

, Union of UEA Students Mission 2009-13

1. To create positive change in matters relating to the education of UEA students by effectively representing their collective views.



## Key Actions of Council 18 October

Elected **Moji Adegbile** as Chair and **Michael Maggs** as Deputy Chair

Awarded Honorary Life Membership of UUEAS to **Duncan Smith, Liam McCafferty and Stephen Fry**

Co-opted the four Faculty Convenors (**Inga Birzakova (SCI), Laura Henson (FMH), Cal Corkery (SSF) and Zoe Phillips (HUM)**)

Approved the constitutions of: **Stunt Cheerleading Club, Gymnastics Club, Language Society, Kurdish Society, Marrow Society, Quiz Society, Oncology and Palliative Medicine Society, Liberal Democrats Society, Romanians@UEA Society, Quidditch Society, Headucate Society, T.E.A.C.H. Society, Horror Society, Cardiology Society, Mental Wealth Peer Support Group, Physiotherapy Society, Model UN Society, Dharma Society, Interdisciplinary Research Society.**

After extensive debate approved the constitution of **Armed Forces Society**

Approved amendments to the constitutions of **Concrete** and **Dancesport.**

Appointed: **R Mohabir** and **S Goslin** as reps on University Assembly, **R Butcher** to the Bio-Hazards and GM Sub-Committee, **J Miller** and **C Georgiou** to the Common Course Review Group, **R Butcher** to the undergraduate place on the Exam Review Working Group, **S Alston** to the Health and Safety Advisory Committee.

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## **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF UNION COUNCIL THURSDAY 18 October 2012**

**Voting Members  
present:**

N.Ahktar (Islamic), P.Albertella (Chess), S.Alston (Laser), A. Anane-Adjei (PHA), A.Asif (NBS), B.Bachelier (Fencing), S.Bachelier (Table Tennis), E.Balsdon (Stop the War), L.Barnes (Maths), R.Bennett (Drama), J.Bentley (History), I.Birzakova (SCI Faculty Convenor), M.Brolin (Interdisciplinary Research), W.Edwards (Gowan Touch Rugby), J.Brinded (PSI), R.Butcher (Archery), S.Cheng (Development), C.Clark (AMS), C.Cliff (Vegbox), S.Colyer (Sailing), C.Cope (Anime), C.Corkery (SSF Faculty Convenor), T.Damon (DEV), A.Davies (Conservative), A.Eglite (Deviant), E.Ezekwesili (African-Caribbean), S.Ferns (Physiotherapy), M.Gabriel (MED), C.Georgiou (PHI), D.Gilroy (BIO), S.Goslin (LAW), R.Greene (Fell), D.Hall (HIS), Z.Hama-Aziz (Kurdish), J.Harkin (Sub Aqua), S.Hayes (UEA Tap), O.Heinen (South East Asian), M.Hersi (Pharmacy), T.Hesse (Boat), M.Hughes (Literature), A.Hutchinson (American Law), E.James (Psych), C.Jarvis (Green Party), P.Thomas (Concrete), R.Johnson (Economics), T.Karrach-Wood (Trampolining), D.Kent (Powerboat), A.Khan (International Students), R.Khroma (Kitesurfing), N.Killick (Rock Gospel), S.Lane (BIO), K.Lawrence (Pole Dancing), C.Levis (Links), P.Lucia (Skydiving), M.Maggs (Games), F. McConchie, (BIO), L.Meadows (Ballet), A.Miller (Jewish), R.Mohabir (Korfball), A.Motakis (Triathlon), N.Nazmul (Amnesty International), R.Nurse (Women in Business), E. Onyilofofor (LAW), S. Parker (ART), M.Patel (PHA), S.Pester (Creative Writing), S.Phillimore (Management), Z.Phillips (HUM Faculty Convenor), E.Pinneh (Shotokan Karate), I.Probyn-Gibbs (Feminism), P.Naran (Hindu), J.Miller (Music), C.Rochester (Dancesport), N.Sadoff (Glee Showchoir), V.Stone (Debating), T.Stringer (NatSci), A.Powell (Red Cross), M. Toledo-Martinez (ART), B.Treen (Salsa), E.Tulley (Circus), J.Vater (Volleyball), A.Watson (Education), B.Wattley (MED), N.Wenden (Japan), C.Wheatman (European Law Students Association), T.White (SCI), G.Williamson (Dance Squad), C.Yip (Chinese Christian Fellowship), S.Jackson-Doblas (Language), E.Janiq (Quiz), E.Reynard (Quidditch), T.Greenwood (Oxfam), J.Scullion (T.E.A.C.H), W.Bingham (Horror), A Livesey (Armed Forces), L.O'Sullivan (Cardiology), C.Page (Dharma), S.Palmer (Yoga).

J Bowker (Academic Officer), B Brown (Environment Officer), S Clark (Community and Student Rights Officer), B Foday (Non-Portfolio Officer), A Forsyth (Non-Portfolio Officer), K Jenkins (Students with Disabilities Officer), T Killeen (Mature Students Officer), R Laverick (LGBT Officer), J Levell (Finance Officer), J Lewis (Non-Portfolio Officer), M Myles (Communications Officer), R Rawle (Ethical Issues Officer), J Taylor (Postgraduate Students Officer)

**In attendance:** D Bowden (Chief Executive), A Moore (Representation Support Worker).

**Chair:** Mojisola Adegbile

**Apologies for absence:** E Vontzalidou (Knitting), S Jeans (NBS PG), J Johnson (Clay Pigeon Shooting).

## **1220 MEMBERSHIP**

Council noted the new Register of members.

## **1221 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR AND DEPUTY CHAIR**

**M Adegbile** (BIO Soc) and **J Brinded** (PG SOC) stood for election to the Chair.

M Adegbile believed that her main goals, if elected, would be to make sure Councillors were involved and to make Council as much fun as possible.

J Brinded believed that he could help to ensure that debate would be free and fair and inclusive to all.

**M Adegbile** was elected Chair by 55 votes for with 45 against.

**M Maggs** (Games) came forward as the only candidate for Deputy Chair and was duly elected.

## **1222 Life membership of the Union**

**1203 M Myles** (Communications Officer) noted he was proposing that L McCafferty and Duncan Smith be awarded Honorary Life Membership of UUEAS. In addition, he noted he would also like to propose that Stephen Fry be awarded the same honour.

M Myles believed L McCafferty had been an extremely hard working Part Time Officer and noted that he had headed the Anti-Fees and Cuts Campaign for two years running.

M Myles noted that Duncan Smith had been, again, an incredibly hard working Part Time Officer who helped UUEAS in development of its governance and in reviewing and interpreting the Constitution.

M Myles noted that most Councillors would have heard of Mr Fry, the

well-known author, polymath and TV entertainer. He noted that Mr Fry had provided a brilliant and inspiring introduction to the tremendous LGBT+ Report and Survey compiled by R Laverick, the LGBT Officer. He thought it would be appropriate to thank Mr Fry with this award. Council agreed nem con to award Honorary Life Membership of UUEAS to I McCafferty, Duncan Smith and Stephen Fry.

**1223 REMIT OF COUNCIL AND THE STANDING ORDERS**

Council noted the Remit and the Standing Orders.

**1224 FACULTY CONVENORS**

Council agreed, nem con, to the co-option of the four Faculty Convenors: I Birzakova (SCI), L Henson (FMH), C Corkery (SSF) and Z Phillips (HUM).

**1225 NEW AND RE-STARTED CLUB , SOCIETY AND PEER SUPPORT GROUP CONSTITUTIONS**

**J Levell** (Finance Officer) noted, as to Cinema Society, Russian Society, Macmillan Cancer Awareness Society and Oxfam Society, that no representatives from these Societies had attended the meeting of Societies Committee. The Committee had, therefore, decided that it would not be appropriate to make any recommendation for approval until they had sent representatives to Societies Committee.

J Levell (Finance Officer) noted that the following Clubs and Societies had been approved by Societies Committee or Sports Committee and he recommended their approval by Union Council: Stunt Cheerleading Club, Gymnastics Club, Language Society, Kurdish Society, Marrow Society, Quiz Society, Oncology and Palliative Medicine Society Liberal Democrats Society, Romanians@UEA Society, Quidditch Society, Headucate Society, T.E.A.C.H. Society, Horror Society, Armed Forces Society, Cardiology Society, Mental Wealth Peer Support Group, Physiotherapy Society, Model UN Society, Dharma Society, Interdisciplinary Research Society.

The constitutions of all the above Clubs and Societies were approved without debate except Armed Forces Society to which J Lewis (Non-Portfolio Officer) objected.

**A Livesey**, proposing the constitution of the Armed Forces Society, argued that the proposed Society would form a link between UUEAS and the University military units. He noted that the proposed Society wished to provide an arena for debate on military issues and to provide links to external organisations which were capable of providing students with a variety of professional qualifications. He believed the proposed Society would be able to educate students in leadership and management skills which were important factors in postgraduate employment.

A questioner asked how the proposed Society would differ from the OTC.

A Livesey noted that UUEAS did not run the OTC and the other military units and that the proposed Society wished to provide a link with these units, which had about 125 UEA student members.

A questioner asked what the proposed Society's relationship with the Royal Yachting Association would be.

A Livesey noted that the University's Royal Naval Unit provided training in practical seamanship and navigation and this led to students being able to take RYA Yacht Master qualifications.

A questioner whether these activities would lead to overlap with other UUEAS Societies.

**D Hall** (HIS PG) intervened to note his belief that there was no actual stipulation in the Constitution that prevented Societies from overlapping.

**E Balsdon** (Stop the War Society), objecting to the constitution of the proposed Society, argued that the Society could not be formed because UUEAS had existing policy against war and was affiliated to the Stop the War Coalition. She believed that the Society's aim of "promoting the ethos of the armed forces" to be a contentious issue. She believed the central aim of UUEAS to be the protection of students and, in her view; the armed forces had done nothing to protect students or anyone else in this country.

She argued that, in terms of the on-going War on Terror, Council should have doubts as to what the proposed Society would really be promoting. She noted that management skills could be gained by joining the Management Society whilst, she believed, the armed forces main aims over recent years had been to manage wars that were opposed by the majority of the country, wars that had turned out to be illegal and which had killed millions of people. She believed the establishment the proposed Society would be against the fundamental values of UUEAS.

**A Livesey**, proposing, argued that people slept safely in their beds because of the existence of the armed forces. He disagreed that they had done nothing to protect the safety of British people. He argued that nobody liked war and that the Stop the War Coalition were fantastic but he believed there was a difference to made between being ant-war and anti-military personnel.

He acknowledged that the establishment of the Society might be contentious for UUEAS and problematic for existing Societies and that there had been problems in the past. However, he argued that the Society was being established to prevent those problems in the future.

**C Corkery** (SSF Faculty Convenor), against, believed there to be two arguments against the formation of the Society. Firstly, he believed a new Society must not contradict UUEAS' values and policies. He noted that UUEAS had policy to oppose war and he argued that to have an Armed Forces Society would be a massive contradiction of policy. He believed that there would have to be policy proposal to rescind the existing policy before Council could approve the proposed Society's constitution. Secondly, he believed there to be the question of whether Councillors wanted the Army in its Students' Union; he noted that he, personally, did not. He argued that if one examined the role the British armed forces played in the world; it was not a positive one. They had occupied countries by force in recent years and, as a result, the streets of Britain were a lot less safe. He argued that every time a British soldier in Afghanistan fired a gun many young Muslims around the world were radicalised. He concluded that the armed forces had made the world

less safe for UUEAS members and so had no place in UUEAS.

Answering a question from the floor C Corkery noted that the Union website stated the three points that every Society had to meet: one of these was that the proposed Society could not contradict existing Union policy. In his opinion, the proposed Society did not fulfil this requirement.

**J Bentley** (History), for the proposed Society, addressed, what he termed the Stop the War Party with the argument that the military did a lot more around the world other than fight wars. He, further, argued that it was not the military that started wars: the military were told to fight wars by the government. He argued that an Armed Forces Society would represent those who were sent to war not those who started war. He could understand objection to a government Society or a Foreign Office Society but not an Armed Forces Society which would try to bridge the gap between UUEAS which had its values and would not accept the OTC and the OTC which clearly wanted a link with UUEAS.

**J Brinded** (PSI PG), against, noted that the army might have involvement in humanitarian projects but, he believed their primary purpose was to fight wars. He argued that if you did not join the army, you did not get sent to fight a war and, as a result, the government would have no capacity to fight wars.

Council voted against another round of speeches.

**J Mayorcas**, on behalf of the Jewish Society, asked for clarification on what benefits, as an umbrella organisation, the proposed Society was meant to bring.

**A Livesey**, in clarification, noted that the OTC, the University Royal Naval Unit and the Air Squadron were not part of UUEAS or the University: they were run externally. He believed that the proposed Society would be of immense value to students in providing a link.

He believed the benefits the proposed Society would bring would include: providing an arena for debate on the role of the military which would not, as in the present discussion, take an hour of Council's time and providing links to external organisations that could provide qualifications in transferrable skills for students.

**S Clark** (Community and Student Rights Officer), in clarification inquired whether all UUEAS members, including students with disabilities would be able to participate in the external organisations' activities.

**A Livesey** noted that there were criteria that he would need to look up, as to whom and who not could take part. As he did not have them to hand, he would be happy to provide them to Council, if requested and apologised for not being able to provide them at the present meeting. Council agreed to the motion from **M Myles** (Communications officer) to move to a vote.

Council approved the constitution of the Armed Forces Society by 63 votes for, 32 against and 10 abstentions.

## 1226

### PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CLUB AND SOCIETY CONSTITUTIONS

**J Levell** (Finance Officer) noted that Societies Committee had approved the proposed changes to Concrete's constitution which had been necessitated by the removal of the paid Editor role.

Council approved the amendments to the constitution of Concrete by

87 votes for, 1 against and 12 abstentions.

J Level noted the proposed change to Dancesport's' constitution which would allow them to teach rock'n'roll dancing.

Council approved the amendment to the constitution of Dancesport nem con.

J Levell noted that there had been some proposals for new Societies from UEA London including: a UEA London Society, UEA London Photography Society, UEA London Japanese and Korean Cultural Society.

There were no comments or objections.

Council approved the constitution of the above UEA London Societies nem con.

#### **1227 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 29 MARCH 2012**

Council agreed the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

#### **1228 MATTERS ARISING**

**M Myles** (Communications Officer) noted that the emergency meeting on 23 April 2012 had rejected a complaint from Men's Rugby Club concerning a decision made by Management Committee to ban the Club from competitive rugby for one year.

He reported that the Club had, over the summer, taken the complaint to the Dean of Students who had rejected the complaint. He noted that the Dean of Students' response was available to view in the Council Documents section of the UUEAS website.

#### **1229 APPOINTMENT TO UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES**

There were three candidates for the two places as Union Council representatives on the University Assembly: **C Corkery** (SSF Faculty Convenor) **S Goslin** (Other YR LAW) and **R Mohabir** (Korfball)

Council voted to appoint **R Mohabir** and **S Goslin**.

Council voted to appoint, the sole candidate, **R Butcher** (Archery) to the Bio-Hazards and GM Sub-Committee.

There were two candidates for the Common Course Review Group.

**J Miller** (MUS) noted he was on a joint Maths and Music course and that he would like to represent the views of students undertaking joint honours and to ensure these were not overlooked, particularly, as to model choice.

**C Georgiou** (PHI YR1) noted he would like to focus on the problems over model choice and he would like to work toward gaining more flexibility and wider module choice.

Council voted to appoint **J Miller** and **C Georgiou** to the Common Course Review Group.

Council voted to appoint, the sole candidate, **R Butcher** (Archery) to the undergraduate place on the Exam Review Working Group.

Council voted to appoint, the sole candidate, **S Alston** (Laser) to the Health and Safety Advisory Committee.

There was a call of quorum. Council was found to be inquorate and the Chair closed the meeting. Chair noted that the next meeting of Council would take place at 7 pm, Thursday, 1 November in LT1.