



**University of Lincoln Students' Union**  
**Student Council Minutes**  
6.12.2013 at 12 noon in the Cargill Lecture Theatre

Chair	Josh Leafe
Societies Officer	Connor Burton
College of Social Sciences Officer	Charlotte Greenley
Officer for Students	Imogen Napper
College of Arts Officer	_____ for Linford Butler

**School Reps**

Architecture	Daniel Orford
Business	Alexandra Westwood deputy for Kate Withers
Computing	Brett J Knights
Humanities	Nyasha Takawira
Law	Jade Casey
Media	Wade Baverstock
Performance	Tom Briggs
Psychology	Daniel Richardson deputy for James Ferrier
Social and Political Science	James Bevan
Sport	Katie Allen

**Societies Council**

Societies Council Rep	Alexandrya-Carmen Mbu
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**Sports Council**

Sports Council Rep	Chris Green
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**In Attendance – Non Voting**

Jammil Allmzd	Vice-President Academic Affairs	Ian Antwi
Victoria Waby	Vice-President Activities	Joe Burt
Ben Daniel	Vice-President Welfare & Community	Brian Alcorn
Sam Gilbert	Chief Executive Officer	James Brooks
Calum Watt	Student Voice & Rep Manager	Aidan Mersh
Jessica Ball	Membership Services Manager/	Ian Johnston
Stefan Prest	Deputy Chief Executive	
Jack Maddock	Communications Worker	Scott McGinn
Gregor Smith	Administrative Support Worker	Hannah Coleman
Jake Baker	Casework and Policy intern	Lindsay Westgarth
Marcell Grant	Course Representative Worker	Kirsty Barnes
Reece Horley	Activities Support Worker	Jo Buckler

**1. Apologies for Absence**

**Noted:**

- Apologies were received from Spencer Nash, Linford Butler, Any Womersley, James Ferrier, Hannah Tuck and Dan Sam.

**2. Minutes from Previous Meeting**

**Noted:**

- Jack Maddock was not listed as an attendee on page 1.

- It was proposed that the minutes suggested that Union staff should also be held responsible for the email version of Octobers Report of Sports Council Chair being circulated to members (Pg 3, Report of Sports Council Chair).
- It was clarified that the Reports by Sport and Societies Council Chairs are received by VP Activities prior to them being circulated and that Union staff are not responsible for them.

**Agreed:**

- Remove the following line from the previous minutes 8.11.13 Pg 3, "The Chair to Student Council Josh Leafe reported that although the Sports and Societies Council Chair Reports are under the VP Activities remit, VP Activities should not be totally blamed as the reports go through other Union staff prior to being circulated".
- The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate record subject to the amendments being made.

**3. Matters Arising**

**Noted:**

- Due to President Dan Sam's absence, feedback on International Student Feedback Groups and Female Representation for Mentors in Schools is included in his report.

**Formatting of Council Papers**

**Noted:**

- Council papers were circulated late as they were not formatted correctly.
- A set standard in papers is to be used. A headed template will be available to the Executive for their reports.

**Discussion:**

- The Chair asked if papers should detail on them if they were submitted late in time for circulation to members or if they should only detail the date the papers were received.

**Agreed:**

- Papers to detail if they were submitted late and the reason for the lateness if provided as well as the date that they were received prior to circulation to members.
- It to be noted if notification is received stating the lateness of a paper prior to the submission deadline.

**Sabbatical Officers Time Analysis Chart**

**Agreed:**

- The Sabbatical Officers Time Analysis Chart to be uploaded on to the Union's website and an update regarding it to be given at the next Student Council.
- Circulate Sabbatical Officers Time Analysis Chart to members for the next Student Council.

**Community**

**Discussion:**

- VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn presented a power point presentation to members explaining the implications of Article 4 Directive for students.
- It was reported that the general concern is that an Article 4 Directive is costly and timely.
- Councillors are being political and it is uncertain how many support the implementation of an Article 4 Directive.
- Article 4 Directive is not concerned with the look of the area but it is hoped that it will help to maintain the structure and integrity of the place and deter anti-social behaviour.
- Article 4 Directive does not reduce the number of houses but prevents more Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs).
- Meet the Street events were reportedly a success. It is hoped that the events encouraged residents to change their perception of student.
- Members of West End Residents Association (WERA) and Carholme Community Forum are keen for young people who live in those areas to become involved with the committees. Residents attended the AGM.
- The next committee isn't until after Christmas. It was suggested that these committees are publicised more as not many students know of them.
- Standing orders are being produced for Community Reps which are anticipated to be established shortly. Students must live in the ward to be a Rep.

**Agreed:**

- An update on the plans for Community reps to be given at the next Student Council and information on this to be circulated to members.

### **Emergency Motion to Student Council on the Page Three Referendum.**

#### **Noted:**

- Speech for the Motion was put forward. The proposer found out that the Referendum was occurring in five days' time the day before the Student Council. It was proposed that this was not enough time for quoracy to be reached or to campaign effectively. Sabbatical Officers are busy with other areas at present and it was felt that it would be better and easier if the referendum was held in conjunction with the main elections. It was reported that last year quoracy was not reached in the referendum.

#### **Discussed:**

- The Referendum may have a negative impact on the elections as the focus will not be completely on the elections and it may create a huge divide due to the topic being heavily debated.
- The Union used the 'Save the Shed' campaign as a spring board for the Annual General Meeting (AGM) to encourage a bigger turnout, the Referendum could be used similar for the elections.
- The elections are political so there will always be a divide depending on who students vote for.
- Student participation is reportedly up this year so the 10% quoracy level is expected to be reached more easily.
- There are only a few posters around campus publicising the Referendum which the proposer has not personally seen. The AGM had several weeks for publicity.
- President Dan Sam Key Performance Indicator (KPI) is to hold three Referendums throughout the year. It was felt that if the Referendum was held later then this KPI may not be achieved.
- It was felt that achieving the KPI was a not a valid reason to not postpone the Referendum till later on in the year. All three Referendums could be held at the same time.
- To vote in the Referendum takes little time to do as it is done online.
- Candidates could use the Referendum as part of their campaign to raise awareness which was felt to be an excellent way to publicise what the Students' Union are doing and what's happening.
- It was proposed that the order of items at the AGM impacted on the debate which occurred regarding the 'Page 3' Motion as it was prior to The Shed Motion. Once The Shed Motion was passed at AGM, it was reported that a lot of the attendees left.
- The Shed Motion was discussed after the 'Page 3' Motion at AGM as Vice Chancellor Mary Stuart was due to attend at a certain time to speak to the attendees.
- Publicity has already been ordered for the Referendum. There may be cost implications involved to change the date of the Referendum.
- The Union's 'Save The Shed' campaign was publicised from Wednesday afternoon to the following Monday afternoon prior to the AGM.
- It was felt that there may not be a drastic impact regarding cost if the date of the Referendum changed.
- The elections take a lot of staff resource up.
- The Referendum will allow students the opportunity to have their view on the subject.
- The AGM provided an open forum for members to express their views on the subject and to decide on the outcome of the Motion.
- It was reported that some students could not attend AGM and that the Referendum would allow them the opportunity to have their say and get campus opinion on the subject.
- It was felt that the timing of the Referendum did not allow enough time for people to debate the subject.
- The Debating Society will be debating the subject
- No one has come forward to oppose the campaign, if they had then the Union would have provided the same resource as did the campaign to 'Say no to Page 3' received.
- It was suggested that students may become disinterested about the Referendum if it were postponed.
- There is a lot of hype surrounding the elections and the Referendum as well.
- The campaign has been around for a long time and it was noted that the campaign has spread not just within the students present.
- It was reported that the Board of Governors have approved the quoracy level of 800 votes for the Referendum. This statement was unconfirmed and would not be binding in the Union's Constitution as the Constitution has not been changed.

- It was suggested that if the Referendum were to be held at the same time as the elections, students may vote for the candidate as they support/oppose the campaign not for if they were the best Rep (candidate) for the School (role).
- The campaigning time for Full time positions is over a 7day period where as the Referendum campaign would be for 5 days.
- 10% was felt to be achievable as there was a 27% voter turnout reached in last year's elections.
- A speech was made against the Motion. It was proposed that 10% quoracy level equivalent to 1200 votes was attainable as Sabbatical Officers and Part Time Officers have access to many students. Members were encouraged to assist President Dan Sam in reaching his KPI of 3 Referendums within the year and to have more confidence in reaching quoracy.
- It was felt that it was not important to help President Dan Sam to reach his KPI and should not be a reason not to postpone the Referendum.
- It is important to get as many votes as possible.
- Members were encouraged to support the Union in getting votes by raising awareness through academics and Reps.
- The marketing materials are complete for the Referendum to be held.
- It was proposed that as students are discussing the subject now then the Referendum should go ahead due to its relevance.
- If the Referendum failed to reach quoracy, it would not be policy but would be the Union's preferred position. The Board of Governors would choose to accept the outcome of the Referendum as the opinion of the majority of students.
- It is already binded due to the Motion being passed at AGM that the Union will support the National Campaign.
- An abstention speech was put forward which proposed that School reps are currently extremely busy so would not be able to help the Union with the campaign and talk to students within the five days. The proposer was not opposed to other people rallying together to campaign. It was felt that during the elections there are a lot of gimmicks, fancy dress and posters which may overshadow the Referendum.

**Agreed:**

Vote to postpone the current referendum on the question of whether to ban page 3 from our campus, in order to run it concurrently with Union elections in the next semester.

Approved: 0 **Against: 9** Abstained: 6

- Motion was not passed.

**4. Sabbatical Key Points**

**4a. Presidents Report**

**Noted:**

- Due to President Dan Sam's absence, a video verbal update of his was shown to members.
- Question regarding the report to be emailed to [dsam@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:dsam@lincoln.ac.uk).
- The Articles of Association have now been approved and the Unions Byelaws are currently being written.

**Action:**

- President Dan Sam to provide an update at the next Student Council on Mentoring in Schools.
- President Dan Sam to provide an update on the new Byelaws and when they can be circulated to members.

**4b. VP Academic Affairs Report**

**Noted:**

- An apology was made to members as the report on vacant Rep positions was not circulated until the papers were for Student Council. The report listed all Rep positions and those which were filled and still vacant.
- Schools and Senior Reps are being closely worked with to ensure their voice is being heard.
- There is a Rep Forum next week and a Senior Catch Up scheduled to discuss how VP Academic Affairs Ian Antwi can better support and assist the Reps. It was reported that Reps input is being taken seriously by the University.
- Course Rep elections are being phased out at a later date to avoid students being confused over the main elections and Course Rep elections.

- An issue matrix has been developed which outlines academic issues being brought up at high level and will show the progress and work of Academic Representatives.
- School Rep for the School of Business is being included in developing internationalisation within the School of Business.
- The Representation Charter will be going to the next Student Experience Committee for approval.
- Academic Affairs drop ins are occurring weekly every Tuesday between 12noon-2pm alternating between the Main Admin Building and the Library to increase their accessibility. It was proposed that the drop ins could be advertised as a 'coffee and a chat' to encourage students to attend them.
- The Turn it in Policy is being worked on currently.
- York St John Sabbatical team visited the Union recently, their Education Officer highlighted the NUS framework and different ideas regarding assessment and feedback which could be developed.

**Action:**

- The Representation Charter to be brought to the next Student Council.
- VP Academic Affairs Ian Antwi to publicise Academic Affairs drop in's and bring the Academic Leaflets to the next Student Council.

**4c. VP Activities Report**

**Noted:**

- A volunteering project called Post Pals which occurred the day before Student Council saw 24 volunteers attend to make Christmas cards for people in hospital. One volunteer stayed for the majority of the day.
- Hull are working on a timetable for next year's Varsity which is named the 'The Humber Games' as well as the potential of wristbands and prices.
- More student led projects are in the process of being signed up for. So far student led projects include CoppaFeel and LincTv.
- A fundraising event on either 23<sup>rd</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> January is due to be held in partnership with Young Potential to raise money and awareness of the organisation. A couple of fundraising events are due to be scheduled with Young Potential. Students have already signed up to the events.
- Cultural trips to Leicester, Hull and York are being organised. Quotes are being negotiated with Hodsons Coaches as the transport supplier as it was reported that they had not given the best prices for the trips.
- The cultural trips were well received by the International School with the date of the trip to Hull needing to be changed due to another event that they were doing occurring at the same time.
- Videos produced by LincTv of sports and societies are on LincTv page and VP Activities Joe Burt's page

**Action:**

- VP Activities Joe Burt to upload the videos of sports and societies onto the Activities area of the Union's website.

**4d. VP Welfare and Community Report**

**Noted:**

- Meet the Street events were reportedly a success with over 200 people attending the events.
- An annual Landlords Forum was held where Manager Residential Services Michael Ball attended. VP Welfare and community Brian Alcorn was invited to the forum, it is believed that he was the first Sabbatical Officer in recent years or ever to attend which is a positive step for the Union.
- A meeting with Manager Residential Services Michael Ball to discuss the possibility of reviewing the Housing Accreditation scheme is being arranged. Currently, the Union does not have an input into the scheme.
- Through the Housing Accreditation Scheme, landlords are encouraged to not let their properties to students until January. An accommodation advisory notice could be used for students to make them aware that the let was agreed prior to the guideline that is set (January).
- A Community Assistant Organiser is due to start next week and will be based in the Union but line managed by NUS. There are 11 Community Assistant Organisers in total who will be mobilising young people in Lincoln in registering them for General Elections.
- Student Services have noted that January is a high risk time for student welfare. Students will be encouraged to access the Student Buddy Scheme during this time.

**Discussed:**

- VP Welfare and Community Brian Alcorn was commended for the success of the Meet the Street events.

- Members were asked if they supported a review of the current Housing Accreditation Scheme to be undertaken.

**Agreed:**

- By a majority vote, members are in support of reviewing the current system of the Housing Accreditation Scheme.

**5. Report of Sports Council Chair**

**Noted:**

- Report was taken as read. Questions regarding the report to be emailed in.

**6. Report of Societies Council Chair**

**Noted:**

- Report was taken as read. Questions regarding the report to be emailed in.

**7. Student Open Session**

**Report on Women in Leadership Conference**

**Noted:**

- College of Social Sciences Officer Charlotte Greenley was given the opportunity to attend a NUS conference 'Women in Leadership' alongside two Union staff where NUS Women's Officer and President Toni Pearce were speakers.
- Currently there is no Women's Group or Women's Officer and 6 out of 16 Senior Reps are female. It was proposed that there is a lack of female representation within the Union.
- Speaker at the conference Director of ThembaHQ Kirsty McNeill explained that if women ask for something they will never get anything less than what they originally have.
- The conference was reportedly empowering.
- A seminar will be run as an outcome of attending the conference aimed at encouraging more female students to get involved with the Union.
- A full report of the conference by Charlotte Greenley will be available.
- Members were asked to contact [cgreenley@lincoln.ac.uk](mailto:cgreenley@lincoln.ac.uk) for more information about 'Women in Leadership'.

**Discussed:**

- It was reported that there were unpleasant tweets which appeared on the screens at the AGM specifically when the Motion of 'Page 3' was discussed. These tweets were reportedly print screened.
- It was reported that President Dan Sam had told a member that no action could be taken regarding the Tweets as the AGM is an open forum.
- The Union has a zero tolerance on discrimination. If a complaint is made regarding the unpleasant Tweets then the Union's formal Complaints Procedure would be followed. The procedure can be found on the front of the Union's website.
- Twitter can ban a person's account if their tweets are reported enough to Twitter.
- There are 3 female Senior Reps within the College of Social Sciences.
- There has been good male and Sabbatical Officer support regarding female representation.
- It is important that other females are aware of women who are in leadership roles. The President of NUS is a woman.
- It is hoped that female students are encouraged to get involved. The seminar proposed would not be about discrediting men's successes.
- Women in leadership is a nationwide issue, it was the first time in 2007 that Cardiff University had an all-female Sabbatical team.
- 'Page 3' campaign is reportedly being discussed at the next NUS Conference.
- Standing Order for Part Time Officer for Women will be brought to Student Council for approval.

**Agreed:**

- Circulate the full report by Charlotte Greenley on the 'Women in Leadership' conference to all members.

**LincTv affiliation with National Student Television Association NASTA**

**Discussed:**

- LincTv is a student television station which started in June 2013. Higher standards, crew motivation, support, publicity and entry in competitions would be gained from their affiliation with NASTA.

- The fee for the affiliation is £60.00 plus administration fee. NASTA work with NUS and are nationally known for copyhouse sessions.
- LincTv have links with School of media and the arts.
- LincTv do not do any live coverage at the moment but are hoping to do next year. Videos are mainly recorded for YouTube currently with a video for futsal getting 400 views, a website is being created for next semester. They have a Facebook LincTv, Twitter Linc\_tv and YouTube thisislinctv accounts.
- LincTv is a student led project which is within the remit of the Volunteer department. It will be set up similar to how Bullet was run with Standing Committees being produced. LincTv would hold a vote at Student Council.
- The 50 plus crew members were encouraged to log their volunteer hours.
- Budget can be allocated to the projects if Standing Committees are approved. The money allocated will always be available unlike activities if they were to disband due to the Standing Committees being written into the Constitution.

**Agreed:**

Vote for LincTv to be affiliated with NASTA.

**Approved: 14** Against: 0 Abstained: 0

- LincTv to be affiliated with NASTA.

**Tennis Courts on Campus**

**Noted:**

- President of the Tennis Club Ben Daniel would like the Union to support the Tennis Club in getting the University to get Tennis Courts on campus.
- Out of the 228 Members who signed up to the Tennis Club at the Sports Fayre, 100 students attended the taster session and 34 students have paid memberships. Over the past few weeks, 10 members have attended tennis social sessions.
- Courts which are currently used by the Tennis Club are by the Cathedral and at the end of Carholme road.

**Discussed:**

- It was suggested that courts on campus may increase the Tennis Club's reputation and participation. There is evidence to suggest the numbers have dropped as there are no courts available on campus.
- It was not known where the courts should go on campus. It was suggested that the 5a side pitches be converted to tennis courts or there is space behind Pavilions accommodation but it is uncertain if it is University owned.
- The Tennis Club require 4 courts for fixtures, West Common courts only have 3 courts available.
- The campaign is to lobby the University to provide the courts.
- The vote on courts on campus would show if the Union support the campaign or not.
- It was suggested that this debate would be more appropriate when a location/ solution has been reached in case there was a conflict within Student Council once it had been decided.
- Chair of Student Council Josh Leafe believed the debate to be appropriate as it is important to get the support of students rather than just the Tennis Club campaigning for.
- It was felt that it was too early to discuss the courts opening times. It is hoped that the courts will be accessible for all students.

**Agreed:**

Vote to support the campaign for Tennis Courts on Campus. If approved a vote will take place on the location of the courts when decided.

**Approved: 13** Against: 1 Abstained: 0

- The Union to support the campaign for Tennis Courts on Campus.
- Dan Sam to provide an update on tennis courts on campus at the next Student Council.

**8. Elections Briefing to Student Council Members.**

**Noted:**

- Members were given a briefing on their role in the Elections process.
- Two things that drive voting are candidates and controversy. Controversy cannot be generated but candidates can be.
- Members were encouraged to publicise the elections as widely as possible to all students. Events about elections are occurring now as well as in January and February 2014.
- From the Strategic Review, part time Officers were not as popular as full time positions.

- Lecture shout outs will be happening after 20<sup>th</sup> January 2014 onwards.
- Members were encouraged to address the barriers students may have about running for election.
- Sabbatical Officers are also responsible in encouraging students within their own remit to run for election.
- Members do not have to approach students to run for election if they feel uncomfortable or are rerunning themselves.
- Members were asked to speak to Sabbatical Officers or Union staff should they require further information or have any concerns.
- An Elections Candidate Handbook is available to collect from the Union.

**9. Any Other Business**

**Discussed:**

- Members were asked if they would like a Student Council to be scheduled in for January. The next Student Council is due in February. It would be ideal to have a Student Council on the 17<sup>th</sup> January 2014 as this would be after the Refreshers Fayre which is on 15<sup>th</sup> January 2014.

**Agreed:**

Vote for a Student Council to be scheduled for Friday January 17th 2014.

**Approved: 12** Against: 0 Abstained: 0

- This was taken as recommended as the quoracy level was not reached.
- Executive Committee to approve the recommendation for a Student Council to be scheduled in January 2014.
- President Dan Sam to reflect on how the turnout for Student Council can be increased.

I certify that the above minutes are a true and accurate summary of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2013, and have been approved by Student Council. These minutes will now be publicly available.

.....  
Name (Chair)

.....  
Date

