



Welfare and Community Zone
Minutes

Date: Monday 30 November 2020
Time: 14:00-16:00
Venue: Zoom

Chair: Yasmeen Daoud, Welfare and International Officer

Members:	P	AP	AB
Aarushi Menon, Women's Officer	✓		
Ahsana Parammal Vatteri, Officer for Students with Caring Responsibilities	✓		
Alex Skliros, Halls Representative – Langton Close/Frances Gardner House	✓		
Carol Paige, Democracy, Operations and Community Officer	✓		
Daria Chistova, Halls Representative – Ian Baker House		✓	
Eliza Lawless, Sustainability Officer	✓		
Emz Smith, Halls Representative – Campbell House East and West	✓		
Helen Fellerman, Mature and Part-time Students' Officer	✓		
Ifrah Farooq, Community Relations Officer (Job share)	✓		
Ina Natseva, Halls Representative – James Lighthill House	✓		
Izabella Wodzka, External Accommodation Officer	✓		
Jade Ygouf, Halls Representative – Endsleigh Gardens and John Adams Hall	✓		
Jarod Corey, Halls Representative – Stapleton House	✓		
Jim Onyemenam, Postgraduate Students' Officer	✓		
Josh Shah, Halls Representative – Astor College	✓		
Juanita Wickham, Halls Representative – St Pancras Way and Beaumont Court	✓		
Marwa Rizk, Halls Representative – Bernard Johnson House	✓		
Madina Khusnullina, International Students' Officer (Job share)			✓
Naomi Hamptom, Halls Representative – Arthur Tattersall and John Tovell House	✓		
Nellia Konilova, International Students' Officer (Job share)			✓
Oliver Matheret, Halls Representative – John Dodgson House	✓		
Ruchi Sharma, Halls Representative – Goldsmid House	✓		
Shirom Selvaraj, Halls Representative – Prankerd House and Schafer House	✓		
Sumayya Patel, Community Relations Officer (Job share)		✓	
Yasmeen Daoud, Welfare and International Officer, Chair	✓		
Ying Li, Halls Representative – New Hall (Caledonian Road)	✓		

In Attendance:
Danielle Swanson, Advice and Advocacy Manager
Aimee Connolly, Representation and Democracy Coordinator, Minutes
Simon To, Leadership, Development and Change Manager

1. **Preliminary Matters**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. The minutes from the previous meeting were unanimously approved. The actions from the previous meeting were noted as both being completed.

2. **Officer Portfolio Review**

A guest speaker from the consultancy MiraGold joined to speak with members about the ongoing Officer Portfolio Review. A number of questions were put to members to give their feedback on.

3. *Announcement: Hall Rep Forum*

The Chair noted that there is a Hall Rep Forum for all Hall Reps on Microsoft Teams to speak with each other, relevant Sabbatical Officers and staff.

4. *Announcement: Events during the closure period*

The Chair explained that the Students' Union will be running events during the Winter closure period and there will be an event highlighted every day.

5. *Announcement: Union Executive fund*

The Democracy, Operations and Community Officer explained that a new fund is open to all elected Officers to apply for up to £500 in funding for projects or events they wish to run. They noted that more information will be circulated with the minutes.

ACTION: Representation and Democracy Coordinator to circulate information after the meeting

6. *Matter for discussion: Officer current priorities*

The members split up into breakout rooms with to discuss the Sabbatical Officers' current priorities and ask questions to them.

7. *Matter for discussion: Internet speed in Halls*

The Chair started the discussion. A number of comments were made from Hall Reps about issues with their WiFi speed. The Democracy, Operations and Community Officer asked for members to send any issues they are aware of to them so they can be passed onto UCL.

ACTION: Hall Reps to send any comments about WiFi to the Democracy, Operations and Community Officer

8. *Matter for discussion: Mental health during lockdown*

The Chair informed members that UCL have been running a Keeping in Touch campaign to phone all UCL students during the lockdown period to check in on their wellbeing and signpost them to any relevant support services. The Psychological and Counselling Services have been running workshops for students to support them.

A number of issues were raised about support needed for students living in Halls who feel isolated. A discussion was also had regarding support for students with caring responsibilities.

ACTION: The Officer for Students with Caring Responsibilities is to meet with the Advice and Advocacy Manager and Leadership Development and Change Manager to discuss the issues raised

9. *Matter for discussion: Consent training*

The Women's Officer noted that the training is not inclusive to all students at UCL and that a new training is being developed currently to update the current consent training available. A discussion was had about the training and having a nuanced approach.

10. *Matter for discussion: Transport for London charges*

Members agreed that public transport fares in London are expensive and that the price of being a student in London in general is very expensive. It was decided that it may be best to run a widespread campaign about the cost of being a student to include the issue of public transport costs.

ACTION: Advice and Advocacy Manager is to add more information online about rent costs and associated costs across London

11. *Policy Proposal: Mature student support*

The Mature and Part-Time Students' Officer introduced the policy and outlined its aims. Members voted on the policy and it passed.

For	15
Against	0
Abstain	3

DECISION: The policy passed and will be sent to Union Executive.

12. *Outcomes from/input into committees*

The Chair noted that discussions in their committees have been focused on student wellbeing and extenuating circumstances. No questions or input into the committees was put forward.

13. *Questions to Officers*

A number of questions were asked regarding the rationale behind UCL's decision making throughout the pandemic.

ACTION: The Democracy, Operations and Community Officer to follow up with Accommodation about the Christmas bubbles.

14. *Any Other Business*

There was no AOB.

Minutes approved as a true and accurate record	
Chair:	Yasmeen Daoud, Welfare and International Officer
Signature:	YD
Date:	2/12/2020

