

COUNCIL MEETING NO. 3

11TH NOVEMBER 2008, 6.00 P.M.

Chair: J Pryor

Present: S Ajoodan-Poor, H Allcutt, J Barth, S Birkwood, H Conway, K Davies, M Dunwell, A Dwek, M Fright, R Gillett, S Goldstein, N Heppenstall, R Hirst, J Holloway, T Jacko, R Jacobs, P Jajoo, A James, C Jenkinson, A Khan, J Killip, J Kudren, D Lee, C Livingstone, G Mahalla, S Malik, F McGough, J Myers, R Neudegg, R Pinfold, E Reyland, A Seres, D Sewell, D Sheldon, A Speke, A Taylor, S Taylor, R Tidy, O Worth, J Wyatt, A Yazdi.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted for absence from S Ali, M Gerner, I Gillespy, D Harris, C Hirst, C McKenzie, E Randall, S Wamaitha, J Witts; and for leaving early from R Hirst.

ELECTION OF CHAIR

Jonathan Pryor was duly elected Chair of Council.

ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES

BOARD OF GOVERNORS (1)
(General Secretary)

Rob Pinfold

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

Chris Jenkinson, Jason Holloway, Karen Davies, Rob Pinfold, Gidon Mahalla

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

Rob Pinfold, Jennie Killip, Chris Jenkinson, Ellie Reyland, Alex Dwek, Oliver Worth

FINANCE COMMITTEE (1)
(General Secretary)

Rob Pinfold

PLANNING AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE (1)
(General Secretary)

Rob Pinfold

UNIVERSITY - STUDENTS' UNION LIAISON FORUM (6)
(General Secretary, Academic Affairs Officer, Welfare Officer, Women's Officer + two other sabbaticals)

Rob Pinfold, Chris Jenkinson, Ellie Reyland, Jennie Killip, Dan Lee, Robbie Gillett

SENIOR MANAGEMENT MEETING (3)
(General Secretary, Welfare Officer, Academic Affairs Officer)

Rob Pinfold, Ellie Reyland, Chris Jenkinson

LOCAL AREA PARTNERSHIP SCHEME (2)

Ellie Reyland

(Welfare Officer, Women's Officer)

Jennie Killip

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WIDENING PARTICIPATION WORKING GROUP (2)

(General Secretary, Academic Affairs Officer)

Rob Pinfold,
Chris Jenkinson

ACCOMMODATION STRATEGY WORKING GROUP (1)

(Welfare Officer)

Ellie Reyland

STUDENT EXPERIENCE FORUM (2)

(Welfare Officer, Academic Affairs Officer)

Ellie Reyland
Chris Jenkinson

**ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY
WORKING GROUP (1)**

(General Secretary)

Rob Pinfold

FAIR TRADE STEERING GROUP (4)

(General Secretary plus three members of Fair Trade Society)

Rob Pinfold

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FORUM (1)

(Welfare Officer)

Ellie Reyland

ELECTION OF REPRESENTATIVES ON UNION COMMITTEES

Elections Advisory Committee

Returning Officer

Deputy Returning Officer

Assistant Returning Officers (3)

ex-officio University Representative

Ellie Reyland
Jennie Killip
Gidon Mahalla, Andrew
Speke, James Wyatt

Elections Appeals Committee

4 Council members

Matt Fright, Deborah Joseph,
Rob Hirst, Adam Taylor

Disciplinary Committee

Chair of Council

Welfare Officer

General Secretary

Women's Officer

3 other Council members

(at least one of whom shall be female)

Jonathan Pryor
Ellie Reyland
Rob Pinfold
Jennie Killip
Ali Yazdi, Mike Joslin,
Ruthie Jacobs

Societies Committee

Student Activities Officer

General Secretary

Societies Secretary

1 member directly elected from
societies' members

2 elected from Union Council

Emily Randall
Rob Pinfold
Ruthie Jacobs

Richard Neudegg, Mark Dunwell

Complaints Committee

Chair of Union Council
General Secretary
Welfare Officer
Women's Officer

Jonathan Pryor
Rob Pinfold
Ellie Reyland
Jennie Killip

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING NO. 1, 7TH OCTOBER 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2, 16TH OCTOBER 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 1, 16TH JUNE 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 2, 25TH JUNE 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 3, 2ND JULY 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 4, 10TH JULY 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 5, 21ST AUGUST 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 6, 29TH AUGUST 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 7, 5TH SEPTEMBER 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 8, 12TH SEPTEMBER 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 9, 3RD OCTOBER 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 10, 10TH OCTOBER 2008

Minutes Accepted

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MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 11, 15TH OCTOBER 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 12, 29TH OCTOBER 2008

1 - Executive Working Practices

Executive were asked if this matter had now been resolved. It was confirmed that such matters had to be presented to Executive.

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 1, 27TH SEPTEMBER 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 2, 7TH OCTOBER 2008

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 3, 20TH OCTOBER 2008

Minutes Accepted

CUMULATIVE WEEKLY INCOME REPORT: 2.11.08

Report Accepted

CAMPAIGNS OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL: 11.11.08

Report Accepted

STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL: 21.10.08

Report Accepted

STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL: 11.11.08

Report Accepted

WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL: 11.11.08

Report Accepted

WOMEN'S OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL: 11.11.08

Report Accepted

MEDICAL & HUMAN SCIENCES FACULTY OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL - 11.11.08

Report Accepted

Executive members were reminded that they were required to submit reports to Council as several were missing. It was also noted that Committees/Collectives should also submit reports.

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A Yazdi "Council agendas should list each of the Executive Officers under 'Reports', and insert 'missing' where appropriate if an Executive Officer has not submitted a report"

Carried

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION -
INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS AT GENERAL MEETINGS**

Proposer: Jennie Killip
Secunder: Dan Lee

THIS COUNCIL NOTES

1. General Meetings are the main decision making body of the Students' Union.
2. General Meetings are rarely quorate: in 2007-8 only 2 out of 6 achieved quoracy.
3. General Meetings can be seen as intimidating environments to first-timers.
4. In the past, when General Meetings have been deemed inquorate, members have been asked to leave the room.

THIS COUNCIL BELIEVES

1. Many members attend General Meetings to learn, discuss and develop views - as well as vote on the policy of the Union.
2. When people are asked to leave the General Meeting when it is deemed inquorate they often feel disenfranchised with the Union, especially when they have been waiting for half an-hour.
3. To ensure students are willing to engage with the discussions and come to future General Meetings, we need to provide them with the space to debate the issues brought to the Meeting, whether it is deemed quorate or not.

THIS COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To continue to look into ways to make General Meetings more inviting and accessible.

2. To facilitate informal debate (in the style of a general meeting) about the topics brought forward by proposers and seconders of General Meeting motions.
3. For the Chair of Council to chair these meetings, or delegate such a task to another member of the Executive Committee.
4. To make sure people realise the debate is informal and so no decision will be made without quoracy, but to invite them to remain and participate.
5. To realise the Union is more than a decision making body and to continue promoting its educational and cultural purposes.

Carried

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**PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION -
RE-SUBMISSION OF GENERAL MEETING MOTIONS**

Proposer: Dan Lee
Secunder: Ellie Reyland

THIS COUNCIL NOTES

1. That at inquorate General Meetings, proposed motions do not get discussed.
2. Following such a meeting, these motions often get re-submitted for the next General Meeting.
3. 30 valid signatures are required for a motion to be heard at a General Meeting.

THIS COUNCIL BELIEVES

1. That collecting the required signatures for General Meeting motions is time-consuming, and can particularly effect full-time students or those that have employment.
2. Collection of signatures is a formulative process and does little to engage signatories with the General Meeting as a whole.
3. If a motion is re-submitted, the signatures collected are often the same 30 as originally signed.

THIS COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. That if a General Meeting is wholly inquorate (that is that is never was quorate at any time in the meeting), proposers and seconders of unheard motions can re-submit their motion to the priorities ballot without having to recollect signatures.
2. This submission must be done by 3pm on the Friday following the inquorate General Meeting - failure to do so results in signatures having to be collected.

3. An unheard motion may be re-submitted in this way for one consecutive General Meeting after the inquorate meeting – further submissions will need to have signatures collected.

Defeated

PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION - OPEN UP COUNCIL TO ORDINARY MEMBERS

Proposer: Chris Jenkinson

Secunder: Rob Pinfold

THIS COUNCIL NOTES

1. Students not elected to Council cannot submit motions to Council directly.
2. The higher frequency of Council meetings than General Meetings.
3. That directives from Council do not set policy, but may mandate the Executive.
4. The procedure for accepting minutes and reports (I.13).

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THIS COUNCIL BELIEVES

1. That policy should continue to remain the remit of General Meetings, but that Council is a representative body of students and therefore is entitled to mandate the Executive.
2. That any student should be able to make the case for a directive mandating the Executive, including those who have not been elected to Council.
3. It must continue to be elected Council members who may vote on motions brought before Council.
4. Reports and minutes should not be automatically accepted but should be discussed as a matter of course to improve accountability.

THIS COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To amend I.3 to read as follows:

“No motion or amendment shall be open for discussion unless it has a proposer and a seconder, both of whom are Ordinary Members. Any motion proposed by the Chair of the meeting shall not require a seconder.”

2. To amend I.6 to read as follows:

“The Chair of the meeting may allow any Ordinary Member to contribute to the business under discussion. The Chair shall determine the order in which contributions are accepted, giving priority to members who have not already made a contribution to the present discussion.”

3. To insert the word "Council" between "Any" and "member" in I.7 and I.8.

4. To retitle I.13 to "Starred items" and to amend to read as follows:

"Any starred item on the agenda tabled for consideration at Council, shall be deemed noted and any recommendations contained therein accepted, unless any member of Council asks for it to be discussed by notifying the Chair before the meeting."

23 : 7 : 7
Defeated

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION -
SOCIETIES SECRETARY ON COUNCIL**

Proposer: Ellie Reyland

Seconder: Jennie Killip

THIS COUNCIL NOTES

1. That UMSU currently has over 100 registered and active societies.
2. That Societies Committee implements and enforces Union regulations relating to societies, including decisions on the finances of those societies.

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3. Societies need 30 student members in order to be registered, and registration is not complete until that is confirmed and the paperwork is correct.
4. That the quorum of a societies committee is 3 elected members. including the Student Activities Officer and the General Secretary.
5. That the committee reflects the democratic structures and mechanisms of the Union; consisting of the Student Activities Officer, the General Secretary, the societies Secretary, 2 members elected from Council and a member elected from/by the chairs of the registered societies. Societies committee must contain two Sabbatical officers (trustees).
6. That Societies committee needs to be quorate in order to register societies to undertake business.
7. That without a Societies Secretary, the committee could not make any decisions until after the additional members have been elected by Council.
8. That Executive may not book rooms for societies once they have had the chance to be registered.
9. That many societies rely on their membership based grant for funding of activities.
10. The committee itself determines the size of allocation per member, and the maximum allocation per society.
11. The Societies Budget totals over £30,000 per year.

12. Societies vary greatly in size and activities.
13. Societies may only hold one bank account which is facilitated by UMSU.
14. Societies must be registered for their treasurers to be identified and trained and for society bank account access to be granted.

THIS COUNCIL FURTHER NOTES

1. Society Committee meeting minutes are published on line at <http://www.umsu.manchester.ac.uk/societies/running/committee.shtml>.
2. Before the end of this reading week, the Societies Committee has met five times.
3. Committee members from this Council will not be elected until after reading week.
4. Reading week in the first semester denotes 25% of the teaching year has past.
5. Societies start their many events and activities in Freshers Week.
6. It is important to consult with groups affected by the changes in Council structure.

THIS COUNCIL BELIEVES

1. The activities of Societies is vital to the health of the Students' Union.
2. The majority of students have the majority of their interactions with the Union through Societies and related activities.

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3. The majority of students take their experience of the Union to be that of their Society.
4. Council meetings are sometimes inquorate.
5. Delays in council quorum should not be able to significantly impact society operations.
6. Societies require access to banking facilities to run any events involving society money.
7. Societies require access to rooms and other bookable resources to further their aims.
8. Societies committee draws its legitimacy from its composition exclusively of democratically elected members reflecting the constituency of the society remit.
9. For any reason, it would be unacceptable as a Union of and for Students to effectively prohibit all societies from operating for up to a quarter of the academic year.
10. That such a situation would have occurred this year without the post of Societies Secretary being elected by Students.

THIS COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To include an elected position of societies Secretary in the new constitution.

2. To proactively and clearly consult in a timely manner with all Societies on any future changes which affect the position of Societies Secretary.
3. To proactively consult with Societies on any future constitution changes which may affect society activities.

R Pinfold "Remove 'This Council Resolves 1' "

16 : 13 : 6
Carried

Vote on Motion 28 : 0 : 6
Carried

PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION - AMENDMENT TO COUNCIL REFORM

Proposer: Jason Holloway
Secunder: Chris Jenkinson

This Council Notes

1. The proposals to reform Union Council.
2. There are 11,850 postgraduate students at the University of Manchester.
3. There are no reserved places for postgraduates.

This Council Believes

1. The proposals should be endorsed by Council, but there should be reserved places for postgraduates.

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This Council Resolves

1. To insert "Resolves 2" and renumber accordingly, to read:

"To mandate the Executive to introduce an amendment introducing a block of 4 postgraduate members, elected only by postgraduates."

This amendment was accepted into the main motion by the proposer.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION - COUNCIL REFORM

Proposer: Chris Jenkinson
Secunder: Rob Pinfold

THIS COUNCIL NOTES

1. The proposals for changes to the Union Constitution regarding the Composition of Council.

2. The discussion of the proposals by Executive Committee.
3. The proposals may be adopted by a two-thirds majority vote at a General Meeting.

THIS COUNCIL BELIEVES

1. The Composition of Council is clearly of interest to Council and thus the proposals should be discussed and endorsed by Council as well as by a General Meeting.

THIS COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To endorse the proposals and to campaign for their introduction.
2. To mandate the Executive to introduce an amendment introducing a block of 4 postgraduate members, elected only by postgraduates.
3. To mandate the Executive to introduce an amendment noting Council's support for these proposals.

“There be a division list”

Carried

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Vote on Main Motion

DIVISION LIST

FOR

Mark Dunwell
 Matt Fright
 Jason Holloway
 Alex James
 Chris Jenkinson
 Mike Joslin
 Jessica Myers

Richard Neudegg
 Rob Pinfold
 Daniel Sheldon
 Shaun Taylor
 Oliver Worth
 James Wyatt
 Ali Yazdi

AGAINST

Sean Goldstein
 Ruthie Jacobs
 Dan Lee
 Dave Sewell
 Andrew Speke
 Natalie Heppenstall
 Helen Allcott

ABSTENSIONS

Hollie Conway
 Tomas Jacko
 Deborah Joseph
 Ahmed Khan
 Jennie Killip
 Kate Little
 Frankie McGough
 Ellie Reyland
 Rob Tidy
 Robbie Gillett

14 : 7 : 10 Carried

MEETING CLOSED : 8.15 P.M.