



Union General Meeting Minutes

Time:	17:00 – 19:00
Date:	4 th December 2014
Location:	JCR

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Minutes from Previous Meeting
3. Matters arising from previous UGM and update
4. Report from Sabbatical Officers
5. Report from Executive Officers
6. Motions:
 - 01 - Solidarity with the Students Killed in Mexico - ¡Vivos se los llevaron, vivos los queremos!
 - 02 - Change "Students with Disabilities' Officer" to "Disabled Students and Carers' Officer"
 - 03 - Build a new smoking area in the Students' Union Bar
 - 04 - Amendment to Union Schedules - LGBTQ Officer
 - 05 - Formation of a Research Students' Association (RSA)
 - 06 - increased accountability for Student Union Sabbatical and Executive officers:
 - 07 - Solidarity with the Syrians refugees in Calais
 - 08 - Deals for Part-time students
 - 09 - Tackling Harassment at SOAS
 - 10 - Meat-free Monday
 - 11 - Stop oppressing students in the Egyptian universities
 - 12 - More drinking water stations to refill bottles
7. Emergency Motions
 - 01 - Solidarity with Warwick Students
 - 02 - Victimization of SOAS Alumn for involvement in Cleaners Campaigns
 - 03 - Solidarity with the Syrians refugees in Calais
8. Any Other Business (AOB) and announcements

Ref#	Action/Discussion	Notes
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<p>2</p>	<p>Minutes from Previous Meeting</p> <p>The minutes of the previous UGM had been available on the website.</p> <p>The minutes were passed</p>	<p>No Questions or challenges to the minutes submitted</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>Matters arising from previous UGM and update</p> <p>Peter Carlisle (615899)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outside bins get filled with paper plates from the Harekrishna food after every lunch - people then trough plates and unfinished food on the floor, making a mess. - We need to respect the outside space more. - We show more respect to Dominic, who gives SOAS studets food every day. - We need to waste less food. Ask Dominic for less if you know you won't finish your plate. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal of more bins will be brought at next UGM <p>Adam Barr (296340)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - follow up from motion in previous UGM - He will write letter to Cher 	
<p>4</p>	<p>Report from Sabbatical Officers</p> <p>David s report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Reps - all elected -Exam Feedback paper being made and discussed at School committees <p>Georgie Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -equality and diversity trainings - update -dinwiddy problems - discussed at meeting with sanctuary management -Harassment reports - available online -Hardship funds - update -Protests of SOAS students -update -Justice for Cleaners protest at Governing Body - in house 	<p>No questions about the reports</p>

	<p>proposal being reviewed -Fossil Free campaign - set up working group to report back to working group -Free Education - occupation at UniversitiesUK by SOAS and UCL students -Protests in Warwick - police brutality - Warwick occupied -Jason-Mayer Lee campaign vs his victimization -Fuel Poverty protest - update</p> <p>Kabir Report: -200 Clubs and Societies at SOAS - UCL only 137 -Great talks by societies - recorded an on website -BDS referendum - working group - 12th Jan Ilan Pappé launch -End of term Party -SOAS Drama Soc first event All Reports Accepted</p>	
<p>5</p>	<p>Report from Executive Officers</p> <p>The following Executive Officers gave a verbal report to the UGM.</p> <p>Black Students officer :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black History Month report <p>Environment officers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waste bins motion at next UGM • Bike fixing workshop taking place every 2 weeks • vegetarian meal deal with Khaled • different recycled paper in the library • Water fountains in the library from next year <p>Academic Affairs officers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • student reps - update • talk this evening: A century of knowledge production at SOAS: Politics <p>LGBTQ officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trans day of remembrance held at soas • HIV testing week • World aids day • Harassment report - main findings: 75 per cent of students on t know who to report to when victim of harassment 	<p>No questions about the reports</p>

	<p>Accommodations officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dinwiddy complaints • Looking at equality and diversity complaints <p>PGR officer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mental health problems • Research representation on all committees • Scholarship webpage of soas more clear after meeting with scholarship department • Preparing a Field Work conference • Support to the Fractional For Fair Play campaigning <p>All Reports Accepted</p>	
6.1	<p>Solidarity with the Students Killed in Mexico - ¡Vivos se los llevaron, vivos los queremos!</p> <p>Speech For – Giovanna De Meneghi (616846) Speech Against – none</p> <p>Moved to a Vote</p> <p>Motion Passes</p>	
6.2	<p>Change "Students with Disabilities' Officer" to "Disabled Students and Carers' Officer"</p> <p>no quorum - coming back at next UGM</p>	
6.3	<p>Build a new smoking area in the Students' Union Bar</p> <p>Speech For – Kabir Joshi (296327) Speech Against – Mohamed Taha (576852) Speech For – Bilal Ahmed (573672) Speech Against – Adam Barr (296340) Speech For – Tom Oliver (537871) Speech Against – Peter Carlisle (615899)</p> <p>Summation - Kabir Joshi (296327) Moved to a Vote</p> <p>For – 39 Against – 4 Abstentions - 0</p> <p>Motion Passes</p>	

Procedural Motion: vote to end meeting to go to Senate House protest

Proposed by – Adam Barr (296340)

Moved to a **Vote**

Motions Falls

Call For Quorum:

Proposed by – Adam Barr (296340)

Quorum not met

UGM will end after emergency motions

7.1	Solidarity with Warwick Students Motion Passes	
7.2	Victimization of SOAS Alumn for involvement in Cleaners Campaigns Motion Passes	
7.3	Solidarity with the Syrians refugees in Calais Motion Passes	

Meeting Ends

All motions not discussed will go to next UGM in January

Summary of actions

Motion	Actions
6.1	<p>Solidarity with the Students Killed in Mexico - ¡Vivos se los llevaron, vivos los queremos!</p> <p>3.1. To raise awareness through the organization of a demonstration, with a stand outside SOAS.</p> <p>3.2. To distribute some leaflets telling what happened and what it is still happening to these guys, and to spread and sign the petition Vivos se los llevaron, vivos los queremos is</p> <p>3.3. To try to be part of a European network of students (some students studying in Amsterdam are trying to organize</p>
6.3	<p>Build a new smoking area in the Students' Union Bar</p> <p>3.1) To give the trustees the authorisation to spend up to £70,000.</p> <p>3.2) To call the new area the moat, due to it being shaped like a moat.</p> <p>3.3) To campaign for the school to let us open the old outside area at 5PM whilst we wait.</p>
7.1	<p>Solidarity with Warwick Students</p> <p>3.1 Send a message of support and solidarity to all the students concerned and to unreservedly condemn the escalating use of police violence on our campuses.</p> <p>3.2 To call for the immediate resignation of the Warwick University Vice-chancellor and any University officers responsible for calling the police onto the campus.</p> <p>3.3 To reaffirm our support for "Cops Off Campus" and to continue to defend the right of our students to protest and campaign."</p>



	<p>3.4 To call for an immediate investigation into this incident by the IPCC and to call on other student unions to demand the same.</p> <p>3.5 To invite Netpol (Network for Police Monitoring) and Defend the Right To Protest to come to SOAS to hold workshops and talks on police violence, and how we can campaign against it.</p> <p>3.6 To lobby the NUS to condemn this action and to provide legal support for those facing charges from both the student demonstration on November the 19th and those arrested at Warwick.</p>
<p>7.2</p>	<p>Victimization of SOAS recent student for involvement in Cleaners Campaigns</p> <p>3.1 To support Jason Moyer-Lee in his attempt to appeal the decision to reject his application</p> <p>3.2 To pressure the SOAS Management to investigate in the process that was used to scrutinize Jason's application</p> <p>3.3 To pressure SOAS Management to reconsider Jason's application</p>
<p>7.3</p>	<p>Solidarity with the Syrians refugees in Calais</p> <p>3.1 To officially support the Syrian migrants in Calais.</p> <p>3.2 To deliver a petition and a letter written by the Syrian refugees to the home office and the queen, while also spreading awareness of the inhumane situation in Calais through various media.</p> <p>3.3 To organise a conference where various SOAS actors (lectures, students, activists etc.) give their view and create a platform for SOAS to 'speak out' about migration issues and how to create a more positive public discourse.</p>

The Date of the next UGM:

**Thursday 29th January – 17:00 – SOAS
JCR**

You can submit a motion to the next UGM on the website:

<http://soasunion.org/democracy/submit-motion/>

The Motion Deadline is:

Monday 26th January – 19:00

Minutes Taken by David Suber

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If you would like to propose any changes/revisions to these minutes or question their accuracy, please contact David.