, TZ, JE-O and NC ran for Executive Committee. AIY, MB, J E-O and NC elected to Executive Committee.

Part Four – Sabbatical Update

8. The Wonderbar

Over the summer the Wonderbar was closed and turned in to a study area, as students wanted a place to go where there would be no alcohol, no smoking just a place to go to study, chat with friends. The study area is not open yet, but the University will inform us when it will be ready to use and the opening hours. [TA]

Could they have not chosen a different area - the Library to complain about the level of noise? [NC]

The main reasons that the Wonderbar was taken and turned into a study area was because the university had such a high volume of complaints from residents in the area about the noise levels once students had left the bar. Also the bar was not being used enough over the year the University felt that instead of being used just 15-20 times a year, it would be better used every day as a study area instead of stay vacant for most of the year. [TA]

Can the study area be used for events like Quids In? [CM]

The study area will not be used as a club venue anymore. Clubs and Societies can hold meetings etc in there provided they speak to the Union and book the space in advance. We have been told that the area will not be used for examinations. [TA]

9. Health and Safety

The Students' Union has not had a Health and Safety policy. TA, AL and IS are currently working through a Health and Safety audit and the Students' Union Health and Safety policy was ratified at the first CUSU Health and Safety Advisory Panel Meeting held at the end of October. [TA]

10. www.cusuonline.org and *Massive Magazine*

The next issue of *Massive Magazine* is due out on 28 November. [AL]

The re-launch of the Students' Union website – www.cusuonline.org - had to be delayed due to the fibre optic cable being severed during the renovation of The Wonderbar. AL hopes to have a redesign underway over Christmas for a re-launch in the New Year. [AL]

11. Course Representatives System

Each course has its own representative. A full list of Course Representatives will be with IS next week. A meeting will be held with all Course Representatives as soon as possible. IS will report back to Union Council for comments when the meeting has taken place. [IS]

12. Campaigns

All proposals for campaigns need to be put into writing to be considered by the Executive Committee. [IS]

The Islamic Society has raised £10,000 for the victims of the Asian Earthquake. [IS]

13. The Debating Society

After an incident at this year's Freshers' Fayre, the Debating Society has been temporarily suspended. Existing members have been offered the chance to re-submit a proposal for the Debating Society. Members were told that anyone wishing to pin-up any information on University or Students' Union notice board's needs to have the materials approved and stamped by a Sabbatical officer. [TA]

Part Five – Strategic Planning

14. Students' Union Review

The Students' Union has employed Ariane Doherty-Bigara on the University's recommendation to implement a long-term strategy for the growth of the Students' Union. Ariane will be invited to a Union Council meeting in the future to get input from its members into where the Council sees the Union heading inline with a strategic plan that is being formulated by Ariane and the Sabbatical Officer (see item 15). [TA]

15. Strategic Plan

Members give Paper C – CUSU Strategic Plan.

Council members asked to read through the Strategic Plan and consider ideas for the next Union Council meeting.

Part Six – For Information

16. Any Other Business

NUS are holding a Black History Conference on 19 and 20 November. There are four places available for Union Council members. Anyone wishing to go should contact IS. [IS]

A new student centre is being created on campus where students' will be able to carry out all their administration requirements in one visit (student loans, payment of fees, etc). The University would like nine Union Council Members to attend a feedback session. Book tokens will be given to those who attend. Contact TA for further information. [TA]

17. Future Meetings

Please contact TA to inform him which times and days of the week you are available to meet in the future.

Meeting closed

Members present:

Tom Abbott – President – TA

Anthony Leaver – Vice President Communications and Publications – AL

Imran Sheikh – Vice President Education and Welfare – IS

Shereen Sally – Women's Officer – SS

Ron Bhagan – Postgraduate Officer – RB

Yaser Khan – Racial Equality Officer – YK

Louis Appiah – Part-Time/Mature Students Officer – LA

Saloni Shah – International Students Officer – SS1

Thalib Safar – General Executive Officer – TS

Aneeka Patel – General Executive Officer – AP

Michael Brooks – Council Member and Executive Committee Member – MB

Natasha Chinnapen – Council Member and Executive Committee Member – NC

Jenifer Ehi-Osifo – Council Member and Executive Committee Member – JE-O

Alper Ismail Yagmur – Council Member and Executive Committee Member – AIY

Tauseef Zahid – Council Member – TZ

Amina Ahmed – Council Member – AA

Hema Bhatt – Council Member – HB

Anne Olie – Council Member – AO

Stacey-Ann Sinclair – Council Member – S-AS

Apologies for absence received from:

Amna Ali, Simon Emin, Mattie Kayukwa, Chitra Panjabi.

Minutes taken by Lucy Penn