



Welfare and Community Zone  
Minutes

Date: Tuesday 26 January 2021  
Time: 18:00-20:00  
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	✓		
Elisa Clemente, Club and Society Welfare Rep	✓		
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			✓
Katherine Kerr, Club and Society Welfare Rep	✓		
Marwa Rizk, Halls Representative – Bernard Johnson House	✓		
Madina Khusnullina, International Students' Officer (Job share)	✓		
Muhammad Mehmood, Club and Society Welfare Rep	✓		
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
Student observers

## 1. Preliminary Matters

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced the three new members. The minutes from the previous meeting were unanimously approved. The actions from the previous meeting were noted as all being completed.

**2. Announcement: Leadership Race 2021**

The Chair noted that nominations for the Spring elections will open on February 1<sup>st</sup> and listed the positions available for election to members.

**3. Announcement: No Detriment Policy**

The Education Officer informed members that a policy in support of a No Detriment Policy was passed at Union Executive and that work is currently being done to introduce a No Detriment Policy to UCL for this year.

**4. Announcement: University of London Halls**

The Democracy, Operations and Community Officer told members that they are soon to meet with University of London to discuss the issues raised.

**ACTION:** The Representation and Democracy Coordinator to circulate information about the rent strike campaign.

**5. Matter for Discussion: Empowering Women with Disabilities**

Members agreed that the submission was a positive idea and that there should be a discussion between the Disabled Students Network and the Women's Network. There was also a suggestion for societies to have a Disability Officer on their committees.

**ACTION:** A discussion is to be set up between the Disabled Students' Network and the Women's Network

**6. Matter for Discussion: Making Students feel a part of UCL**

Members noted that many students don't feel a part of the UCL community currently and they miss the facilities that are available on campus. Suggestions were made to make students feel more a part of UCL.

**7. Matter for Discussion: Improvement to Union's Zero Tolerance to Racism**

Members discussed how isolating it can be to experience racism and that further promotion of the reporting services should be done, while also identifying gaps in these.

**8. Policy Proposal: Use of Amazon Vouchers**

The proposer introduced the policy, commenting that Amazon is unethical and some members added that it was unsustainable also. Some members noted however that it was very helpful for international students and often the only option suitable. Members agreed that the Union should support local businesses.

Two amendments were proposed as follows, with each amendment being passed:

1. Changing the first sentence to read 'I would like the Union to promote and use Amazon products/vouchers as a last resort'
2. Adding to the end of the first sentence 'and lobby UCL to do the same'

The amended proposal went to a vote and it passed.

For	19
Against	1
Abstain	1

**DECISION:** The proposal passed and will go to Union Executive for ratification.

#### 9. **Policy Proposal: Banning Beef and Lamb at UCL**

The Chair introduced the policy. Members suggested that instead of working towards a ban, money could be put into a carbon offset fund, a policy could be brought that suggests increasing the meat free range or incentives could be offered for buying vegetarian options. Concerns were raised about students shopping off campus if the products were banned.

The policy went to a vote and failed.

For	2
Against	15
Abstain	4

**DECISION:** The policy did not pass and will not go to Union Executive.

**ACTION:** The Sustainability Officer and Democracy, Operations and Community Officer are to meet with the proposer and report back at the next meeting.

#### 10. **Policy Proposal: Supporting Students in Sex Work**

The Women's Officer introduced the policy. Discussions were had about the UK laws regarding sex work. An amendment was suggested to change 'To campaign against any attempted to introduce the Nordic Model in the UK' to 'If there was an attempt to introduce the Nordic Model, to raise awareness of the impact on student sex workers'.

The policy went to a vote and passed.

For	11
Against	2
Abstain	7

**DECISION:** The proposal passed and will go to Union Executive for ratification.

#### 11. **Policy Proposal: Rejection of the IHRA Definition**

The proposer introduced the proposal and gave context about the history of the definition at UCL. Questions were put to the proposers about the policy making process. Discussions revolved around the varying levels of support for the definition from different group.

Due to time constraints, a closed session was held whereby members voted to hold an extra meeting to reconvene this meeting and continue the discussion.

**12. Outcomes from/input into committees**

There was no comments noted for any committees.

**13. Questions to Officers**

There were no questions for the Officers.

**14. Any Other Business**

There was no AOB.

Minutes approved as a true and accurate record	
Chair:	<b>Yasmeen Daoud, Welfare and International Officer</b>
Signature:	YD
Date:	28/01/2021