

## The constitution of the Students' Union UCL Conservative Society

### 1 Name

- 1.1 The name of the society shall be the *University College London Conservative Society*.
- 1.2 The society shall be affiliated to Students' Union UCL.

### 2. Terms, Aims and Objectives

2.1 The society shall hold the following as its aims and objectives. The society shall strive to fulfil these aims and objectives in the course of the academic year as its commitment to its membership:

2.2 The objects of the Society shall be to provide the opportunity for students to learn about conservative politics and meet others of a similar political persuasion in a friendly and approachable atmosphere. This needn't be restricted solely to the Conservative Party but should avoid controversy and those who do not represent the mainstream views of the Parliamentary Party.

*2.2.1 Speakers who do not meet the aforementioned criteria are those who would, if invited to speak, only garner controversy without adding intellectual value or a separate perspective to the debate.*

*2.2.2 Speakers who provide hateful or prejudicial views or actively provoke controversy also fail to meet the aforementioned criteria.*

*2.2.3 The committee, on a democratic majority can define speakers in the aforementioned criteria and thereby block an invitation.*

*2.2.4 Final decisions on speaker invitations will be made by the UCL Students' Union.*

1. 2.3 The core activities of the society shall be:

2.4.1 Port & Policy Debates, where members, alongside members from other university conservative societies and associations will debate topical issues in current events. This will take place fortnightly among the Conservative societies of UCL, King's College London and the London School of Economics and once every six weeks at UCL.

2.4.2 Talks and discussions with invited external speakers: typically MPs, MEPs and those involved with conservative politics. These can take the form of 'Roundtable' meetings, where the audience is restricted to members only, or open events which are available to all UCL students and staff. Members and attendees can ask the speaker questions during a dedicated Q&A session. The society will host at a bare minimum

one external speaker a fortnight. The society will ideally host at least one speaker a week.

2.4.3 Members will, alongside local Conservative associations and other university conservatives campaign for conservative candidates in elections in the United Kingdom. This will be organized on an ad-hoc basis.

2.4.4 The society will host a formal ticketed dinner at a private members' club at the end of term 2. This dinner will invite at least one speaker prominently involved in conservative politics. Members and non-members are welcome to attend.

2.4.5 The society will seek to host pub crawls and other informal social gatherings on an ad-hoc basis.

2.4.6 The society will seek to remain strong relations with our partners at Les Républicains at Sciences Po and Young Fine Gael at Trinity College, Dublin.

2. 2.5 In addition, the club/society shall also strive to organise other activities for its members where possible:

2.5.1 The society will seek to organise a Christmas Dinner at the end of Term 1, which will be held at a local venue. This will be ticketed to members and non-members.

2.5.2 The society will seek to organize charity fundraisers, involving events, bake sales and any other necessary events.

2.5.3 The society will seek to organize a Ceilidh for members and non-members on a ticketed basis.

3. 2.6 This constitution shall be binding on the club/society officers and shall only be altered by consent of two-thirds majority of the full members present at a society general meeting. Activities Network Executive shall approve any such alterations.

2.7.1 The minimum number of votes cast should comprise no less than 50% of the total number of full members.

4.

5. 2.7 This constitution has been approved and accepted as the Constitution for the Students' Union UCL **Conservative Society**. By signing this document the President and Treasurer have declared that they have read and abide by the Students' Union UCL Clubs and Societies Regulations.

## 2 Statement of Intent

2.1 The constitution, regulations, management and conduct of the society shall abide by all Students' Union UCL Policy, and shall be bound by the Students' Union UCL Memorandum and Articles of Association and Byelaws, the Club and Society Regulations and the Club and Society Procedures and Guidance, laid out in "how to guides".

2.2 The club/society stresses that it abides by Students' Union UCL Equal Opportunities Policies, and that club/society regulations pertaining to membership of the club/society or election to management of the club/society shall not contravene this policy.

2.3 The Club and Society Regulations can be found at the following website:

6. 2.3.1 [www.studentsunionucl.org](http://www.studentsunionucl.org)

### **3 The Society Committee**

#### **7. President**

- 3.1 The President's primary role is laid out in section 5.7 of the Club and Society Regulations.
- 3.2 The President will chair committee meetings and set agendas for committee meetings. They will seek to host these meetings on a weekly basis.
- 3.3 The President will, in consultation with other committee members conceptualize, book venues for and oversee the organization and funding of society events.
- 3.4 The President may delegate tasks to other committee members as they see fit.
- 3.5 The President may seek to organize ad-hoc working groups on specific events hosted by the UCL Conservative Society and, if applicable, with other student societies, associations and organizations.
- 3.6 The President will be the main point of contact with other conservative societies, speakers and local Conservative associations.

#### **8. Treasurer**

- 3.7 The Treasurer's primary role is laid out in section 5.8 of the Club and Society Regulations.
- 3.8 The Treasurer shall carry out the day to day financial duties of the society, and is responsible to the union for club/society finances to the membership
- 3.9 Shall keep current accurate financial information. The Treasurer is responsible for all financial transactions of the society ensuring that these are made through the Union Finance Department; only the Treasurer, or in his/her absence the President, may authorise withdrawals or expenditure from the club/society accounts.
- 3.10 Shall maintain a society account book.
- 3.11 Shall provide accurate and reliable accounts to all committee members on request.
- 3.12 The Treasurer may also be required to provide, at the AGM and any EGM throughout the year, accounts to all members present.

#### **9. Vice-President & Welfare Officer**

- 3.13 The Vice-President will undertake the duties of the President and/or the Treasurer in cases where those positions are vacant, or if those individuals are unavailable and/or unable to perform the task due to sickness, bereavement or other reasons
- 3.14 The Vice-President will advise the committee on appropriate actions to undertake for any of the events hosted by the UCL Conservative Society, and for any decisions that need to be undertaken.
- 3.15 As Welfare Officer, the Vice-President will be the main point of contact for members of the society for pastoral matters. They may also warn individual members if they believe the individual member's behavior is inappropriate.
- 3.16 The Welfare Officer, in consultation with a democratic majority of the committee may report individual members for inappropriate behavior to the UCL Students' Union for additional disciplinary action.

#### **General Secretary**

- 3.17 The General Secretary will send weekly e-mail notifications to the mailing list reminding members of upcoming events
- 3.18 The General Secretary will confidentially maintain the e-mails of all on the mailing list in compliance with UCLSU regulations and laws of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. They will add and remove individuals on the list as the individuals request.
- 3.19 Management of the club/society shall be vested in the club/society committee which shall endeavour to meet regularly during term time (excluding college reading weeks) to organise and evaluate the club/society activities.
- 3.20 The committee members will perform the roles as described in section 5 of the Students' Union UCL Club and Society Regulations.
- 3.21 Committee members are elected to represent the interests and well-being of club/society members and are able to be held to account. If club/society members are not satisfied by the performance of their representative officers they may call for a motion of no-confidence in line with the Students' Union UCL Club and Society Regulations.

#### **4. Membership**

- 4.1 The following shall be eligible to become members of UCL Union club/society:
  - 4.1.1 UCL Union Full Student Members
  - 4.1.2 UCL Union Associate Members
- 4.2 All members shall pay an annual subscription to join the club/society; the membership fee shall be decided by the club/society committee.

#### **5. Resignations**

- 5.1 If a society President or Treasurer chooses to resign before the end of their term of office they should consult with the rest of the committee and then they must approach the Student Activities Officer, or any other relevant bodies and individuals in the UCL Students' Union for advice before they stand down.
- 5.2 An Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) must be held and, upon election, the new President/ Treasurer must sign an acting President/Treasurers contract and attend a brief training session with the Student Officer and/or relevant parties in the UCL Students' Union, if required.
- 5.3 If the society does not have a serving President and/or Treasurer, the Vice-President and General Secretary will share their duties.
- 5.4 Resignation of any other committee member except for President/Treasurer will be followed by an internal committee vote to appoint a replacement. The quorum for this vote shall be no less than two-thirds of the committee.

#### **6. Discipline**

- 6.1 The committee and the Welfare Officer may warn members who engage in behaviors that are potentially inappropriate during society events.
- 6.2 The committee may, on a democratic majority, choose to refer members who engage in potentially inappropriate behavior to the UCL Students' Union for further action.

## **7. Removal of committee members**

7.1 The process of, and the decision to remove, the President and Treasurer will be entirely at the discretion of the UCL Students' Union.

7.2 On a two-thirds majority, the committee can declare a vote of no confidence on any other committee member by secret ballot.

7.3 If the committee declares no confidence on a particular member, an Emergency General Meeting (EGM) will be called and members will vote on whether to remove and replace the committee member at hand.

7.3.1 At least 30% of full membership must be present at the EGM.

7.3.2 A simple majority among members on a secret ballot will determine the removal of a committee member.

7.3.3 The committee member in question may present one speech followed by a question and answer section to make their case to the membership.

7.3.4 On a voluntary basis, another committee member may make a case in favor or against the committee member's removal

7.3.5 The chair of the EGM (the President or the Treasurer) will determine timing for speeches given at the EGM. All speakers must be given an equal time for their speeches.

## **Section 8. Annual General Meeting (AGM) and Emergency General Meetings (EGM)**

8.1 The AGM shall be held during the second term of the academic year, and shall have as its main business:

8.1.1 The presentation of the Officers Reports for the past year.

8.1.2 The election of the Committee for the next session.

8.2 An agenda giving notice of the AGM must be circulated to all society members at least two weeks in advance.

8.3 Nominations for society officers must be posted at least a week in advance of the AGM and closed before the meeting.

8.3.1. In the event of there being no nomination for a post within the stipulated time then nominations may be accepted at the AGM.

8.4 The quorum of the AGM shall be 30% of the full membership of the society OR 10 members of the society, whichever is lower. If this limit is not reached, no decision taken by the meeting will be official unless it has been ratified by relevant parties in the UCL Students' Union

8.5 The meeting should be chaired by the President of the society or by any person that the meeting sees fit, provided that he/she is a member of the society, and a full member of the Union.

8.6 In the event that no person is voted in to a post or of resignation from a position, the committee will collectively undertake the duties until such time as the post is filled.

8.7 The aforementioned also apply to the annual scheduled Emergency General Meeting (EGM) in Term 1 to fill unfilled committee positions.

10.

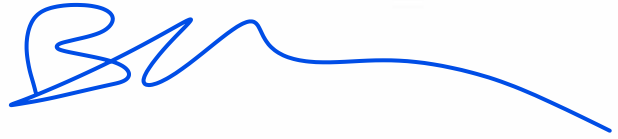
President name: Philip H. Christopherson

Treasurer name: Benjamin C. McDonnell

11. President signature:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Shuf'.

Treasurer signature:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'B' followed by a long horizontal line that curves downwards at the end.