

COUNCIL MEETING NO. 5

29TH JANUARY 2008, 6.00 P.M.

Chairperson: A Yazdi

Present: F Ahmad, H Ahmed, S Ali, N Balabanoff, A Castro, B Craig, A Cull, A Cunningham, S Davies, A Ellis, F Ghaffur, B Harris, A Hodges, A Humphrey, T Jacko, A James, C Jenkinson, G Johnson, M Joslin, Y Joya, J Killip, D Koole, F Kutubudin, C Livingstone, S Lyons, G Mahalla, S McGuirk, J Meddemmen, I Musa, R Pinfold, E Randall, A Reynolds-Cocroft, A Rowley, Z Saleem, T Skinner, G Smith, E Somerville, L Zafrani.

A guest speaker addressed Council on the Government's Asylum Seekers' Fees Policy.

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received for absence from S Asghar, A A Khan, N Rahman, J Seshold.

APPLICATION FOR LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The following application for Life Membership was duly ratified:-

Yoji Hajime

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING NO. 3, 6TH NOVEMBER 2007

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING NO. 4, 20TH NOVEMBER 2007

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 6, 2ND NOVEMBER 2007

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 7, 16TH NOVEMBER 2007

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 8, 23RD NOVEMBER 2007

Minutes Accepted

MINUTES OF SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 9, 30TH NOVEMBER 2007

Minutes Accepted

- 18 -

MINUTES OF SOCIETIES COMMITTEE MEETING NO. 10, 7TH DECEMBER 2007

Minutes Accepted

CUMULATIVE WEEKLY INCOME REPORT : 20.1.08

At the start of the year the cash flow was down by 20% compared to last year. The main contributing factor was the closure of the Academy for refurbishment. The situation had now improved. The General Manager was confident that the Union's trading would be on budget by the end of the financial year.

Report Accepted

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL - 27.11.07

Report Accepted

CAMPAIGNS OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL - 29.1.08

Report Accepted

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL - 29.1.08

Report Accepted

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT TO COUNCIL - 29.1.08

Report Accepted

STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL - 27.11.07

Report Accepted

STUDENT ACTIVITIES OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL - 29.1.08

Report Accepted

WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL - 29.1.08

Report Accepted

WOMEN'S OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL - 27.11.07

Report Accepted

LIFE SCIENCES FACULTY OFFICER'S REPORT TO COUNCIL - 27.11.07

Report Accepted

The Women's Officer and Student Direct Officer apologised for failing to submit their written reports and gave a brief verbal report.

- 19 -

LGBT SECRETARY (WOMEN) REPORT TO COUNCIL - 29.1.08

Report Accepted

A Pangaea report would be submitted to the next Council meeting.

The Life Sciences Faculty Officer informed Council that there were proposals for a proportion of teaching to be done online. He would submit a report to the next Council meeting.

There would be an NUS Reclaim the Night March on 1st March.

PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION - ELECTION REGULATIONS

An amendment to the Private Member's Motion was circulated to Council members. The amendment was accepted into the main motion by the proposer.

S McQuirk *"In amendment point 1. delete "at the Returning Officer's discretion".
Delete "may" and insert "must"*

Carried

Proposer: Tom Skinner
Secunder: Bev Craig

THIS COUNCIL NOTES

1. That some students' hours of study coincide with the polling hours of Union Elections 10.00 am - 6.00 pm.
2. That Schedule F.4.6 was hastily amended to enable polling after 6.00 pm for the October 2007 By-Elections.
3. That students who want to become candidates may be unable to receive nomination forms during the opening hours of General Office.

THIS COUNCIL BELIEVES

1. That it is important that the Union provides polling stations for longer, to enable all students to vote.
2. That it is important that the Union makes provision for students to receive and hand in nomination forms via a proxy, to enable all students to stand in elections.

THIS COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To amend F.4.6 as follows:

F.4.6 Polling Stations

The polling stations in all elections shall be in the foyers of the Steve Biko and Barnes Wallis Buildings and shall be open from 10.00 am to 6.00 pm on each day of polling. Polling times must be extended to 8.00 pm on one day, except the day of the count.

- 20 -

2. To add to F.6.2.1 as follows:

F.6.2.1.(c)

To a candidate's proxy, on production of written permission granted to a candidate by the Returning Officer in exceptional circumstances. Candidates wishing to use a proxy must have their eligibility for nomination checked in accordance with F.6.2.1(a) before obtaining written permission. The proxy may also hand in the nomination form on behalf of the candidate.

3. To amend F.6.3.(f) as follows:

F.6.3.(f)

The nomination form be issued to and returned by the member, or their verified proxy, intending to stand for the post.

Vote on Motion with Amendment

Carried

QUESTIONS TO EXECUTIVE

Discussions were still ongoing with the Christian Network. Initial proposals were for a joint budget of £1,250 with each group maintaining their own autonomy.

Council discussed ideas for promoting the General Meeting on 13th February.

The possibility of using the "message of the day" on University computers would be investigated. It was also suggested that a small article be published on the front page of Student Direct. It was agreed that a banner needed to be put on the building at the beginning of the week, rather than just on the day of the General Meeting. More use should be made of the foyer screens to advertise the General Meetings.

Faculty Officers needed to be in contact with Course Representatives in order to advertise General Meetings within their Schools.

The motions needed to be relevant to their every day experiences to encourage them to attend meetings. It was also considered that many students did not understand what was happening when they attended a General Meeting, which put them off going to another one. The General Manager stated that the Academy could not be booked for the scheduled General Meetings for the whole year due to the busy entertainments schedule, which generated the bulk of the Students' Union income.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A demonstration on the Gaza issue was taking place on Saturday outside the BBC.

The case of an overseas student who had to leave his course due to the high cost of accommodation was highlighted to Council. This had been exacerbated by him being unaware of the support and advice facilities offered by Student Services, International Office and the Advice Centre. The Overseas Students' Secretary agreed to work with the Welfare Officer to further promote support services available in these circumstances.

MEETING CLOSED : 7.50 p.m.