



Date: Thursday 20 February 2025
 Time: 18:00-21:00
 Venue: South Wing G12 Council Room

Board of Trustees Minutes

Chair: Goksu Danaci, President

Members:	P	AP	AB
Angela Brown, Student Trustee	✓		
Ana Boikova, Activities & Engagement Officer (Sabbatical)	✓		
Beth Beasant, External Trustee (UCL Staff)		✓	
Clare Bracey, External Trustee (Non-UCL), Vice-Chair (External)	✓		
Darcy Lan, Postgraduate Officer (Sabbatical)	✓		
Eda Yildirimkaya, Equity & Inclusion Officer (Sabbatical), Vice-Chair (Sabbatical)	✓		
Farida Ibrahim, Student Trustee (FI)	✓		
Goksu Danaci, President (Sabbatical), Chair	✓		
Ken Sio, Student Trustee (KS)	✓		
Rachel Lim, Welfare & Community Officer (Sabbatical)	✓		
Seth Harris, Student Trustee	✓		
Shaban Chaudhary, Education Officer (Sabbatical)		✓	

In Attendance:
Carl Salton-Brooks, Director of Student Experience
Anne Laybourne, Head of Student Social Impact
Dorota Dominiczak, Director of Finance
John Dubber, Chief Executive
Joshua Scarlett, Governance & Compliance Manager
Rebecca McLoughlin, Governance & Administration Coordinator - minutes

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair welcomed Trustees to the meeting.

2. Declaration of Interest

No additional conflicts of interest were raised.

3. Minutes and Matters Arising from the meeting on 5 December 2024

The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

APPROVED

4. Sabbatical Officer's Report

The Vice-Chair (Sabbatical) presented highlights from the recent work of the Sabbatical Officer team.

The Board asked if there was an opportunity for the Education Officer, the Director of Policy, Governance & Advocacy and the Director of Operations to report back on the current Sydney trip.

ACTION: The Education Officer, Director of Policy, Governance & Advocacy and the Director of Operations to report back on their Sydney trip at the next Board meeting.

RECEIVED

5. Chief Executive's Report

JD gave a brief overview of their report and highlighted some of the current achievements. They confirmed that £550k of new capital funding from UCL has been secured, as well as £450 recurrent grant funding to support seven new roles in the Advice Service and Active Bystander team. They confirmed that the gym refurbishment has now been completed, and the Gordons Café refurbishment is commencing shortly. They also noted that we recently became the first SU in the UK to sell Draught Toast Beer which is a sustainable commercial initiative. Discussions with UCL regarding the future management of the Bloomsbury Theatre are continuing.

RECEIVED

6. Student Social Impact Presentation

The Head of Student Social Impact gave a detailed presentation on the Student Social Impact team and their work. They noted that there has been a refresh of the department which had previously been more centred around volunteering. They said that whilst we still have community volunteering, we now also have extended the department to cover other areas such as social enterprise, community research and extended learning. The Head of Student Social Impact highlighted some recent events such as:

- Pop up Toy Shop, with free Christmas gifts provided for local disadvantaged children
- Student & Professional Services Staff Volunteering
- Highly successful crafternoons

The Head of Student Social Impact noted that they have recruited a Student Social Enterprise Manager. Extended Learning launched today which involves a joint initiative for UCL to provide a range of new non-credit bearing learning opportunities for students. The Head of Student Social Enterprise highlighted how incredible CRIS has been for PGR students and the impact it has had.

The Board asked how we would prioritise applications if the Extended Learning programme became very popular. The Head of Student Social Impact responded that there are 4 difference themes, and some are application based, some are free tickets or open access.

The Board discussed the Community Volunteering events and how participants are being supported and connected. The Board went on to speak about the strategy to get more home students involved in volunteering.

The Board asked if there was a plan for how we communicate what the team are doing with students and societies. The Head of Student Social Impact responded that they do a lot of work around engaging with societies and intend to get outreach and volunteering officers involved.

The Director of Student Experience commended the team on their work.

The Chair suggested that the Student Trustees should have the opportunity to have a session with Levi Fernandez (the new Student Social Enterprise Manager) and noted that if any board members had any further questions or queries then they can email the Head of Student Social Impact directly.

RECEIVED**7. Management Accounts (Up to December 2024)**

The Director of Finance gave an overview of the Management Accounts up to December 2024 and stated that at the end of Q1 of 2024/25, the Union's cumulative financial position is strong. The Director of Finance highlighted that the main reasons for this is due to the good commercial performance and underspending across many departments due to delayed recruitment and phasing of expenditures. They added that the performance to the end of December results shows a cumulative surplus from unrestricted activities of £562K.

The Board received the Management Accounts (Up to December 2024).

RECEIVED**8. Forecast 1**

The Director of Finance went through Forecast 1 and noted that it shows a surplus of £67k in the unrestricted funds. They confirmed that good commercial trading, cost savings and underspends in Term 1 have positively impacted the 2024/25 financial outlook. The Director of Finance went through the forecasts for all the commercial outlets and bars.

The Director of Finance stated that the Union has some new financial pressures that have been included in the forecast. These include the anticipated costs of Cyber Insurance, the introduction of Internal Audit, and additional staff resources in HR and IT.

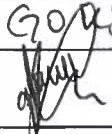
The Board asked what our long-term plans are to increase income in the bars that are performing less strongly. The Chief Executive responded that there is a review of our bars currently taking place to explore options for the future. It was noted that updates will be provided at future meetings.

The Board asked if there would be any implications around the underspend in the Student Life Strategy. The Director of Student Experience responded that this was just due to the phasing of the expenditure and by the end of the year this will largely be spent, especially as we are due to recruit two new roles.

The Board resolved to approve Forecast 1.

RESOLVED**9. Report from the meeting of Finance Committee on 13 February 2025****RECEIVED****10. Any Other Business**

No further business was raised.

Minutes approved as a true and accurate record	
Chair:	GOSU Danaci
Signature:	
Date:	25/03/25