



Date: Monday 27 February 2023

Time: 18:00 – 20:00

Venue: LGo4, 26 Bedford Way

Welfare & Community Zone

Minutes

Chair: Umair Mehmood, Welfare & Community Officer

Members:	P	AP	AB
Amanda Amaeshi, Hall Rep for Astor College	X		
Angel Ma, LGBTQ+ Officer			X
Ben Bowne, Hall Rep for Campbell House East and West			X
Callie Yoo, BME Students' Officer		X	
Carlos Eduardo Rangel Outeda, Hall Rep for Frances Gardner and Langton Close	X		
Dania Hernandez and Peter Kanyike, UCL East Student Officer (Job Share)			X
Divya Basan, Hall Rep for New Hall – Caledonian Road			X
Fiona Verisqa, Hall Rep for Bernard Johnson House	X		
Golsana Haghdousti, Hall Rep for Stapleton House	X		
Hamna Malik, Welfare Rep (Societies)	X		
Harper Taylor-Hanson, Trans Officer	X		
Hind Alhajy, Hall Rep for St Pancras Way	X		
Jiayi Zhang, Hall Rep for James Lighthill House	X		
Kartik Singh Rathore and Udaya Goel, International Students' Officer (Job Share)	X		
Lorena Lopez, Social Class & Mobility Officer		X	
Louisa Saukila, Officer for Students with Caring Responsibilities			X
Lucas Dastros-Pitei, Hall Rep for Endsleigh Gardens and John Adams Hall	X		
Manaal Tariq, Hall Rep for Goldsmid House	X		
Manon Simmons and Sasha Green, Women's Officer (Job Share)		X	
Manven Gungah, Welfare Rep (Societies)			X
Nick Miao, Accommodation & Housing Officer	X		
Oluseyi (Seyi) A Osibamowo, Equity & Inclusion Officer		X	
Rawleka Wislon, Hall Rep for Beaumont Court	X		
Sailesh Geddam, Hall Rep for 109 Camden Road		X	
TaeKyung Kim, Welfare Rep (Sports)			X
Tasha Bhojwani, Welfare Reps - Sports 2, Societies 3	X		
Tope Oyelade, Mature & Part-time Students' Officer	X		
Umair Mehmood, Welfare & Community Officer (Chair)	X		
Vaania Kapoor Achuthan, Sustainability Officer	X		
William Moore, Hall Rep for Ian Baker House and Ramsay Hall	X		
Yasmin Farooqui Caliz, Welfare Reps - Societies 4			X
Yiran Shi, Hall Rep for Prankerd and Schafer House			X
Zhongxian Wang, Hall Rep for One Pool Street	X		

Quorum: 17

In Attendance:

Jeff Saddington-Wiltshire, Representation and Democracy Manager

Samira Lily Chowdhury, Democracy Assistant, minutes
Danielle Bradford, Policy and Research Manager
Student Observers (Deniz Akinci, Daniella Calle)

1. Preliminary Matters - Welcome and Introductions

UM (Chair) warmly welcomes members and attendees to the zone.

2. Announcements - Leadership Race Promotion

UM encourages members and attendees to put themselves forward for elected positions. UM states members can book meetings with the current Sabbatical Officers if they have questions about running. He emphasises that this is a fantastic opportunity, allowing him to work on projects such as organising the 1st university-wide Diwali celebration at UCL.

3. Announcements - IT and Digital Strategy

UM states that the SU is looking to update its website and would like feedback on what students currently like and dislike about it. UM gives members time to fill out the form.

4. Matters for Information - Staff Updates

JSW (Representation and Democracy Manager) encourages attendees to apply for leadership positions. He gives updates: the Union is conducting a survey on the academic experience of students studying at UCL East, and they are organising Academic Rep of the Year Awards.

DB (Policy and Research Manager) give an update: the Union is in the process of analysing the Cost of Living survey. They will use the results to lobby the government to increase maintenance loans and review its thresholds. She is also recruiting a new person to run the Active Bystander program and is looking to help other universities develop their bystander programmes.

JSW gives an update on behalf of Danielle Swanson (Head of Advice and Wellbeing): the Advice service will be at the Student Centre on Thursday to give financial advice.

5. Matters for Information - Outcomes from and inputs to UCL Committees

UM has no updates.

6. Matters for Information - Follow up on action points from previous meeting

There were no action points from the last meeting. All policies that passed at WCZ2203 were approved at Union Exec.

7. Matters for Approval - Approval of minutes from the last meeting

Minutes are approved.

8. Matters for Approval - HLM Panel

JSW explains that Honorary Life Membership (HLM) is awarded to students and staff who have gone above and beyond in supporting, representing and advocating for UCL students. Students can nominate themselves or another student/staff member via a Webform on the Union website.

JSW asks whether any members would like to be part of the awarding panel. LDP (Hall Rep for Endsleigh Gardens and John Adams Hall) volunteers to be on the panel.

9. Policy Proposals - Including the Latino community as part of Enrolment data

DC (Student Observer) presents her policy: that Latino should be an ethnic category in Enrolment data. She states that this is important for Latino UCL students to feel like they belong at UCL. She also states that Latino was not given as an option on the previously mentioned Cost of Living survey.

DB reassures that it is a priority of the Union to include the Latin American community as an option for ethnicity when collecting data. However, she states that in order for UCL to change its ethnicity categories, UCL may have to lobby the Higher Education Statistics Agency.

Attendee also raises concern about Arab being part of the 'other' ethnic category.

Attendee supports the policy proposal, stating he has felt confused about which ethnic category to pick on UCL forms, being from Venezuela.

Policy passes with 100% of the vote.

10. Policy Proposals - Insourcing Staff v2

NM (Accommodation & Housing Officer) presents his updated policy proposal, arguing that the Union should directly employ and insource staff members. His policy had previously passed at WCZ22o2 but was sent back to the zone by Union Executive, as it was deemed infeasible to implement.

Policy passes with 83% voting for, 12% abstain and 5% against.

11. Officer Updates and Questions - Equity & Inclusion Officer

Equity & Inclusion Officer was not present.

12. Officer Updates and Questions - Welfare & Community Officer

UM states he has 5 main priorities he is currently working on:

1. 'Welfare Wednesdays', a weekly forum where students can meet with him, if they need support
2. Working with the Provost on creating scholarships for international students
3. Uplifting different cultures: he will organise a UCL Eid celebration and a 'Cultural Day', where UCL students can showcase and celebrate different cultures
4. Bidet showers will be installed in some toilets in the SU's buildings and facilities
5. Napping zones will be available from Term 3

HTH (Trans Officer) asks UM whether there will be protection for trans and non-binary students in the napping zones. UM states he is happy to discuss further the best way to protect trans and nonbinary students with HTH.

13. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

Minutes approved as a true and accurate record	
Chair:	Umair Mehmood, Welfare & Community Officer
Signature:	Umair Mehmood
Date:	02/03/2023