



Date: Thursday 25 January 2024
Time: 18:00 – 20:00
Venue: 188 Tottenham Court Road - Room 1 and 2
 / Microsoft Teams

Welfare & Community Zone

Minutes

Chair: Ahmad Ismail, Equity & Inclusion Officer

Members:	P	AP	AB
Abraham Selby, Hall Community Officer for Stapleton House	X		
Ahmad Ismail, Equity & Inclusion Officer	X		
Amr Maher, Hall Community Officer for James Lighthill House	X		
Anji Suri, Trans Officer	X		
Awa Bobb , Welfare Reps - Societies 1	X		
Christopher Johnson, Mature & Part-time Students' Officer	X		
Coco Lai, Hall Community Officer for One Pool Street	X		
Donna Amewu, Hall Community Officer for Endsleigh Gardens and John Adams Hall			X
Elisa de Aragao Bibay, Women's Officer	X		
Grace Yang, Sustainability Officer	X		
Issy Smith, Postgraduate Officer		X	
James Zhou, Hall Community Officer for Frances Gardner House and Langton Close			X
Jamila Kabir and Hanna Morris, UCL East Student Officer			X
Josh Mills, Hall Community Officer for Prankerd and Schafer House			X
Juan Grano De Oro Fernandez, Postgraduate Hall Community Officer for 109 Camden Road (Ann Stephenson, lfor Evans, Max Rayne and Neil Sharp House)	X		
Karam Johal, Undergraduate Hall Community Officer for 109 Camden Road (Ann Stephenson, lfor Evans, Max Rayne and Neil Sharp House)			X
Langat Naomi, Social Class & Mobility Officer	X		
Louise Steele Saukila, Officer for Students with Caring Responsibilities			X
Lucas A H Dastros-Pitei, Accommodation & Housing Officer	X		
Manaal Tariq, International Students' Officer	X		
Maria Rosa Albina Stebbings , Welfare Reps - Societies 2	X		
Maria Toigonbaeva, Hall Community Officer for John Dodgson House		X	
Marian Jago, Welfare Reps - Societies 3	X		
Marwa Zakir, Welfare Reps - Societies 4			X
Max James, Hall Community Officer for St Pancras Way			
Micah Gerstner, LGBTQ+ Officer	X		
Mustafa Ahmed, Hall Community Officer for New Hall - Caledonian Road	X		
Mustafa Ali, Hall Community Officer for Goldsmid House			X
Philip Greger and Suzanna Chen, Disabled Students' Officer			X
Rawleka Wilson and Rachel Lim, People of Colour Students' Officer			X
Roger Holwerda, Hall Community Officer for Arthur Tattersall and John Tovell House			X
Saloni Mookerjee, Hall Community Officer for Ian Baker House and Ramsay Hall			X
William Warwick, Hall Community Officer for Campbell House East and West			X

Quorum: 17

In Attendance:
Rhiannon Ellis, Representation & Democracy Coordinator
Matthew Phuklaewkla, Democracy Assistant (minutes)
Shaban Chaudhary, Education Officer
Enkuule Mergen, People of Colour Students' Network
Danielle Swanson, Head of Advice and Wellbeing
Jayne Flowers, Representation & Democracy Coordinator
Carol Paige, Policy & Research Coordinator
Natalie Wickremasinghe, Women's Network

Actions Log 2023/24	Responsibility	Update due:

1. Preliminary Matters - Welcome and Introductions

Ahmad Ismail (AI), Equity & Inclusion Officer and Chair warmly welcomed everyone to the Zone.

2. Officer Updates and Questions – Equity & Inclusion Officer

AI gave updates on:

- Their work for LGBTQ+ History Month
- Progress on accommodation-related issues, which include work on implementing a mailing list for Hall Community Officers
- Work with [UCL Estates](#)
- Their current work on the [Eugenics Legacy Education Project \(ELEP\)](#)
- A new Head of Arts has been recruited, who is looking to make it easier for students to get into making plays and participating in the arts.

3. Officer Updates and Questions – Postgraduate Officer

The Postgraduate Officer was not able to attend due to other commitments, so this section was skipped.

4. Matters for Information – Staff Updates

Staff introduced themselves and gave a few updates within their roles.

Jayne Flowers (JF) gave updates about their new Coordinator position within the Representation & Democracy team.

Head of Advice & Wellbeing Danielle Swanson (DS) gave updates for her work on implementing support for students at UCL struggling with substance abuse, as well as work on putting into place a suicide prevention action plan.

Education Officer Shaban Chaudhary (SC) invited members to the combined Education and Welfare & Community Zone taking place on 8th February, where a major item of discussion will be to replace the Extenuating Circumstances Self-Certification system with 'EC Passes'.

SC also invited members to [EZ2303](#) to speak with the [Programme Excellence Project](#) Lead who will be attending to take feedback from members.

Other updates from SC also include the completion of the first phase of a getting a new Union building, and the start of a new Extended Learning Opportunities Group.

5. Matters for Information – Leadership Race Nominations

Representation and Democracy Coordinator Rhiannon Ellis (RE) promoted the upcoming Leadership Race and encouraged members to nominate themselves for a role.

6. Matters for Information – Impartial Chairs Programme Update

Equity & Inclusion Officer Ahmad Ismail (AI) revealed current work on a community guideline framework for external speaker events, informed by the Impartial Chairs trip to Northern Ireland.

7. Policy Proposals – Pronoun Integration

Because the number of attendees for this Zone did not reach quorate, this proposal went ahead as an item of discussion.

Together with AI, LGBTQ+ Officer Micah Gerstner (MG) and Trans Officer Anji Suri (AS) gave a brief background on this policy – more information can be found attached to these minutes.

Education Officer Shaban Chaudhary (SC) also revealed that the [UCL Student and Registry Services \(SRS\)](#) were already working on integrating pronouns across their systems, and it is hoped that this will be done within next month.

AI also gave updates that the [Active Bystander Programme](#) now includes more training on pronouns.

Mature & Part-time Students' Officer Christopher Johnson (CJ) wondered if there was any opposition to this at all from any spaces within UCL. AI said 'yes', for a variety of reasons. Policy & Research Coordinator Carol Paige (CP) reassured members that the aim is to encourage pronoun integration, rather than enforcing it. AI said slay.

8. Policy Proposals – Information Posters Next to Calorie Displays

As with the previous item, quorate was not reached so this policy could not be voted on and was treated like an item of discussion instead.

Women's Officer Elisa de Aragao Bibay (EAB) gave a brief background on this policy, more of which can be found in the attached minutes.

Welfare Rep Maria Rosa Albina Stebbings (MRAS) asked why calories are unable to be removed from menus. CP explained that this was against legislation.

Welfare Rep Marian Jago (MJ) asked about the extent of information in the posters. EAB said that they will not be overly detailed, but will contain enough to educate people on more healthy eating.

SC asked if food information posters are already in place anywhere. EAB said they exist in some places in France, but currently not in the UK from what she sees.

Head of Advice and Wellbeing Danielle Swanson (DS) highlighted that, by legislation, there currently exists the option of establishments providing to customers a calorie free menu to separate to the main menu. But this has issues as some customers may not be aware of this.

9. Policy Proposals – Enhancing Lighting Infrastructure on Campus

As with the previous items, quorate was not reached so this policy could not be voted on.

EAB gave a background on this policy and more information can be found attached to these minutes.

CP added that all street lighting surrounding the campus is maintained by Camden Council, so any issues with these must be taken up with the council. MG suggested that it could be put into Union policy to liaise with Camden Council and the Mayor of London to work on the policy.

10. Matters for Discussion – LGBTQ+ History Month

MG gave an overview of event themes for each week of LGBTQ+ History Month, and invited members to participate by suggesting ways to help, which can be found in the slides attached to these minutes.

11. Any Other Business

CJ asked for updates on Stonewall.

International Students' Officer Manaal Tariq brought to members' attention the upcoming International Festival, which starts on 19th February. Those who are interested in working together and contributing to the Festival are encouraged to contact her.

Minutes approved as a true and accurate record	
Chair:	Ahmad Ismail
Signature:	Ahmad Ismail
Date:	13/02/2024