



**MEETING OF SENATE
THURSDAY 24TH NOVEMBER 2011
UPPER HALL, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON UNION, MALET STREET, WC1E 7HU
COMMENCING AT 2PM**

MINUTES

Present

Joshi Sachdeo (Birkbeck)

Ben Giddins (Central School of Speech and Drama)

James Haywood (Goldsmiths)

Fran Allfrey (Kings)

Lukas Scothus (London School of Economics)

Sophie Richardson (Queen Mary)

Joseph Fisher (Royal Academy of Music)

Andrew Zukov Greurc (Royal Holloway)

Arianna Tassinary (SOAS)

Sean Rillo Rackza (ULU Vice-President)

Luke Durigan (University College London)

Observers

Ian Drummond

Stef Wenton

Alireza S. Nejad (on behalf of London Student)

In Attendance

Michael Chessum (Chair of Senate)

Rob Park (Returning Officer)

Julie Adams (Chief Executive)

Helen Mackay (Minutes)

1. Apologies for Absence

Vratislav Domalip, Hesham Zakai, University of London Institute in Paris, Gala Jackson
Coombes (Heythrop)

2. Minutes of the last Senate for approval

Approved

3. Matters Arising

LS (LSE) queried progress on support for Edward Bauer.
SRR (VP ULU) a letter of support had been sent.

Kings noted that they had voted in support of pulling out of Ahava.

4. ULU Board of Trustees Minutes

It was noted that the minutes were not attached.

SRR observed this was an error and the minutes would be circulated after the meeting.

ULU Chair requested that SRR provide a verbal outline of the recent BOT meeting.

SRR outlined the upcoming policy on external speakers and the effect this would have in ULU.

Birkbeck enquired about the right to vote on the policy being introduced and about voting rights in general in relation to decisions made by the BOT.

SRR and Senate Chair outlined the power of the BOT and that of Senate.

SRR noted that the External Speaker Policy would be submitted to Senate as well as BOT as it affected both areas.

Senate Chair stated that any issues arising for the post meeting BOT minutes can be e-mailed to ULU President, Vice President or him as Chair of Senate.

5. Reports from ULU Officers

i. ULU President

No written report submitted. VD absent due to illness

Birkbeck wished to note disappointment at absence of report. Suggestion given that report is submitted and circulated post meeting.

SRR agreed.

ii. ULU Vice President

SRR summarised point given in the written report.

Questions:

Kings – enquired about the lack of notification regarding the ULU AGM and its motions deadline. It was noted that events such as this need greater promotion. SRR noted that the deadline for motions had passed and agreed that events needed greater promotion.

Kings requested that the AGM motion deadline be extended.

SRR stated that this issue would be looked into.

Queen Mary enquired about the quoracy of the meeting.

It was discussed that if the quoracy for the meeting was not met on the 1st December that constitutionally the meeting would be moved to the following week at the same time (8th December).

UCL – noted that the meeting on the 1st December directly clashed with the UCL AGM.

Report Accepted

iii. London Student Editor

Written report was submitted during meeting and circulated. Observer - Alireza S. Nejad attended on behalf of the London Student Editor to submit the report. Points in the report were summarised.

Kings- London Student Network was congratulated for its work.

Report Accepted.

6. Board of Trustees Report

No report

7. Reports from Standing Committees

i. Student Activities Committee

Senate were asked to note the minutes from Student Activities Committee. It was noted that VD chaired the Student Activities Committee meeting in the absence of Chair of Senate due to prior commitments and Sean due to illness.

SRR outlined what had been discussed at the meeting and referred Senate to the minutes for details.

Report Approved

ii. London Student Management Committee

SRR noted there had been a meeting. SRR noted that the advertising strategy initially set out by the Editor had failed to produce sufficient revenue for the paper. The editor will need to take time to reconsider the paper's option. Whether it return to a collaboration with BAM advertising or not. The editor is due to meet with the General Manager regarding this issue soon.

Senate Chair gave Senate clarification as to what BAM was.

Goldsmiths – enquired about submitting vote for an honorary life membership (HLM) through Senate?

SRR – clarified that only the Laurels Committee make the decision on HLMs and outlined the procedure of the committee.

Chair observed overall that the absence of reports was not healthy and noted that it reports will hopefully be

8. Proposals

8.i New Election Regulations & Timetable

Chair introduced Returning Officer to outline the proposal for the new election regulations.

RP noted that the existing regulations had been long standing and had become out of date. The new regulations would bring the process up-to-date. Specifically ensuring the transparency of the decisions made by the Returning Officer.

Empowering the membership the process.

RP requested that 3 points be noted when considering the motion.

1. Rule 19 – Elections Committee

RP outlined the rule being introduced and the role of the Election Committee as detailed in the new regulations document. RP placed emphasis on the effective promotion of the elections by the committee.

2. Rule 54 – Campaigning on the record

RP noted that this had not been permitted under the existing regulations and that this had been an issue in the past.

3. Rule 44 – Complaints and Appeals

RP noted specifically the introduction of the Election Committee Tribunal

SRR spoke in favour of the new regulations as the existing regulations were out of date and there were issues with candidates confusion in interpreting the regulations during elections. New regulations would enable a more practical debate.

QM spoke against the regulations noting their disappointment and concern at sections entitled “Vacancies”, “Complaints and Appeals”. Stating that the sections were badly written and unclear.

Birkbeck spoke in favour of the new regulations noting that a panel delivering decisions was better than decisions being solely placed with the Returning Officer.

Chair enquired if Senate wished to take parts on the regulations.

Discussion was had over the legitimacy of the document as a whole. Clarification was given on the Complaints and Appeals process detailed in the new regulations. It was noted that amendments could be made in January.

LSE noted that due to the timing it was important for Senate to pass the regulations to prevent a delay in the elections.

SRR noted that the queries QM had regarding the appeals process had been addressed and asked to move to vote. Senate approved.

Chair requested senate to vote on new election regulations

In favour 9

Against 2

Abstained 0

Motion passed.

Election Timetable

RO noted that new suggested timetable for the elections is earlier than in previous years. Suggested that it did not need to be determined today.

Chair outlined the proposed timetable and suggested senators consider their own election dates.

QM raised concerns about the timetable being too early and too short notice to establish an election committee.

SRR noted that opening the elections earlier was better despite the short turn around for the elections committee to be set up.

Kings noted that the elections would be too close to their own elections and so they would be unable to promote it.

Queries were raised regarding the need for the nominations to open earlier than previous years and the ramifications for the election Committee.

RO noted that holding the election later in the year has not resulted in a positive outcome for ULU.

GM noted that it would be difficult for ULU to obtain all the relevant data from the colleges in time for the voting/election period.

Move to vote approved

In favour: 6

Against: 5

Motion passed

8.ii

ULU Leagues Regulation Amendments

SRR outlined the motion tabled.

Questions: QM enquired about the effect on number of sports played

SRR clarified it would not effect the league but would increase the membership opportunities.

No speech against

In favour: 10

Against: 0

Abstaining: 1

Motion Passed

8.iii **Kick off for Palestine**

Birkbeck outlined the motion tabled and wished to urge groups in all UoL Colleges to support the initiative.

No Speech Against

Moved to Vote

In favour: 9

Against: 1

8.iv **A new phase of police and legal repression: rubber bullets and political prisoners**

SRR outlined the motion tabled

No speech against

Moved to vote

In Favour: 11

Against: 0

Abstention: 0

8.v **Don't Attack Iran**

SRR outlined motion tabled

SOAS spoke in favour of the motion.

No speeches against

Moved to vote

In favour: 10

Against: 1

Abstention: 0

9. Any other business

Goldsmiths – informed senate of their collaboration with Request initiative for freedom of information. Will update on progress at the next senate.

Chair noted that election of the membership of the election committee will need to be done. SRR noted this could be done at the next senate meeting in January.