

Union General Meeting Minutes

Time:	17:00-19:00
Date:	29 th November 2016
Location:	Atrium

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Minutes & Matters Arising
3. Report from Sabbatical Officers
4. Report from Executive Officers
5. Towards Fairer Performance Assessments for Outsourced Workers
6. Halt Current Negotiations on Lecture Recordings in order to Fully Consider Implications on Students and Academics
7. Boycott NSS
8. 24 Hour Library Access
9. £150 Administration Fee: Rescind and Refund
10. Any Other Business

Ref#	Action/Discussion	Notes
1	AH explained that the Union's regular chair was unable to attend due to train problems from Birmingham. He introduced Yusuf, the stand in chair.	
2	There were no objections to the minutes and no matters arising.	Minutes approved
3	AD gave a summary of her recent work, including an 'In Conversation with Deray' event, a lecture series to commence in January, Black History Year events, Hip Hop Karaoke and a number of other events. She also discussed the recent problems surrounding space, and work she had done to tackle this problem. This included creating a new bookable space, lobbying the School and seeking greater comms from the School on the matter.	All Co-President reports accepted

	<p>AA outlined work she had done surrounding the BME attainment gap report, black men and mental health, a centralised accommodation system, additional resources for advice and wellbeing and an increased hardship fund. She announced that funding had been approved for her peer support project.</p> <p>NC discussed academic restructuring, and work that was occurring in both the working group and student staff open forums. She discussed the National Demonstration, attainment gaps work, the Enough is Enough campaign and the fact that funding had been approved to continue the campaign for another year.</p> <p>AH outlined his pre-demo rally event, the demonstration, the success of student representative training, and work around achieving lecture recordings. He also spoke about his work done on University Boards, having presented the Union's educational and non-educational priorities to every Board in the School.</p>	
<p>4</p>	<p>FD discussed her work with an NUS Black Women's Mental Health Working Group, including a video campaign. She also invited members to attend a Prevent event at UCL the following day.</p> <p>GL introduced himself as the new accommodation officer, and discussed his priority of creating more awareness about tenants' rights by creating a pamphlet.</p> <p>AS & MP discussed the success of their Boycott the Bottle Campaign</p> <p>NP spoke about the academic restructuring, and the alternative priorities that she had created to go alongside the priorities set by the School in the working group. She also outlined work she as doing with feedback, alternative forms of assessment and mitigating circumstances.</p> <p>NI recapped on the success of Black History Month & outlined events and campaigns coming throughout the year, including Reclaiming the A in SOAS.</p>	



<p>5</p>	<p>An amendment to the order of motions was passed, moving '£150 Administration Fee' to last due to the proposer running late.</p> <p>DC outlined the motion, explaining the context of the newly installed touch pads and stating that they create false data and are targeted against outsourced workers.</p> <p>Vote on the Motion: Motion Passes</p>	
<p>6</p>	<p>Speech for: CR summarised the motion, stating that the current negotiations didn't take into consideration certain concerns being raised by staff and students. A number of concerns included a worry that the recordings would be used by management to monitor academics, and that marginalised students would feel uncomfortable due to Prevent legislation.</p> <p>Speech against: DO ran through the points raised by the proposer, stating that the recordings will only be accessible to students and academics for that particular module. He also stated that an 'opt out' option was in place. He also responded to the point raised about marginalised students.</p> <p>Speech for: DC reiterated the point that the motion wasn't to stop the lecture recording policy, merely to increase consultation before moving forward. He discussed international students who needed to prove why they miss class being disproportionately affected.</p> <p>Speech against: AH stated that International students called for lecture recordings initially in order to listen back to lectures a second time. He listed groups of students who had called for the recordings, and explained that of 1836 survey responses, 97.2% of students claimed they wanted lecture recordings. He reiterated that management would not have access to the lecture recordings.</p> <p>Vote on the Motion: Motion Falls</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>MB presented the motion, explaining that the boycott of the NSS was as a means of opposition to the TEF.</p> <p>Vote on the Motion: Motion Passes</p>	

<p>8</p>	<p>The proposer was absent, and there was no speech for the motion.</p> <p>HA spoke against the motion, stating that it was bigger than anything the Students' Union could achieve. He explained that it was not the role of a UGM to pass motions like this one.</p> <p>Vote on the Motion: Motion Passes</p>	
<p>9</p>	<p>MG presented the motion, explaining that if Postgraduate students want to pay their fees in instalments, they have to pay £150. He explained that this doesn't reflect the new Postgraduate Loan system, which pays the loan in instalments, and the Postgraduate Officers wanted to challenge the University on this.</p> <p>Vote on the Motion: Motion Passes</p>	
<p>There was no other business. Next UGM 19th January, 5pm, Atrium.</p>		