

AGD: Change RUMS, SOP, SSEES, and IOE Academic Sections to Academic Societies

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Union Council Notes:

1. The byelaws define as part of the Union a number of 'Academic Sections'.
2. These groups are defined communities who are deemed to be a part of the Union, and to require specific representation within Union structures.
3. From 2018, the Union will allow societies based in different academic departments to affiliate to the Union, so long as they are happy to allow students from other departments to join if they wish.
4. RUMS, SOP, SSEES, and IOE are very similar to other such societies.
5. Primary support within the Union for RUMS, SOP, SSEES, and IOE moved to the Union's societies team in 2017.
6. The RUMS, SOP, SSEES, and IOE committees will have a greater degree of autonomy if they are affiliated as Academic Societies, rather than defined as Academic Sections.
7. The RUMS SOP, SSEES, and IOE committees are supportive of the proposals outlined.

Union Council Believes:

1. Changing the definition of these groups from a section to a society is a technical change which has no further implications for Union democracy.
2. Any proposal which may arise to change the current roles of RUMS Officer, SOP Officer, SSEES Officer, and IOE Students Officer, or their membership of council, should be considered separately to this technical change.

Union Council Resolves:

1. To change the definition of the RUMS, SOP, SSEES, and IOE sections to societies, by removing reference to these sections in the byelaws.
2. In order to ensure no further changes result, clarify that the roles of RUMS, SOP, SSEES, and IOE shall be fulfilled by the president of the relevant society.

Appendix 1

6. Academic Sections

- a. The membership of each Academic Section shall be a sub-set of the UCL student body with specific circumstances or school affiliations that significantly affect their needs, concerns and interests as students.
- b. Academic Sections shall exist to enable their members to self-organise in order to:
 - i. represent and further their particular concerns, needs and interests within UCLU, UCL and beyond.
 - ii. promote and facilitate social intercourse and cooperation among themselves.
- c. Each Academic Section's Constitution must make provision for the self-representation of the members of each Liberation Section within that Academic Section. This may be arranged in coordination with the Liberation Sections, for instance by creating ex-officio positions on the Academic Section Executive Committee for an Officer from each Liberation Section.

- d. The Academic Sections shall be:

- i. the Postgraduate Association

1. The members shall be postgraduate students.
2. The Convenor shall be the Postgraduate Students' Officer.

~~ii. Royal Free, University College, & Middlesex Medical Students (RUMS)~~

~~iii. The members shall be medical students.~~

~~iv. The Convenor shall be the RUMS Officer.~~

~~v. The assisting Sabbatical Officer shall be the Education Officer.~~

~~vi.ii.~~ International Students' Section

1. The members shall be international students.
2. The Convenor shall be the International Students' Officer.
3. The assisting Sabbatical Officer shall be the Welfare & International Officer.

~~vii.iii.~~ Mature & Part-time Students' Section

1. The members shall be mature and/or part-time students.
2. The Convenor shall be the Mature & Part-time Students' Officer.
3. The assisting Sabbatical Officer shall be the Postgraduate Students' Officer.

~~1. School of Slavonic & East European Studies (SSEES) Students' Section~~

~~a. The members shall be SSEES students.~~

~~b. The Convenor shall be the SSEES Students' Officer.~~

~~c. The assisting Sabbatical Officer shall be the Education Officer.~~

~~2. School of Pharmacy Students' Section~~

~~a. The members shall be School of Pharmacy students.~~

~~b. The Convenor shall be the School of Pharmacy Students' Officer.~~

~~c. The assisting Sabbatical Officer shall be the Education Officer.~~

~~3. Institute of Education Students' Section~~

~~a. The members shall be Institute of Education students.~~

~~b. The Convenor shall be the Institute of Education Students' Officer.~~

~~c. The assisting Sabbatical Officer shall be the Postgraduate Students' Officer.~~

Bye-Law 4 - Union Council

1. Purpose

- a. Union Council exists to represent the voice of members between General Assemblies and Referenda, and to create Policy and monitor its execution.
- b. Union Council is also responsible for the development and implementation of the Union's Strategic Plan.
- c. Union Council may delegate any given area of its powers to the Union Executive Committee between meetings, except the creation of Policy.

2. Composition

- a. The composition of Union Council shall be:
 - i. Union Chair (Chair)
 - ii. All ~~elected~~ Faculty ~~Representatives~~ ~~StARs~~
 - iii. All Sabbatical Officers
 - iv. Convenors of the Liberation Sections
 - ~~v.~~ v. Convenors of the Academic Sections
 - ~~vi.~~ vi. The RUMS Officer
 - ~~vii.~~ vii. The SSEES Officer
 - ~~viii.~~ viii. The SOP Officer
 - ~~ix.~~ ix. The IOE Officer
 - ~~x.~~ x. Arts Officer
 - ~~xii.~~ xi. Sports Officer
 - ~~xiii.~~ xii. Societies Officer
 - ~~ix.~~ xiii. Community Relations Officer
 - ~~xiv.~~ xiv. Sustainability Officer
 - ~~xi.~~ xv. Halls Accommodation Representative
 - ~~xii.~~ xvi. External Accommodation Officer
 - ~~xiii.~~ xvii. Officer for Students with Caring Responsibilities
- b. All members of Union Council shall have voting rights, except the Chair who shall retain the casting vote should there be a tie.
- c. Any member of the Union may attend meetings of Union Council with speaking rights but not voting rights.
- d. Anyone who is not a member of the Union may attend meetings of the Union Council at the Chair's discretion. They may be granted speaking rights at the discretion of the members present.

Appendix 2

I. Education Officer

i. The Education Officer will:

1. Represent the academic needs of members to UCL, including within relevant UCL committees.
2. Be responsible for the Union's responses to developments within UCL and for coordinating campaigning for the Union's vision of education at UCL.
3. Support student representation at all levels and be responsible for the development and implementation of a student representation strategy.
4. Liaise with Academic Sections to assist their representation and campaigning work on academic issues relevant to their members.
- ~~5. Maintain a strong working dialogue with representatives of the RUMS membership.~~
- ~~6.5.~~ Work with trade unions on campus.
- ~~7.6.~~ Be the active respondent to media inquiries related to academic matters.
- ~~8.7.~~ Promote engagement with the academic representative posts, by promoting the Autumn elections to the student body.
- ~~9.8.~~ Have oversight of the elections of academic representatives.
- ~~10.9.~~ Be a Sabbatical Trustee of the Union.

Appendix 3

I. Royal Free, University College, and Middlesex Medical Students' Officer (RUMS Officer)

~~viii.~~iv. The RUMS Officer shall:

1. Be ~~a medical student of UCL Medical School~~the elected President of the RUMS Academic Society
2. Be responsible for representing the interests of medical students within the Union.
3. Facilitate medical student representation to the Medical School, including via regular meetings with the RUMS Honorary President and Director of the Medical School.
4. Facilitate the growth of the RUMS community by coordinating activities and events for medical students.
5. Facilitate the relationship between UCL medical students and UCL Medical School alumni.
6. Seek to pro-actively improve the engagement medical students in Union and RUMS activities.
7. Represent UCL medical students within NUS and the British Medical Association.
8. Liaise with Liberation Section Convenors to ensure RUMS processes and activities are accessible and ethical and where necessary work collaboratively on projects of mutual interest.

~~e. — Be the Convenor of RUMS.~~

~~f.e.~~ School of Pharmacy Students' Officer (SoP Students' Officer)

i. The SoP Students' Officer shall:

1. Be ~~a student of UCL School of Pharmacy~~the elected President of the School of Pharmacy Academic Society
2. Be responsible for representing the interests of School of Pharmacy students within the Union.
3. Facilitate student representation to the School of Pharmacy, including via regular meetings with Director of School of Pharmacy along with other senior academics.
4. Seek to improve the engagement of School of Pharmacy students in the Union.
5. Facilitate the growth of the SoP community by coordinating activities and events for SoP students as well as for the wider UCL student population.
6. Facilitate the relationship between UCL School of Pharmacy students and alumni.
7. Represent School of Pharmacy students to the Royal Pharmaceutical Society.
8. Liaise with Liberation Section Convenors to ensure SoP processes and activities are accessible and ethical and where necessary work collaboratively on projects of mutual interest.
9. Chair the British Pharmaceutical Students' Association Intra-School Committee.
10. ~~Be the Convenor of the School of Pharmacy Students' Section.~~

n. School of Slavonic & East European Studies Students' Officer (SSEES Students' Officer)

ii. The SSEES Students' Officer shall:

1. Be ~~a student of UCL School of Slavonic & East European Studies (SSEES)~~the elected President of the SSEES Academic Society
2. Be responsible for representing the interests of SSEES students within the Union.

3. Facilitate student representation to the School, including via regular meetings with Director of SSEES along with other senior academics.
4. Seek to improve the engagement of SSEES students in the Union.
5. Facilitate the growth of the SSEES community by coordinating activities and events for SSEES students as well as for the wider UCL student population.
6. Facilitate the relationship between SSEES students and alumni.
7. Liaise with Liberation Section Convenors to ensure SSEES processes and activities are accessible and ethical and where necessary work collaboratively on projects of mutual interest.

~~8.— Be the Convenor of the SSEES Students' Section.~~

o. Institute of Education Students' Officer

i. The Institute of Education Students' Officer shall:

1. Be a student of UCL Institute of Education
2. Be responsible for representing the interests of IOE students within the Union.
3. Facilitate student representation to the School, including via regular meetings with the Director of IOE along with other senior academics.
4. Seek to improve the engagement of IOE students in the Union.
5. Facilitate the growth of the IOE community by coordinating activities and events for IOE students as well as for the wider UCL student population.
6. Facilitate the relationship between IOE students and alumni.
7. Liaise with Liberation Section Convenors to ensure IOE processes and activities are accessible and ethical and where necessary work collaboratively on projects of mutual interest.

~~8.— Be the Convenor of the IOE Students' Section.~~

~~9.— Be financially reimbursed for their part time work.~~

p. Union Chair

i. The Union Chair shall:

1. Ensure that the Union runs in a fair and democratic manner.
2. Chair General Assemblies.
3. Chair meetings of Union Council.
4. Chair open meetings for Referenda.
5. Act as Returning Officer.
6. Ensure that copies of passed Policies and other relevant democratic decisions are conveyed to the Union Executive Committee and all Officers.

q. Halls Accommodation Representative

i. The Halls Accommodation Representative shall:

1. Be a Member who has lived in a UCL or University of London residence at some point in the two years prior to their election.
2. Represent the needs of students currently living in Halls to UCL and other relevant authorities.
3. Assist Halls Representatives where they exist, and negotiate directly with Halls where they do not.

4. Liaise regularly with the Welfare & International Officer, Halls Representatives and staff in the Advice Centre.
5. Campaign for adequate, affordable and accessible housing for UCL students.
6. Attend Accommodation Network meetings.
7. Work closely with, and receive the support of, the Welfare & International Officer.
8. Report regularly to the Union Executive Committee on the implementation of relevant Policy.

r. External Accommodation Officer

i. The External Accommodation Officer shall:

1. Represent the needs and demands of Members living outside UCL and University of London Halls.
2. Campaign for adequate, affordable and accessible housing for Members.
3. Defend and extend the housing rights of Members outside university accommodation as private and social tenants, lodgers and squatters.
4. Liaise regularly with the Welfare & International Officer and the Rights & Advice Centre.
5. Attend Accommodation Network meetings.
6. Work closely with, and receive the support of, the Welfare & International Officer.
7. Report regularly to the Union Executive Committee on the implementation of relevant Policy.

s. Mature & Part-time Students' Officer

i. The Mature & Part-Time Students' Officer shall:

1. Be at least one of the following:
 1. Registered as a part-time student at UCL.
 2. A student who began an undergraduate course after the age of 21, or a postgraduate course after the age of 24.
2. Coordinate representation and campaigning work for the needs and interests of mature and part-time Members within the Union, UCL and beyond.
3. Ensure that all relevant facets of the work of the Union and its other Officers cater appropriately for, and engage with, mature and part-time students.
4. Coordinate campaigns related to issues of interest to mature and part-time students.
5. Organise activities, events and facilities appropriate and accessible to mature and part-time students.
6. Be the Convenor of the Mature & Part-Time Students' Section.

t. Officer for Students with Caring Responsibilities

i. The Officer for Students with Caring Responsibilities shall:

1. Be a student with caring responsibilities. This includes anyone who cares unpaid, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability, a mental health problem or an addiction cannot cope without their support.
2. Coordinate representation and campaigning work for the needs and interests of Members with caring responsibilities within the Union, UCL and beyond.
3. Ensure that all relevant facets of the work of the Union and its other Officers cater

appropriately for, and engage with, Members with caring responsibilities.

4. Coordinate campaigns related to issues of interest to students with caring responsibilities.
5. Organise activities, events and facilities appropriate and accessible to students with caring responsibilities.
6. Be the Convenor of the Students with Caring Responsibilities Network.