



# Union General Meeting Minutes

<b>Time:</b>	17:00 – 19:00
<b>Date:</b>	10 <sup>th</sup> October 2013
<b>Location:</b>	JCR

## Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Matters arising from previous meeting
3. Matters arising from previous UGM and update
4. Report from Sabbatical Officers
5. Report from executive officers
6. Motions:
  - i. Adopt Updated Complaints, Disciplinary and Equality & Diversity Policies
  - ii. Affiliate with Union Solidarity International
  - iii. Gender Neutral Titles
  - iv. Gender Neutral Toilets
  - v. Invest In DJ Equipment
7. Emergency Motions
  - i. Fight the student debt sell-off
  - ii. Save ULU
  - iii. Support justice for cleaners
  - iv. Support student assembly against austerity
  - v. No Copts on Campus
8. Any Other Business (AOB) and announcements

Ref#	Action/Discussion	Notes
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes from the previous meeting</b>  None	
<b>3</b>	<b>Matters arising from previous UGM and update</b>  None	

<p><b>4</b></p>	<p><b>Report from Sabbatical Officers</b> <b>David:</b></p> <p><b>Q.</b> Student asked about Security in Bar and what alternatives there were <b>A.</b> David said Security was a result of a drugs find over summer, and having security was a better option than having police constantly coming and checking.</p> <p><b>Q.</b> Why is the Union still using the Uni Logo despite a UGM passing a motion for it not to be used <b>A.</b> It's being used in the interim.</p> <p><b>Q.</b> Why are NUS Extra posters containing unethical McDonalds Logos being put up? <b>A.</b> They offer a discount to students, and the Union does get a small income from their sales that is reinvested back into clubs and societies. You are able to put in a motion to UGM if you want the McDonalds Logo Banned.</p> <p><b>Leah</b></p> <p><b>Q.</b> What campaigns do you plan to run <b>A.</b> Key Campaigns are around housing, also working with Students Assembly Against Austerity</p> <p><b>Q.</b> Is it possible for student facing staff/volunteers of the union to get the same Equality &amp; Diversity training the exec got, such as SU CREW. <b>A.</b> Will look into for the future.</p> <p><b>Johann</b></p> <p><b>No Questions</b></p>	<p><b>PASSED</b></p> <p><b>PASSED</b></p> <p><b>PASSED</b></p>
<p><b>5</b></p>	<p><b>Report from executive officers</b></p> <p><b>The Black Students Officers told people about Black History month and the events happening.</b></p> <p><b>The Anti Racism officers told people the Anti Racist 5-a-side football is starting up again soon.</b></p> <p><b>The Campaigns Officers told people about the recent campaigns carnival and up and coming xxx carnival</b></p> <p><b>Updates from:</b> LGBT Officer Disabilities Officer Mature Students Officers Accommodation Officer</p>	<p><b>All PASSED</b></p>

<p><b>6.1</b></p>	<p><b>Adopt Updated Complaints, Disciplinary and Equality &amp; Diversity Policies</b></p> <p><b>Speech Against:</b> The policy is unnecessary bureaucracy, why can't people just be good human beings. I went to the union to make a complaint against the Sabbaticals, but they made me fill in paperwork.</p> <p><b>Speech For:</b> It's a legal requirement and something we have always had. It's a robust system to ensure complaints are handled properly and escalated.</p>	<p><b>Motion PASSED</b></p>
<p><b>6.2</b></p>	<p><b>Affiliate with Union Solidarity International</b></p> <p><b>Speech For:</b> It will improve campaigning, link students unions and trade unions. The website has huge number of hits</p> <p><b>Speech Against:</b> This will result in nothing but clicktivism</p> <p><b>Amendment:</b> Add this to the affiliation ballot that will be voted on as part of the elections.</p>	<p><b>Amendment PASSED</b></p> <p><b>Amended Motion PASSED</b></p>
<p><b>6.3</b></p>	<p><b>Gender Neutral Titles</b></p> <p>No opposition</p>	<p><b>Motion PASSED</b></p>
<p><b>6.4</b></p>	<p><b>Gender Neutral Toilets</b></p> <p>No opposition</p>	<p><b>Motion PASSED</b></p>
<p><b>6.5</b></p>	<p><b>Invest In DJ Equipment</b></p> <p>No opposition</p>	<p><b>Motion PASSED</b></p>

<p><b>7.1</b></p>	<p><b>Fight the Student Debt Sell-off</b></p> <p>No opposition</p>	<p><b>Motion PASSED</b></p>
<p><b>7.2</b></p>	<p><b>Save ULU</b></p> <p>No opposition</p>	<p><b>Motion PASSED</b></p>
<p><b>7.3</b></p>	<p><b>Support Justice for Cleaners</b></p> <p>No opposition</p>	<p><b>Motion PASSED</b></p>
<p><b>7.4</b></p>	<p><b>Support the Student Assembly Against Austerity</b></p> <p>No opposition</p>	<p><b>Motion PASSED</b></p>
<p><b>7.5</b></p>	<p><b>No Cops on Campus</b></p> <p><b>Amendment:</b> To include halls of residence (in office hours)</p> <p><b>Speech Against Amendment:</b> Halls aren't part of the SOAS Campus</p>	<p><b>Amendment PASSED</b></p> <p><b>Amended Motion PASSED</b></p>
<p><b>8</b></p>	<p><b>Any other business &amp; Announcements</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please can we have more motions for the next AGM</li> <li>• Cash 4 Antifash event @ ULU – 12/10/2013 – 7pm</li> </ul>	

## Summary of actions

Motion	Actions
<b>6.1</b>	<b>3.1)</b> To approve the Complaints, Disciplinary, and Equality & Diversity policies as Union policy.
<b>6.2</b>	<b>3.1)</b> Add Union Solidarity International to the Affiliation Ballot.
<b>6.3</b>	<b>3.1)</b> To call for the School to introduce the option of gender neutral titles (Mx) in its admin system
<b>6.4</b>	<b>3.1)</b> To call for the School introduce gender neutral toilets in the library <b>3.2)</b> To campaign for better provision of facilities which are accessible for trans* and genderqueer students
<b>6.5</b>	<b>3.1)</b> That a Mixer and CDj's should be purchased. A 4 channel mixer (extra channels for laptops, vinyl and other audio equipment) with two CDJs and DJ headphones can be purchased for £320.  <b>3.2)</b> That the purchase of turntables should happen in future if the Creative Arts Society or individuals who DJ using Vinyl, are keen enough to regularly use them. A pair of new Technics or Stanton turntables can be bought for as little as £215-£230 in the future.  <b>3.3)</b> The establishment of a permanent DJ area in the bar, so that the Bar can be used for live DJ sets with ease.
<b>7.1</b>	<b>3.1)</b> To make the fighting of student debt a priority campaign  <b>3.2)</b> That the sabbatical officers report back to the student body regularly what they are doing on the issue,  <b>3.3)</b> To liaise with other Universities and campaigns on the issue of debt.
<b>7.2</b>	<b>3.1)</b> To support the Save ULU campaign  <b>3.2)</b> To support efforts on campus to inform students about the closure, its consequences and to campaign against it  <b>3.3)</b> To allocate some funding in order to publicise this campaign  <b>3.4)</b> To demand that the Malet Street building remain a democratic student-run centre  <b>3.5)</b> To support efforts to expand ULU to include non-UOL HE and FE unions in London as constituent members
<b>7.3</b>	<b>3.1)</b> To fully support any campaign actions, including direct action and strikes, and an escalation of protests. □

<b>7.4</b>	<p><b>3.1)</b> To support the Student Assembly Against Austerity taking place on Saturday 2 November at the University College London.</p> <p><b>3.2)</b> To send a delegation of SOAS students to the Student Assembly Against Austerity.</p> <p><b>3.3)</b> To make a donation of £100 to the Student Assembly Against Austerity.</p>
<b>7.5</b>	<p><b>3.1)</b> To re-affirm our policy of 'No Cops on Campus' to protect students against a rising police presence.</p> <p><b>3.2)</b> On the occasion that police do enter the SOAS Campus or Halls of Residence during officer hours; that a member of union staff engages with the police to ascertain whether their entry is lawful, and that the member of staff asks for further dialogue to take place off-campus, in this way avoiding their contact with students.</p> <p><b>3.3)</b> To pressure the school not to allow or invite police onto our campus for their events.</p> <p><b>3.4)</b> To support students who, in their actions, may incur unlawful challenges by the police. For instance being followed, stopped and searched or arrested.</p>

