

Minutes of the Meeting of:

University of Lincoln Students' Union Societies Council

Held on 07/03/2014, 12 noon – 2pm

Cargill Lecture Theatre, Main Administration Building

1. Present

Chair

Connor Burton (Societies Officer)

Societies Representatives

ABEAST, ACS, Anime, Architecture, Assassin, UoL Baking, Bright Futures, Business, LCCF, Christian Union, Comedy, Comic Book, Conservative, Creative Writing, Debating, Disney, EDM, Enactus, Engineering, Feminism, Forensic Psychology, Gaming, Gender Neutrals Support, Harry Potter, History, Hong Kong, Illustration, Investing, Islamic, Journalism, Juggling, LARP, Law, Liberal Youth, Life Sciences, MAPR, Medical, Musical Theatre, Orchestra, Paintball, Politics, Psychology, SingIt!, UNICEF.

Emerging Societies Present

Lincoln Graphic Design Society, Performing Arts Society, Lincoln Table Top Role Play Society, Music and Jamming Society, Secular Humanist Society.

Also In Attendance

Joe Burt (VP Activities); Ian Johnston (Membership Services Manager / Deputy CEO); Tracey Revill (Activities Co-ordinator); Jo Buckler (Activities Support Worker).

2. Apologies for Absence

Model United Nations Society

3. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as an accurate record apart from a minor change to item 15, Low Membership Numbers. To be added: Un-ratified societies, failing to reach the minimum quota of 15 members cannot reapply with the same criteria/committee.

Approved: 22 Rejected: 0 Abstained: 5

4. Matters Arising - None.

5. Emerging Societies

Lincoln Graphic Design Society

Membership Fee: £5

- The Graphic Design Facebook page is popular.
- Would like to hold events as the Graphic Design Society.
- Could offer design help to other societies. The Law Society has already been helped with their Ball. We could also offer help to students wishing to start up their own business.
- As a Society, it might be possible to raise discount with local retailers.

Approved: 31 Rejected: 0 Abstained: 0

Advised to make appointment with TR for an hour's instruction. Society will receive handbook then.

Performing Arts Society

Membership Fee: £5

- Would like to incorporate a wider variety of members. Not only actors but also make-up artists and directors, amongst others.
- Will do performances in December and March so they will not clash with Drama exams.
- Would like to have social events and trips to West End
- We will hold master classes, and members will only pay for the master classes they attend. These will differ from other societies inasmuch that we will cover areas such as singing, stage managing and directing. We will hopefully bring in experts.
- We also want to do street performances.

Approved: 6 Rejected: 19 Abstained: 8

Rejected

LTRP (Lincoln Table-Top Role-Play) Society

Membership Fee: £5

- Plenty of interest on Facebook (90), and would like to make it official with a society.
- £5 membership fee will cover occasional books or games.
- Table top is any game that doesn't need power, where players have an adventure in another world.
- Not sure when to meet; weekends and Wednesdays were mentioned, but would try not to clash with other societies.

Approved: 31 Rejected: 0 Abstained: 2

Advised to make appointment with TR for an hour's instruction. Society will receive handbook then.

Music and Jamming Society
Membership Fee: £5

- There is currently no society that focuses on playing instruments. This Society would like to get together and play acoustically, creating a network for musicians to jam.
- This would also be open to non-musicians, such as singers.
- All ability levels are welcome. The aim is to make the get togethers fun.
- Musicians should bring their own instruments, although the committee will have a couple of spare guitars.
- Will host open mic nights for players to gain confidence when performing.
- The membership fee will be used to subsidise a tutor; for example in guitar.
- The Society could provide a service to other students; for example providing music to go over videos.
- People can come to watch and listen, even if they don't play, but will be expected to pay the membership fee.
- Meetings would probably take place on Thursdays
- Music and Jamming changed their original membership fee from £10 to £5.

Approved: 31 Rejected: 0 Abstained: 0

Advised to make appointment with TR for an hour's instruction. Society will receive handbook then.

Secular Humanist Society
Membership Fee: £5

- This Society intends to embrace social justice and morality; aiming to benefit local charities and the community, whilst doing so without religious dogma or influence.
- It will not be an atheist society as it is not against religion. The aim is to focus on doing good.
- The meetings will be held fortnightly, possibly on Thursdays, with occasional guest speakers to discuss morality.
- Although the secular aspect is key to the society it is not anti-religion. The Society wants to be open and free and to work with the local community and charities with no bias. Although many charities are founded on religion this will not pose a problem and it was stressed the Society is not against religion.

Approved: 16 Rejected: 4 Abstained: 13

Advised to make appointment with TR for an hour's instruction. Society will receive handbook then.

6. Development Fund Requests

Development Funds Currently Sits At: **£ 4295**

ACS request **£700** for the Annual Heritage Ball

- ACS are planning to hold a ball on 5th May 2014, 7-11pm, and invite other societies to come and celebrate African culture.
- The £700 will be used to cover the cost of the venue (a gallery), staff and to pay for acts and a dj.
- The total cost of the event will be approximately £1000.
- Tickets would cost £20, with £15 of that going to the caterers.
- There were various questions from council regarding the specifics of the ball budget which ACS was unable to answer and it was agreed that the President and Treasurer of ACS should come back to the next council with a stronger application.

Approved: 1 Rejected: 20 Abstained: 12

Enactus request **£300** for printing and travel costs towards competition entry

- Enactus sets up projects to help different areas of need. Current projects are focussing on struggling businesses and unemployment.
- Enactus wants to present their projects at competition level and it is a compulsory requirement to present reports in a specific format. The printing costs are expected to be between £160 and £200, depending on number. The rest of the Fund will be used for travel expenses to the competition venues (Leeds and London).
- The Society entered this competition last year and did surprisingly well, showcasing Lincoln University. Winning the competition enables Enactus to help a wider range of people.
- The Society won't be asking for Funds every year as it hopes to raise funds itself. The aim is to build relationships with businesses which at the moment gives the Society advice but which will hopefully provide financial help in the future. The intention is to set up a commercial product to generate an income.

Approved: 28 Rejected: 1 Abstained: 4

Psychology request **£150** for coach travel to 'Jack the Ripper' Tour, London. This request was withdrawn as alternative funding had been found.

7. Lincoln Paintball Society

Michael Ruddick, Lincoln Paintball Society President

7.1 Name Change – Lincoln Paintball Society want to drop the 'Lincoln' from their name so that Paintball is easier to find in alphabetical lists.

Approved: 31 Rejected: 1 Abstained: 0

7.2 Change Over to a Sports Club – This was not brought to council as VP Activities explained that this was not a decision for council to make. VP Activities and Ian Johnson to investigate VAT implications further.

8. Live Below the Line Challenge – The Islamic Society

Jammil Ahmed, Islamic Society Communications Officer

- Live Below the Line is a project designed to promote awareness of extreme poverty.
- The aim is for participants to raise money for charity by living on just £1 per day. Although in reality 1.2 billion people have less than a pound to pay for everything, not only food but other essentials such as medicines, participants can use their pound to spend on food.
- This is for 5 days: 28th April to 3rd May 2014.
- Siren FM and Brayford Radio will promote the event.
- The Islamic Society has enlisted the help of a chef to show students how to live on £1. There will also be a blog for guidance.
- Students can club together and bulk buy. But the idea is not to use food you already have.

9. Student Open Discussion

9.1 Disneyland Paris

- Disney Society told council of the planned trip to Disneyland, Paris on 5-8 June 2014.
- £319 would cover travel and hotel for two nights.
- There would probably be 4 people to a room.
- There is a Till Button set up and money should be paid, in one instalment, by 03/04/2014.
- More information can be found on the Disney Society Facebook page.
- Anyone in the Students' Union can come on the trip.

9.2 Student Union Facebook Page

- Sabbatical Officers are to advertise and promote sports' and societies' events on the Student Union Facebook page.

9.3 Baking Society

- The UoL Baking Society is a new society and is struggling to reach the minimum of 15 members. The Society asked council to encourage their members to consider joining the UoL Baking Society.

9.4 Committee Elections

- At 9am on Monday 10th March 2014 the Sports and Societies Election Nomination period will open.
- It will close at 5pm Friday 21st March 2014.
- Attendees were asked to inspire and encourage members to nominate themselves.
- Voting will start at 9am Monday 24th March 2014.
- Voting will close at 5pm Friday 28th March 2014.
- The results will be emailed to generic emails by 12 noon Monday 31st March 2014.

9.5 Activities Awards

- This is a black tie event taking place on Friday 2nd May 2014 in the Engine Shed. The doors will open at 7pm, to be seated by 7:30pm. The event is scheduled to finish at approximately 10:30pm.
- Everyone is encouraged to nominate, to show appreciation and recognise activities and individual's achievements. There have been over 100 nominations to date.
- There is a breakdown of the Awards on the Students' Union website.
- There are two ticket options:

Meal Ticket - £20.00, this includes a 2 course meal (Main and Dessert) and a complimentary glass of wine

No Meal Ticket (Spectating only) - £10.00, this is for standing only, with no food.

9.6 New Officers

- Congratulations were offered to the newly elected officers:
Hayley Wilkinson, VP Activities
Sophia Bishell, Societies Officer

9.7 Advertising Screens

- It was suggested that the new screens in the Shed and SU Reception were advertising irrelevant information which was of no benefit to students or the Student Union.
- It was argued that currently the screens provide £3500 revenue per year, which benefitted students.
- Investigations are currently underway to determine if more internal information can be advertised on some of the screens.

9.8 Development Funds

- It was re-affirmed that money in the Development Fund is re-absorbed into the Students' Union if it is not requested by the end of the year. However should this keep happening year on year, then the Students' Union would possibly have the grant cut.

10. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on Friday 4th April 2014. It will be held in the Cargill Lecture Theatre MB0302, from 12 noon – 2pm.

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