**Agenda**

**Union Council 8**

**The North Side, University House**

**2pm, Wednesday 2nd May 2018**

**Panel induction to take place from 1:30pm**

**Items with an asterix (\*) are for noting and will not usually be discussed unless Council requests in advance.**

**Motion 3.1 requires a 2/3’s majority of Council.**

**Motions 5 and 6 passed the threshold of 150 online votes and as more than 2/3 of the votes were ‘likes’ these are currently Union Policy. Council may propose a motion to veto these policies which would require a 2/3 majority.**

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| **No** | **Item** |
|  | **Welcome and apologies** |
|  | **Minutes of the last meeting** |
|  | **Trustee Board update**   1. **Approval of student trustees 18/19** |
|  | **Motion: Health and Social Care Sabbatical Officer name change** |
|  | **Motion: We support our striking lecturers, but we DEMAND our compensation** |
|  | **Motion: Make the new online voting system for new committees optional** |
|  | **Any Other Business** |
| 1. **\*** | **Volunteer Officer reports** |
| 1. **\*** | **Next meeting: Semester 1 2018/19 academic year** |

**2) Minutes: Union Council 7**

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| **Meeting attended by:** | Jon-Connor Lyons, Emily Voss-Bevan, Quaddri Azzan, Kobby Ofori, Arthur Moulton, Queen Gahwekazi, Student Panel (x20) | |
| **Apologies:** | Zamzam Ibrahim, Famous Dekeri | |
| **Absences:** | Nathan Hall, Izadora Kervin, , Caster Martin, Solomon Edojah, Mohammed Miah, Raniya Mohammed, Cristy Outhwaite, Francesca Barnes, Rebekah Wood, Benjamin Stacey, | |
| **In attendance:** | Lauren Beckett, Jessica Goldstone, Harriet Ruddick | |
| **Date and time:** | 28/02/2018 | |
| **Secretary:** | Luke Newton | |
| **Agenda Topic :** | **Notes:** | **Actions:** |
| Welcome and apologies | The meeting facilitator introduced members and outlined the agenda.  The scrutiny committee report was unstarred and moved to the beginning of the agenda |  |
| Scrutiny Committee reports | The reports and scoring of the Committee were noted.  Kobby Ofori raised that whilst there was no issue with the persons presently seated on the committee the process for selecting members should be reviewed to ensure that there are no conflicts of interest and so that elected officers can have confidence in it |  |
| Trustee Board update | No update from the Trustee Board was presented.  Council however wished to question what actions the trustee board were taking to ensure appropriate support to students during the ongoing strike action.  Jon-Connor Lyons outlined actions taken so far by the sabbatical officer team. | An update on strike action and support for students offered would be presented in the next meeting |
| Motion: Ask Angela Scheme | Harriet Ruddick introduced the motion.  There were questions on how it would be implemented with Atmosphere Kitchen and Bar and the scope of the scheme. | Motion passed |
| Motion: Make it compulsory for course reps to be elected by peers | Harriet Ruddick introduced the motion.  There were questions on how this would work for different schools, who could choose to opt out of the system and what the benefits of an election were.  Extensive discussion took place.  The meeting facilitator summarised debate and moved the motion to a vote. | Motion not passed |
| Motion: Engaging the disengaged | Jon-Connor lyons and Emily Voss-Bevan outlined the motion.  An amendment was moved to add this to the sabbatical officer contracts in 2018/19.  It was clarified that Union Council had no power over staffing contracts and that this would be a suggestion from the Council to the Trustee Board.  Amendment approved.  Main motion was discussed, questions were asked around the purpose and logistics of the scheme.  The meeting facilitator summarised discussion | Motion as amended passed unanimously |

1. **Appointment of New Student Trustees 2018**

**Introduction**

The Union Trustee Board is made up of:

-Five sabbatical officers

-Four external trustees

-Four student trustees

The constitution sets out that student trustees are in post for one year, unless re-appointed for a further year.

For the current year, 3 of the four student trustees wish to continue their work with the Board and will be continuing students. So the following persons request re-appointment and these appointments are backed by the current Board of Trustees and the appointments committee.

Harriet Ruddick

I'm Harriet Ruddick. I study Bsc. Human Resources Management, I am currently a Level 4 student.  I really care about improving the quality of the student experience and want to do everything in my power to improve student life as much as I can and to work to make sure that the Union is working through its strategy to do this and deliver on it. I am especially really passionate about the University of Salford as this university has done a lot for me in terms of my personal development this year.

In the 8 months that I have been a student here I have progressed from a Student Rep for Business and Management to being the Level 4 Business School Representative and Library Champion, as well as being the Wellbeing Officer for two societies; Women of the World and the Business Society and the Representative for Disabled Students on the Liberation Executive Committee. As you can see, I genuinely care about making a difference here.

Lucy Brown

Confident, conscientious, enthusiastic, trustworthy and approachable first year student, studying Accounting and Finance with professional experience. Eagerly taking the position of Student Representative opened my eyes to the change I could make on my journey at Salford University. I loved the process of building rapport with many people around University, helping make a difference in their time here. Additionally, working collaboratively with 36 countries to create a better world through the experience of social impact that sparks social enterprise. I am very proud to be part of the society Enactus. The Student trustee role allows me to further my passion to want to help a wider scope, a greater experience for myself and a chance to further my skills in team working, creative problem solving, critical thinking and decision making. Also, acquiring many new skills through this role.

Temi Adebayao

I am confident, hardworking, enthusiastic, reliable and positive individual who is undertaking a degree in Accounting and Finance with Professional Experience. As a lateral thinker who enjoys problem solving, I enjoy the thrill of tackling difficult mathematical equations and puzzles, which has helped me to develop my problem solving skills and perseverance when dealing with challenges. I am a friendly approachable person, and I believe I have the ability to learn new skills and as well as transfer skills gained from my time as Student Representative for Level 4 Accounting and Finance students.

In having 3 continuing members for the Board, the recruitment process is being undertaken to recruit the remaining one vacant student trustee post.

**The Process**

In April 2018, the recruitment for new student trustees was started. A student trustee application pack was revised for 2018 based on feedback from current student trustees on simplifying the process to try to attract more people, whilst still ensuring the gravity of the role is conveyed.

The advert for the role was kept as clear and free of ‘jargon’ as possible in order that students were able to understand not only what they can offer to the Union, but also what the Union is able to offer them as individuals.

The process was also simplified from being a full application form, to asking some key questions in order to try to draw out the experiences of individuals, with the full information pack containing the further information and links to other useful resources such as the Charity Commission guide to being a trustee.

The pack outlined:

* Background to the Union, governance, finance and resources
* The strategic plan
* The staffing structure

There is a range of promotional activities planned to advertise the vacant role:

* via the Union’s social media accounts
* in the University job-shop and mailing lists
* on the Unions website
* Targeted messages to specific students e.g. student reps and activity groups
* via sabbatical officer networks.
* Through current student trustees.

An appointment panel has been convened consisting of an officer trustee, an external trustee and a student trustee. The process is being overseen by a member of the Union’s staff team to ensure that the recruitment process was followed and best practice and the interview date is scheduled for the 29th of May to coincide with the process to recruit the vacant external trustee position. A set of questions has been devised, the same for each candidate, to gather a perspective on what they understood about the board and their role, what skills they could bring to the role as how they would deal with specific issues as a Board member.

As the position of student trustee is not a representative role the panel were looking to appoint students with a wide range of experiences and with the right motivation to be able to usefully contribute to the role.

Council agrees to appoint the following student trustees for the 2018:

1. Harriet Ruddick
2. Temi Adebayo
3. Lucy Brown
4. The recommendation of the appointments panel using the process outlined above

1. Sabbatical Officer Name Change

Submitted by Emily Voss-Bevan

The current sabbatical officer title that is responsible for Health and Society & Health Sciences is Health and Social Care Officer. I am bringing a name change for this role to council because I believe the title is no longer relevant to the two schools it is meant to be representing.

Background: Health and Social Care was a faculty within the university. This faculty was split into the two schools which we see today. The sabbatical officer title has yet to catch up and is currently representative of a faculty that no longer exists.

With such a large range of courses, (ranging from Occupational Therapy, Mental Health Nursing, Sports Rehab, Radiography, Midwifery, Psychology & Counselling and Sociology, just to name a few) within the two schools, it is difficult to have a title that is completely representative of all these students. The title would be more of a list of a million different subjects than a title.

Even with the difficulty of choosing a name for the role, the current sabbatical officer title is not representative of its students. It also causes confusion for students within the two schools of who they should go to. This is especially the case for Health Science students and Social Science students. There is also the issue that Social Care only applies to a small cohort of students, which makes it unfair on those other students, whose programmes are not included in the Health and Social Care title.

Therefor I propose a title with more clarity. The sabbatical officer title should be decided by the people who will be represented, the students. So I decided to send an email to the deans and reps of the two schools to get a sense of what they would like to see. With a couple of names at hand I set up a voting station at Allerton as a part of the mobile union. Students simply put a counter in the box to vote for which name they preferred. 77% of the voters voted for the new name, showing that this is something that students are invested in.

The sabbatical officer name change will be a working name change. What this means is the title will change visually, for example on hoodies, emails, letters, etc. However the by-laws will stay the same until they are re-evaluated, changed or created.

I propose that the name change of Health and Social Care Sabbatical Officer, should be changed to: **Health Sciences and Society Sabbatical Officer**.

1. **Motion: We support our striking lecturers, but we DEMAND our compensation**

**Submitted by: Jon-Connor Lyons, Clare Bennett and Jamie Mark Fletcher**

Likes: 316 Dislikes: 1

*[As this motion gained over 150 online votes and more than 2/3’s of these are ‘likes’ this is current Union Policy. Council may propose a motion to veto this policy which would require a 2/3’s majority]*

We, the students of the University of Salford request that the students’ union lobby the university so that we be compensated for the loss of teaching time, feedback and assessment opportunities and general academic support as a result of industrial action.

The strike is the most extensive in UK history and, whilst we personally support the lecturers reasons for taking industrial action we as students should not be allowed to lose out because of this.

Forcing students to pay £9,250 for education per year and not delivering that promised education is a breach of what we as students paid for. We are uniting to demand a reimbursement for our fees, which are already far too extortionate and the interest far too high!

This is a debt we will carry for years to come and part of the service was not met, so as a student body we should demand the University give some kind of monetary compensation.

Vice-Chancellor, Prof Helen Marshall, had the chance to publically declare her support for the strikes and put pressure on UUK to come back to the negotiating table with UCU. She did not take this opportunity, thus resulting in letting down thousands of students and staff who are both losing out.

It is time to do the same as the staff, and link together as a Union and demand that some of the Millions of pounds the University makes from tuition fees be reimbursed to the Students for lack of delivery of what we paid.

We demand the following:

Monetary reimbursement for all Salford students affected by the strikes.

For the Vice-Chancellor to put pressure on UUK to negotiate with UCU and publically support the lecturers, to bring the strikes to an end as soon as possible.

1. **Motion: Make the new online voting system for new committees optional**

**Submitted by: Clare Bennett**

Likes: 160 Dislikes: 1

*[As this motion gained over 150 online votes and more than 2/3’s of these are ‘likes’ this is current Union Policy. Council may propose a motion to veto this policy which would require a 2/3’s majority]*

It's unfair that without consultation we are being forced to use the new online voting system which is getting rid of traditions for many socieites that date back years. For many of us it was one of the highlights of the year when the society gets together and votes on paper for their new committee and the old committee goes outside, counts up the votes and announces it as a group - their last big thing they organise as a committee. The new way of releasing the votes by email to the whole society at the same time completely ruins the family feeling of being all together to announce the results and then celebrate together afterwards.

Committee roles are far more important than a mere 200 word manifesto online as many societies have had 5-10 minute pitching sessions where the candidates speak about why they are most suitable for the roles, this cannot be achieved in this word count.

If we can be trusted with tens of thousands of pounds to spend, why can't we be trusted to vote for new committees?

I propose the system becomes optional so that committees of societies with strong "family traditions" won't end their hard-working year on just an email.