



Date: Thursday, 24 February, 2022

Time: 18:00 – 20:00

Venue: Zoom

Activities Zone

Minutes

Chair: Ilyas Benmouna, Activities and Engagement Officer

Members:	P	AP	AB
Abigail Smith, Disabled Students' Officer (Job share)			✓
Akosua Osei-Owusu, BME Students' Officer (Job share)	✓		
Angel Ma, LGBTQ+ Officer			✓
Angela Han, Societies Representative – Performance Art			✓
Chiamaka Agu, Sports Non-portfolio Representative	✓		
Danilo Paganelli, Disabled Students' Officer (Job share)			✓
Ilyas Benmouna, Activities and Engagement Officer, Chair	✓		
Isobelle Smith, Sports Non-portfolio Representative	✓		
Jade Ygouf, Women's Officer (Job share)	✓		
James Maidment, Sports Officer (Job share)	✓		
Jasper (Ting-hsun) Chou, Societies Non-portfolio Representative			✓
Jevan Cousins, Sports Non-portfolio Representative	✓		
Katie Townsend, Volunteering Representative	✓		
Luca C Dell Antonio, Sports Non-portfolio Representative	✓		
Mohammed Safayat, Societies Officer (Job share)	✓		
Oluseyi Osibamowo, Arts Officer	✓		
Paul Ho, BME Students' Officer (Job share)			✓
Priya Jain, Women's Officer (Job share)			✓
Rishika George, Volunteering Representative	✓		
Roha Ali Khan, Societies Non-portfolio Representative			✓
Saiff Hamid, Sports Officer (Job share)	✓		
Sasha Green, Sports Non-portfolio Representative		✓	
Shoora Shafeeq, Volunteering Representative	✓		
Viktória Makai, Postgraduate Students Officer	✓		
Yee (Angel) Au, Volunteering Representative		✓	
Yen Chan, Societies Officer (Job share)			✓

In Attendance:
John Braime, Volunteering Manager
Ayman Benmati, Education Officer
Jeff Saddington-Wiltshire, Representation & Democracy Manager
Julia Rooke, Representation & Democracy Coordinator
D'arcy McGuinness, Societies & Media Coordinator
Carol Paige (UCL)
Arifa Aminy, Equity Officer
Thao Anh Nguyen, Democracy Assistant, minutes

1. Preliminary matters – Approval of minutes from previous meeting

The minutes from the previous meeting have been unanimously approved.

2. Preliminary matters – Follow up on actions from previous meeting

The Democracy Assistant has confirmed that ‘Review of C&S committee training’ has been added to the Activities Zone business cycle for the 3rd meeting.

3. Announcements/ Updates - Officer updates

The Officers provided updates on the work they have been doing since the last Zone meeting.
Activities & Engagement Officer:

- reducing graduation guest ticket prices
- getting more involved with Volunteering Service (chairing a Thinktank, approving student-led projects)
- being on hiring panel for Activities Team
- working with UCL to get sports ground facilities.

Sports Officer(s):

- sports facilities
- training on tackling sexual violence
- sports response to the UCL strategy
- ‘Pride in Sports’ week
- ‘Sustainability in Sports’ week
- Varsity

Arts Officer:

- Bloomsbury shows (Rhapsody, My Land’s Shore)
- Arts strategy for ArtsUCL
- Anti-racist training for Arts
- long term funding for equipment

4. Announcements/ Updates - Staff update

The staff present provided an update on the work being done within their teams currently.

Volunteering Manager (JB):

- UCL East: 2 staff members from SU
- Volunteering: student-led projects, Consultancy Challenge, community research initiative

Societies & Media Coordinator (Events) (DM):

- International Festival
- Cultural Arts Showcase
- Leadership Race

5. Announcements/ Updates - Affiliations, disaffiliations and disciplinary actions

The Chair updated members on recent affiliations, disaffiliations and disciplinary actions taken since the last Activities Zone meeting.

6. Matters for Information – Leadership Race Promotion

The Chair has encouraged Zone members to nominate themselves in the Leadership Race for various Officer roles and Clubs & Society roles as well.

7. Matters for Discussion – UCL Strategy Consultation Update

Carol Paige provided an update regarding the UCL Strategic Plan Consultation Phase I. A discussion was had about whether the Grand Challenges should be embedded within formal- and extra curriculum, a potential new SU building and new & better spaces for club and society activity on campus. Another discussion was had about the Education Priorities & Programmes proposals paper. Feedback was given on the project about creating a new sector-leading institute for ‘Higher Education Development and Support’. Points were raised about potentially combining the student skills development programme with the mandatory training for C & S committees, and about how this UCL institute should not duplicate any activities that the SU already does. Another discussion was had about the final project mentioned in the Education paper about ‘modernising’ the structure of the Academic Teaching Year. The advantages and the disadvantages of the current 3-term-structure were discussed. It was noted that C & S activities and PG students should be taken into account when designing the new structure. Value for money, assessment timeframes, and postgraduate engagement with C & S activities were discussed as well.

8. Matters for Discussion – Approval of Awards

The documents with details about the awards will be sent to the Zone members via email. Objections or feedback should be sent to su.democracy@ucl.ac.uk. The Honorary Life Membership award will be moved to Union Executive directly.

9. Matters for Discussion – Awards Panel

Students interested in being on either of the awards panels should email ae.officer@ucl.ac.uk or d'arcy.mcguinness.16@ucl.ac.uk.

10. Matters for Discussion (10-12.) – Volunteering

The proposer introduced all three of their submitted matters for discussions about involving clubs and societies in volunteering activities more. A discussion was had about how the Volunteering Service can be more involved in volunteering activities that clubs and societies already undertake and how the mandatory training for clubs and societies should include additional information on volunteering and the Volunteering Service as well. It was mentioned that clubs and societies already have a Volunteering Secretary and that it should be encouraged for them to work with VS.

13. Policy Proposal – Provide a prop room for UCL’s performance societies

The chair and the Societies & Media Coordinator (Events) have updated the Zone about how the SU has already found a room for this purpose prior to the proposal being submitted. A room in the Lewis’ building is being repurposed to be used as a storage room for societies.

DECISION: As this item was actioned already, it was not voted on.

14. Policy Proposal – Volunteering Officer

The Volunteering Rep (SS) introduced their policy proposal about adding the role of a Volunteering Officer as a new part-time student officer. A discussion was had about how the Volunteering Officer would work with the existing Volunteering Reps. The policy proposal went to a vote and passed.

For	13
Against	0
Abstain	0

DECISION: The amended policy proposal has passed and will go to Union Exec for ratification.

ACTION: The Representation & Democracy Manager (JSW) to write a role description for the Volunteering Officer.

15. Questions to Officers

The Sports Officer (JM) asked the Chair about a leak that happened in Bloomsbury Fitness. The Volunteering Rep (SS) has asked the Chair about what actions are being taken in the SU regarding the war in Ukraine.

16. AOB

There was no other business.

Minutes approved as a true and accurate record	
Chair:	Ilyas Benmouna, Activities and Engagement Officer
Signature:	IB
Date:	02/03/2022