

2024-25

Constitution of Students' Union UCL

NATURE & CONSERVATION SOCIETY

1. Name

- 1.1. The name of the club/society shall be Students' Union UCL [Nature & Conservation Society](#).
- 1.2. The Club/Society shall be affiliated to Students' Union UCL.

2. Statement of Intent

- 2.1. The constitution, regulations, management and conduct of the club/society shall abide by all Students' Union UCL policy, and shall be bound by the [Students' Union UCL Memorandum & Articles of Association](#), [Byelaws](#), [Club and Society Regulations](#) and the club and society procedures and guidance – laid out in the '[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 the club/society shall not contravene this policy.
- 2.3. The Club and Society Regulations can be found on the following webpage:
<http://studentsunionucl.org/content/president-and-treasurer-hub/rules-and-regulations>.

3. Committee

- 3.1. President
 - 3.1.1. The Presidents' primary role is laid out in section 5.7 of the Club and Society Regulations.
- 3.2. Treasurer
 - 3.2.1. The treasurer's primary role is laid out in section 5.8 of the Club and Society Regulations.
 - 3.2.1.1. In charge of organising, managing and promoting certain society events.
- 3.3. Welfare Officer
 - 3.3.1. The Welfare Officers' primary role is laid out in section 5.9 of the Club and Society Regulations.

3.4. Additional Committee Members

3.4.1. Additional Committee Role: Volunteering Officer(s)

3.4.1.1. In charge of identifying, organising and managing volunteering events relevant to the Society's mission.

3.4.2. Additional Committee Role: Social Secretary

3.4.2.1. In charge of organising, managing and promoting social activities for the society's members.

3.4.3. Additional Committee Role: Communications Officer(s)

3.4.3.1. In charge of managing the society's social media, including twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

3.4.4. Additional Committee Role: Campaigns Officer(s)

3.4.4.1. In charge of representing the society and communicating with collaborators at UCL engaged in conservation and sustainability as well as attending the Sustainability steering group.

3.5. Management of the club/society shall be vested in the club/society committee which will endeavour to meet regularly during term time (excluding UCL reading weeks) to organise and evaluate club/society activities.

3.6. The committee members shall perform the roles as described in section 5 of the Students' Union UCL Club and Society Regulations.

3.7. Committee members are elected to represent the interests and well-being of club/society members and are accountable to their members. 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. Terms, Aims and Objectives

4.1. The club/society shall hold the following as its aims and objectives.

- The Conservation Society aims to create a space for members to learn about nature conservation and the natural world, bring people together to enjoy wildlife around London and beyond, and connect people to nature. We aim to educate, inspire, and have fun.
- The Conservation Society pledges to promote and host events that minimise the use of single-use plastic and the generation of material and food waste.

- The Conservation Society recognizes the impending climate crisis and the current mass extinction event caused by human activity as an imminent threat to all ecosystems on Earth and as a threat to the current form of human civilisation.
- The Society shall strive to educate its members and members of the public of these threats and their potential solutions.
- It shall engage with and promote dialogue with individuals and institutions which threaten the biosphere with their behaviour.
- It shall campaign to make changes to union and university policy towards more sustainability and support rewilding efforts at UCL and beyond.

4.2. The club/society shall strive to fulfil these aims and objectives in the course of the academic year as its commitment to its membership.

4.3. The core activities of the club/society shall be:

- 4.3.1. The Union will only fund core activities. Bird Walks around Bloomsbury area: weekly survey of bird fauna in local squares to collect data in support of recommendations for biodiversity improvement and rewilding efforts and as a public engagement and wellbeing activity for members.
- 4.3.2. Hosting mini-conferences on topics related to conservation and wildlife (e.g. sustainable food, invasive species, birds...): this format includes short talks (15-20 minutes) by multiple speakers, often researchers from UCL or other institutions, followed by question and answer sessions with audience. These events may include snacks and refreshments. Mini-conferences normally last between 2 and 3 hours. We aim to host 5 mini-conferences per academic year.
- 4.3.3. Termly trips to parks and conservation areas in London, with guidance from local experts or volunteers.
- 4.3.4. Field-trips to wildlife sanctuaries or protected areas beyond London over multiple days – this allows members to leave London and visit places of outstanding importance for wildlife, at least once a year. This shall promote knowledge of and the urgency to protect wildlife and shall be regarded as a well-being and educational activity.
- 4.3.5. Collaborations with UK groups in the sustainability sector, which includes workshops and volunteering events (groups we have worked with or are working with include: Russell Square Garden Committee, Chagford Bioblitz, Manor Farm Nature Space, City Nature Challenge and others)
- 4.3.6. Hosting guest lectures by high-profile speakers, related to nature conservation, sustainability or similar topics, e.g. authors, researchers, broadcasters, film makers, public figures.
- 4.3.7. Active collaboration with Sustainable UCL, Wild Bloomsbury, UCL Estates and UCL Union working together to promote sustainability at UCL, through the #PlasticFreeUCL campaign,

work to make food and catering more sustainable, and making the Bloomsbury campus more wildlife friendly.

4.3.8. Wider networking events with conservation institutions and organizations from around the UK. We aim to provide opportunities for students and alumni to meet other professionals in the field, learn from their experiences and be inspired to seek further experience in nature conservation, and gain career advice.

4.3.9. Take part in and host bioblitz events

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

4.4.1. Social events for members, including food and drinks.

4.4.2. Documentary film screenings.

4.4.3. Meetings with conservation groups/societies from within UCL and other universities, as networking events.

4.4.4. Spring Clean in the squares of Bloomsbury and promotion of our #PlasticFreeUCL mission and campaign.

4.4.5. Nest box building workshops.

4.4.6. Opportunities to get involved in decision-making and support to the Union, Sustainable UCL and UCL estates in development and implementation of sustainability campaigns such as #PlasticFreeUCL and Sustainable Food working group.

4.5. 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 club/society general meeting. The Activities Executive shall approve any such alterations.

4.6. This constitution has been approved and accepted as the Constitution for the Students' Union UCL [Nature & Conservation Society](#). By signing this document, the President and Treasurer have declared that they have read and abide by the Students' Union UCL Club and Society Regulations.

Name: Ilina Shah

President

Signature:



Date: 28/06/2024

Name: Andrea Lo

Treasurer

Signature:



Date: 28/06/2024