

COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2

19TH OCTOBER 2010, 6.00 p.m.

Chair: C Bernard

Present: J Akinagbe, J Anderson, S Anwar, M Batty, T Brook, J Buck, J Dresner, A Goodman, Z Gothelf, D Hardwick, M Harrison, G Hassan, H Hill, T Javed, O Kasin, E Kerry, A Khan, R Khan, K Little, F McGoldrick, F McGough, C McLellan, A Milne, L Newton, Luke Newton, T Olawoki, H Omara, H Paterson, R Raoufi, M Saqib, L Sterie, A Tahboub, S Wakefield, A Walters, J Woodcock, E Wraighte.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted for absence from O Abdulrazeg, R Arkush, B Dawoud, L Kaplan and A Sheikhi.

ANTI-CUTS CAMPAIGN

The Campaigns Officer highlighted various activities at University Place in connection with the anti-cuts campaign. He encouraged Council members to purchase tickets for the national demonstration taking place in London on 10th November and requested that Council members complete the rota for addressing lectures.

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING NO. 1, 28TH SEPTEMBER 2010

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 1, 24TH AUGUST 2010

6 – Visions and Outcomes

It had been intended that Executive members gave feedback at the next Executive meeting.

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 1, 29TH SEPTEMBER 2010

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 2, 8TH OCTOBER 2010

It was noted that (@ £3.00) should read (@ £2.00).

The three Chinese Students Societies (Chinese Students, Chinese Culture Integration, Chinese Students and Scholars) had disagreed to merge because their objectives and activities were completely different from one another. One was for Mandarin speaking students, another for Cantonese speaking students and the third was for cultural activities. This explanation had been accepted by the Committee and therefore the three societies would remain separate.

Minutes Accepted

CUMULATIVE WEEKLY INCOME REPORT : 10.10.10

The General Secretary informed Council that the Union was looking at changing the format of this report to provide a written summary. The Union was currently undergoing a survey on the commercial services and the results would be reported back to Council in November.

Report Accepted

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL – 19.10.10

A review of learning methods was being carried out.

Report Accepted

CAMPAIGNS OFFICER'S REPORT (+ PROGRESS REPORT) TO COUNCIL – 19.10.10

The Campaigns Officer outlined various activities in preparation for the national demonstration on 10th November, and requested Council members to participate, as well as booking their coach tickets.

Report Accepted

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL – 19.10.10

Report Accepted

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT TO COUNCIL – 19.10.10

The University's Board of Governors had requested a review of the relationship between the University and the Union. The areas to be examined were Finance, Building Trust, Reporting, Governance and Legal issues.

There was a query regarding the change to the regulations regarding external speakers without the knowledge of the Students' Union. The General Secretary informed Council that external bodies had put pressure on the University to tighten up the rules.

Andrea Strachan from LSE had been appointed to the new post of Union Director. LSE Union had been on the brink of being taken over by their institution and she had turned the situation around very quickly. She had also completed a Governance review within nine months.

The Governance review was being undertaken as the Union now had to register as a Charity in its own right by summer 2011, whereas previously the Union had derived charitable status via the University. A paper would be presented to Council on the timetable, and this area of work would be the main focus for Executive once the demonstration on 10th November was over.

Report Accepted

STUDENT ACTIVITIES REPORT TO COUNCIL – 19.10.10

Report Accepted

WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL – 19.10.10

The Welfare Officer announced that it was now Black Students Week and welcomed any help with the various events.

It was felt that there was a very low participation by international students in Union activities. The reasons for this needed to be investigated.

Report Accepted

WOMEN'S OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL – 19.10.10

Report Accepted

ENGINEERING & PHYSICAL SCIENCES FACULTY OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL – 19.10.10

It was noted that the University intended to sell of the buildings on the North Campus over the next ten years. However, the Students' Union would be allocated space in the Sackville building. It was suggested that some Council meetings should be held in the Barnes Wallis building, but there was no space available with the required capacity and there were issues regarding disabled access.

Report Accepted

The Humanities Faculty Officer stated that the recent book fair had been successful, but he was looking at the possibility of holding a similar event for students from all the faculties.

The General Secretary thanked the non-sabbatical officers for their hard work over the recent months.

QUESTIONS TO EXECUTIVE

The non-sabbatical officers were asked about what work they had done to mobilise for the national demonstration on 10th November.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION – INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS AND SENATE

Proposer: Joseph Akinagbe

Seconder: Mark Harrison

THIS COUNCIL NOTES

1. This motion was overwhelmingly passed by Council last academic year*.
2. There are currently no channels for unique academic experiences of international students to be fed through.
3. The University Senate is the principal academic body of the University of Manchester.
4. The University and Union are developing internationalisation strategies.
5. Over 1 in 4 students at the University of Manchester are international.
6. Undergraduate Non-EU Students pay on average three times more than Home Students.

7. International Students Learning Satisfaction in the University of Manchester is consistently below average (ISB survey).
8. Without an International Student Perspective, decisions made could ignore impacts on International students.
9. The Union sends five members to the University Senate yearly, three of which are elected from Council.
10. NUS groups Postgrad, Mature, part-time and International Students as student sections.

THIS COUNCIL BELIEVES

1. International Students deserve proper academic representation.
2. International Students are an important group of students not least because of the income generated for the University and the diverse culture they bring.
3. Perspectives through personal experience are important.

THIS COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. As a temporary solution, to elect the International Students' Officer to Senate.
2. The General Secretary should liaise with the University to get the International Students' Officer an automatic position on Senate and other appropriate bodies.

*Resolve was:

1. Of the three members elected to the University Senate, a minimum of one has to be an international student.

Carried

PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION – SOCIETIES COMMITTEE: CAMPAIGNS

Proposer: Miles Battye
Secunder: Amanda Walters

Summary: "This motion is to put the Campaigns Officer onto the Societies Committee, so that he/she can have input into decisions that affect campaign groups, which are treated as societies by UMSU"

THIS COUNCIL NOTES

1. That the current composition of the Societies Committee does not include the Campaigns Officer ex officio (via their position).

J.2.2 Membership of Societies Committee:

"Societies Committee shall comprise:

- (a) Student Activities Officer
- (b) General Secretary

- (c) Societies Secretary
- (d) One member elected directly from amongst societies' members
- (e) Two members elected from Council at its first meeting of the academic session."

2. That UMSU student campaign groups are recognised and treated as societies in our Constitution and procedures.
3. That the Societies Committee shall have a new responsibility this year, which will be to decide whether societies (including campaign groups) shall be granted 'Gold Award' recognition, in accordance with the new Societies Training and Development Scheme (UMSU STARS).
4. That part of the Campaigns Officer's role involves looking after and encouraging student campaign groups in their activities.

THIS COUNCIL BELIEVES

1. That the Societies Committee would be much more able and much more appropriate to judge matters relating to campaign groups (especially the awarding of 'Gold Award' recognition) if the Campaigns Officer were a member of the Committee.

THIS COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To change J.2.2 to:

"Societies Committee shall comprise:

- (a) Student Activities Officer
- (b) Campaigns Officer
- (c) General Secretary
- (d) Societies Secretary
- (e) One member elected directly from amongst societies' members
- (f) Two members elected from Council at its first meeting of the academic session."

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Carried

PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION – SOCIETIES COMMITTEE: QUORUM

Proposer: Miles Battye
Seconder: Sarah Wakefield

Summary: "This motion is to stop it being mandatory for the General Secretary to be in attendance at Societies Committee meetings for quorum to be reached (and the meetings to go ahead). This will hopefully mean that Societies Committee makes quorum more often, so it can go about its business more effectively."

AMENDMENT

J Akinagbe Under 'This Council Resolves 1'
Delete "Quorum for meetings of societies committee shall be three and must include the Activities Officer"
Insert "Quorum for meetings of societies committee shall be four and must include the Activities Officer"

Carried

THIS COUNCIL NOTES

1. That the quorum for a Societies Committee meeting is currently three, whereby two of the three must be the Student Activities Officer and the General Secretary.
 2. That the General Secretary is currently required to make quorum for the Societies Committee
- J.2.4 Quorum: *“Quorum for meetings of societies committee shall be three and must include Activities Officer and General Secretary”.*
3. That Societies Committee has not made quorum on numerous occasions in the last year due to the General Secretary not being able to attend.
 4. That all members of the Societies Committee have been elected to represent societies.
 5. That the Student Activities Officer is lead officer and chair’s the Societies Committee.

THIS COUNCIL BELIEVES

1. That inquorate societies committee meetings are detrimental to societies.
2. That if the General Secretary were not a mandatory attendee, meetings would make quorum more often.
3. That the quorum should still be three but need not include the General Secretary.
4. That the Student Activities Officer, being the lead officer, should still be required for the Societies Committee to reach quorum.

THIS COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To change J.2.4 to:

“Quorum for meetings of societies committee shall be four and must include the Activities Officer”

**Vote on Motion
with Amendment**

Carried Unanimously

ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

Formal Committee Structure

BOARD OF GOVERNORS (1)
(General Secretary)

Sarah Wakefield

UNIVERSITY SENATE (5)
(Academic Affairs Officer, Postgraduate & Mature Students Officer, plus three others)

Kate Little
Sarah Wakefield, Mo Saqib,
Joseph Akinragbe

GENERAL ASSEMBLY (5)
(General Secretary - ex-officio. Five to be elected – three sabbaticals + two others)

Sarah Wakefield, Jeremy
Buck, Kate Little, Emma Kerry,
Alex Goodman, Talha Javed

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| FINANCE COMMITTEE (1) <i>(General Secretary)</i> | Sarah Wakefield |
| PLANNING AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE (1) <i>(General Secretary)</i> | Sarah Wakefield |
| UNIVERSITY-STUDENTS' UNION LIAISON FORUM (6) <i>(General Secretary, Academic Affairs Officer, Welfare Officer, Women's Officer + two other sabbaticals)</i> | Sarah Wakefield, Kate Little, Hannah Paterson, Emma Kerry, Jeremy Buck, Miles Battye |
| FACULTY TEACHING & LEARNING COMMITTEES (2) <i>(Academic Affairs Officer + relevant Faculty Officer)</i> | Kate Little |
| Informal Representation Structure | |
| SENIOR MANAGEMENT MEETING (3) <i>(General Secretary, Welfare Officer, Academic Affairs Officer)</i> | Sarah Wakefield, Hannah Paterson, Kate Little |
| LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP SCHEME (2) <i>(Welfare Officer, Women's Officer or General Secretary)</i> | Hannah Paterson, Emma Kerry or Sarah Wakefield |
| WIDENING PARTICIPATION WORKING GROUP (2) <i>(General Secretary, Academic Affairs Officer)</i> | Sarah Wakefield, Kate Little |
| ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY WORKING GROUP (1) <i>(Welfare Officer)</i> | Hannah Paterson |
| STUDENT EXPERIENCE FORUM (2) <i>(Welfare Officer, Academic Affairs Officer)</i> | Hannah Paterson Kate Little |
| ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY WORKING GROUP (1) <i>(General Secretary)</i> | Sarah Wakefield |
| FAIR TRADE STEERING GROUP (4) <i>(General Secretary plus three members of Fair Trade Society)</i> | Sarah Wakefield |
| EQUALITY & DIVERSITY FORUM (2) <i>(Welfare Officer, Women's Officer)</i> | Hannah Paterson Emma Kerry |

ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON UNION COMMITTEES

Elections Advisory Committee

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| Returning Officer | Emma Green |
| Deputy Returning Officer | Hannah Paterson |
| Assistant Returning Officers (3) | Joseph Akinragbe, Jeremy Buck, Frankie McGough |
| ex-officio University Representative | |

Elections Appeals Committee

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| 4 Council members to be elected | Kate Little, Andrew Milne, Joseph Akinragbe |
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Disciplinary Committee

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| <u>Chair of Council</u> | Cory Bernard |
| Welfare Officer | Hannah Paterson |
| General Secretary | Sarah Wakefield |
| Women's Officer | Emma Kerry |
| 3 other Council members <i>(at least one of whom shall be female)</i> | Tom Brook, Henry Hill, Elsie-Jane Wraighte |

Societies Committee

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| <u>Student Activities Officer</u> | Miles Battye |
| General Secretary | Sarah Wakefield |
| Campaigns Officer | Amanda Walters |
| Societies Secretary | Ramiz Khan |
| 1 member directly elected from societies' members | |
| 2 elected from Union Council | Jeremy Buck, Lettice Newton |

Complaints Committee

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| Chair of Union Council | Cory Bernard |
| General Secretary | Sarah Wakefield |
| Welfare Officer | Hannah Paterson |
| Women's Officer | Emma Kerry |

Scrutiny Committees

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| Academic Affairs Officer | (3) | Dominic Hardwick, Alex Goodman, Rashad Raoufi |
| Campaigns Officer | (3) | Zak Gothelf, Jamie Woodcock, Andrew Milne |
| Communications Officer | (3) | Frankie McGough, Alex Goodman, Lettice Newton |
| General Secretary | (3) | Gabriel Hassan, Ramiz Khan, Curtis McLellan |
| Student Activities Officer | (3) | Ramiz Khan, Joseph Anderson, Zack Gothelf |
| Student Direct Officer | (3) | Henry Hill, Josh Dresner, Lettice Newton |
| Welfare Officer | (3) | Fionnuala McGoldrick, Frankie McGough |
| Women's Officer | (3) | Elsie-Jane Wraighte, Amna Khan, Lettice Newton |

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The issue of the ban on student groups selling food on University premises would be investigated.

It was felt that the Societies Fair during Welcome Week had not been as well attended as in previous years. However, it was pointed out that admittance had been restricted at any one time and this had resulted in there being more space in which to move around.

There was a complaint that societies did not operate during the summer vacation when there were many students still in Manchester. The University did not release the database until the beginning of the academic session, thereby making it impossible to verify the members for any new societies. This matter would be raised with the Societies Committee.

MEETING CLOSED : 9.10 P.M.