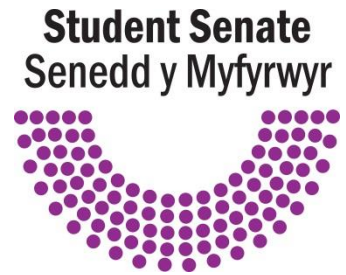


Student Senate

Members of Student Senate are notified that the next meeting will be held as shown below:



Tuesday 5 December 2017

Room 4J, 4th Floor Students' Union 5pm

Agenda

Please contact the Student Voice Team on 02920 781435 or email democracy@cardiff.ac.uk to discuss any additions or amendments you may have or to request further information on any of the below agenda items.

I Standard Items:

- A. Apologies
- B. Welcome from the Chair
- C. Minutes from previous meeting

II Students' Union Items:

- A. Bye Laws Amendments

III Submitted Items:

- A. Boycott and divest from propagators of illegal Israeli settlements
- B. NUS Referendum

IV Any Other Business:

- 1. Lapsed motions

SECTION I



Student Senate

Tuesday 14 November 2017, 5pm

Room 4J, 4th Floor Students' Union

Senators in Attendance:

Amr Alwishah	Aditi Gupta	Connor Radcliffe
George Baldwin	Jane Hobbs	Lewis Rigley
Adarsh Bansal	Catherine Iannucci	Julia Rooke
Jac Brown	Tomos Llewelyn	Cameron Rose
Catherine Chamberlain	Matt Medveczki	Niall Yasseen
Mathilde Fouani	Henrietta Page	
Prashant Garg	Joshua Prior	

Campaign Officers in Attendance:

Jessica Warren	Jacob Morris	Jo Tan
Joshua Lewis	Hanin Abou Salem	George Watkins
Taz Jones	Kabira Suleman	

Students' Union Staff in Attendance:

Lamorna Hooker (VP Societies)

Hollie Cooke (Students' Union President)

Steve Ralph (Head of Student Voice)

Holly Thomas (Student Voice Co-ordinator)

Vicki Groves (Student Voice Assistant) - *Minutes*

I. Standard Items:

A. Apologies

Apologies were received from Alani Padzil, Jesslyn Priscilla and Janet Williams.

B. Welcome from the Chair

HT acting as temporary Chair welcomed attendees to the meeting and explained the role of Chair.

C. Minutes from previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting on 2nd May 2017 were confirmed as a true record.

II. Students' Union Items:

A. Election of Chair

Candidates for Chair were Aditi Gupta or RON.

AG elected as Chair.

Candidates for Vice Chair were Prashant Garg, Amr Alwishah, Catherine Chamberlain and RON.

CC elected as Vice Chair.

Note: AG had to leave the meeting early so CC acted as Chair.

B. Students' Union Budget

HC presented the Students' Union (SU) budget. There were no questions.

C. Report from the Trustees

HC presented a report from the Trustees, including updates on the new trustees for Cardiff Volunteering, the changes to Fresher's ticketing, student volunteering for Fresher's, Fresher's halls pages and the student written submission.

HC also gave updates on previous Senate and AGM motions including free tampons, UMCC and student mentoring.

D. Bye Laws Amendments

HC presented the Bye Laws amendments and explained that the Heads of Student Media were consulted and are on board with the amendments.

HAS asked about article 15.7 and expressed concern that if the submitted content is edited then it will not represent the student who submitted it.

HC replied that 'exercise any control' refers to having a position in student media.

GW commented that it refers to editorial positions.

E. Update on Policies passed last time

HC presented updates on policies passed at the last Student Senate including the working groups on Senate reforms, the voter registration drive and posters and flags for Commonwealth and the Vote.

HC explained that Senators will be invited to take part in the Senate reforms focus groups.

III. Submitted Items:

A. Freedom to Read

Proposed by: Tomos Llewelyn

Seconded by: Prashant Garg

TL spoke for the motion and explained that the SU is a separate body to the University. Democracy from Day One showed that supporting academic interests should be the number one priority of the SU. The SU should allow access to publications to support academic interests. The SU can still take a view on publications, the motion is not to endorse but to allow sale.

AA spoke against the motion and explained that the Sun has been called out for promoting hate against minorities. In 2012, an enquiry from Press Standards showed there is reckless promoting of hate. NUS created a 'start funding hope' campaign and the SU promotes diversity. Papers are being led to write things by political parties to support their agendas. It is not illegal but immoral.

PG spoke for the motion and explained that racism and sexism are universally hated but we should promote opinion and should have more diversity of opinion. If these areas are not challenged they will grow, they will not be defeated by censorship.

HP spoke against the motion and explained that the SU is independent of the University and represents the interest and welfare of students. The Sun is not an academic publication and the right to buy it from elsewhere or read it is not being restricted. It could make minorities feel unsafe.

General Debate

CR asked why freedom of speech only be upheld if these papers are stocked, WHSmith doesn't stock papers with all different extreme beliefs.

HAS commented that the publications are not sold in WHSmith because they were lobbied, not banned. Lobbying is expressing a view and the manager could still sell them if they wanted.

TL commented that not all students have the same opinions.

PG replied that extremist papers would not have enough readership but some students read the Sun for sport etc.

MM commented that diversity of opinion is fine if no one is banned from thinking or saying. Senate's opinion was heard 3 years ago and if you disagree you don't have the right to disregard the decision.

KS explained she is representing BME students and has had complaints about content sold in the SU. It is going backwards instead of forwards.

TL summated for the motion.

Motion Fell.

B. Eliminating Economic restrictions on Societies to uphold Freedom of Speech

Proposed by: Prashant Garg

Seconded by: Tomos Llewelyn

PG spoke for the motion and explained that Cardiff Students for Liberty is a new society with £9 in the account. The Morality of Capitalism by Yaron Brook is going to 7 universities but Cardiff University cited a Tab Exeter article where 6 students held up 'islamophobia' signs at the event in Exeter. The University thought there should be additional security and the event was held in the SU and private security hired at £100 was charged to society. PG believes the SU or University should pay for security costs for this sort of event.

LH spoke against the motion and explained there is a grant allocation system in place for events like this, which occurs 3 times a year where new societies can apply for grants. The process is transparent and the society, members and SU pay 1/3 each. Hillary Clinton visited Swansea University and this security would have cost more than £100 and the societies' budget would not be able to cover it and funds would have had to be moved from other departments. The fee is a result of a risk assessment and is to keep students safe. Exeter have admitted that they do not do thorough risk assessments and our SU have been helping them.

TL spoke for the motion and explained the security costs have been put on the society. If the risk assessment is not made more transparent then it can be used to bypass the anti-censorship policy of the SU.

HP spoke against the motion and commented that it can be made transparent and students can know why the decision was made. This is not a free speech issue, it is just ensuring safety and logistics.

General Debate

CR explained they were on the societies' exec in Exeter and risk assessments were an issue and often there was controversy.

JB asked why the 100 event attendees weren't charged to cover the cost.

PG commented that they were only 'interested' in the Facebook event. The society usually doesn't require money and doesn't want to charge to students.

MM asked why they want money from SU when the event is too unpopular to charge.

PG replied that the SU have decided that the society need to pay for security, it is not fair.

JL commented that there are issues with the motion and the society has the right to fundraise and the SU shouldn't fund the event, it should just facilitate it.

PG replied that they are preventing the event from happening by charging.

JH commented that by the SU paying you are still charging students indirectly.

PG summated for the motion.

Procedural motion raised by HAS for a Vote of No Confidence in the Chair.

HAS spoke for the Procedural Motion and explained she raised her hand but was ignored and was not given an equal opportunity to speak.

JL spoke against the Procedural Motion and explained it is not an issue with the Chair, but with the time provided for debate. The debate should continue until everyone has spoken.

Procedural motion fell.

Motion Fell.

IV. Any Other Business:

1. Lapsed motions

Lapsed motions, passed on 04/11/14, include:

- “The Welsh language is an opportunity, not a burden” Adopting NUS Wales’ national Welsh language Charter
- Divestment in Fossil Fuel
- Drink Awareness

HC presented updates on these lapsed policies and explained that the Welsh Language Policy was launched last year for all staff and UMCC was created from Senate last year, discussion about divestment is going through the formal University Governing Structure and the SU has adopted the NUS alcohol accreditation scheme.

AA asked for more details about divestment.

ACTION POINT: HC to email AA after meeting.

CR asked if changing the format of Senate should go to AGM.

HC replied that last year an AGM motion was passed to change Senate and this is being looked into currently. Invited senators to give input.

SR explained that they would need to make amendments to the Bye-Laws and can come to Student Voice for help. It then needs to go through Senate and the Board of Trustees.

SECTION II

(Bye Laws Amendments separate attachment)

SECTION III

A. Boycott and divest from propagators of illegal Israeli settlements

The Student Senate Notes

1. For 70 years, Israel has maintained a regime of settler colonialism, apartheid and occupation over the Palestinian people, and denying them basic human rights. This is only possible because of international support.
2. In 2005, 170 Palestinian civil society organisations called for boycotts, divestment and sanctions (BDS) as a form of non-violent pressure on Israel, inspired by the South African anti-apartheid movement.

The Student Senate Believes

1. Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) has been called for across the international community until Israel's government complies with:
 1. Respecting, protecting and promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and properties as stipulated in UN Resolution 194
 2. Recognizing the fundamental rights of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel to full equality
 3. Ending its occupation and colonization of all Arab lands and dismantling the Wall

The Student Senate Resolves

1. The SU to immediately boycott products from illegal Israeli settlements and companies profiting from the theft of Palestinian land and denial of their human rights. Full list available at bdsl.org/full-list/
2. To lobby the University to pursue an academic boycott of Israeli universities, which have close ties to Israel's military. (Tel Aviv University, for example, has developed tens of weapon systems and the "Dahiya doctrine" of disproportionate force employed by the Israeli military in committing war crimes against Palestinian and Lebanese civilians.)

Proposer: *Cameron Rose*

Seconder: *Someone who supports your motion*

B. NUS Affiliation Referendum

The Student Senate Notes

1. The Student Union is currently affiliated with the NUS, incurring an affiliation fee of £35,093.40.
2. University students unions such as those in Newcastle, Loughborough, Hull, Oxford, Cambridge and more recently, the University of Surrey, trusted their students to take this important decision.

The Student Senate Believes

1. That a referendum should be called regarding our NUS affiliation.
2. A referendum on such an important issue will play an integral part in our campaign to decrease student apathy in student union voting exercises.

The Student Senate Resolves

1. That a binding referendum take place with the question: "Should Cardiff University disaffiliate from the National Union of Students (NUS)?" In the standard fashion, with a "YES" and a "NO" option. This will take place by the end of March 2018.

Proposer: Tomos Llewelyn

Seconded: Prashant Garg

Section IV Any Other Business:

1. Lapsed motions

Motions passed 02/12/14

Lapsing motions: External Bookings, and Student Growing Space – all policies can be found here: <https://www.cardiffstudents.com/your-voice/policy/>