



Graduate Union

Agenda of a Meeting of the Student Council

To be held at 2pm on 18 June 2016, in the CUSU/GU Lounge at 17 Mill Lane

1. Approval of the minutes of the previous Council meeting

The unconfirmed minutes of the last Council meeting, held on 30 January 2016, are circulated for approval.

2. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous Council meeting

3. Reports to Council from Sabbatical Officers and Officers of the Executive Committee

(a) President's report

The President will report on the following topics:

- The Board of Trustees' activities since the last Council meeting,
- University business, particularly those matters most relevant to Council members,
- CUSU business,
- The recent election of the GU's 2016 Executive Committee,
- The relationship between the GU and the University and Colleges Union (as mandated by the most meeting of Council),
- The GU's childcare provision campaign (as mandated by the last meeting of Council),
- The status of the proposal to replace affiliation fees with a college levy,
- Progress on the introduction of the GU's second full-time Sabbatical Officer.

(b) Constitutional reformatting

In consultation with the Board of Trustees, the Junior Proctor, and the Chair of the University Council Committee for the Supervision of the Students' Unions, a

reformatting of the Constitution has been undertaken to (a) remove typographical errors, (b) correct cross-referencing mistakes, and (b) split the text up into the sections implied by the Table of Contents. This was undertaken to make the process of future amendment and revision simpler, and to make reference to the document easier.

As no substantive changes to the text have been made, the changes being purely presentational, this does not constitute a formal Constitutional Amendment. However, the reformatting is presented to Council for the sake of transparency.

The original text with annotations explaining the alterations is circulated [C.160618.A], alongside the newly redrafted text [C.160618.B].

4. Motions to be ratified

There are none.

5. Council discussions and questions to Council

Topics for discussion and questions will be invited from Council attendees.

6. Ordinary motions

(a) Amendment to Schedule C

The following motion will be put to the Council:

Resolved: that the text of Paragraph 9 of Schedule C to the Constitution be deleted and replaced with "A meeting of the Student Council shall be quorate only if the number of voting members (as defined in paragraph 5 above) present is equal to or greater than two-fifths of the number of Affiliated Common Rooms."

Submitted by the President

(b) GU stance on the EU Referendum

The following motion will be put to the Council:

Whereas:

- 1. the result of the UK's referendum on membership of the EU on 23 June will have a very significant impact on current and future members of the GU as graduate students of the University;*
- 2. the GU, as a students' union, is legally entitled to take a collective stance on issues which affect its members as students;*
- 3. CUSU have taken a collective stance to support a "Remain" vote;*

Resolved:

- 1. that the GU use its social media accounts and email lists to remind its members who are eligible to vote in the referendum to do so;*
- 2. that the GU take a collective stance to support a "Remain" vote.*

Submitted by Mark Driver

(b) Annual review of GU policy

The GU is obliged to review all its policy in the Easter Term preceding the fourth anniversary of its adoption.

So far as the President is aware, this is the first time this process has been undertaken. Therefore, all policy adopted before 18 June 2013 is due for review.

All available minutes of the GU Council prior to 18 June 2013 have been reviewed. A full schedule of all policy due for renewal is circulated [paper]. The only policy in this schedule that is still relevant concerns the replacement of affiliation fees with a levy on colleges. All other policy was of short-term or one-off effect.

Therefore, the Council are invited to decide on whether or not to revoke this policy on affiliation fees, or allow it to continue in force.

The following motion will be put to the Council:

Resolved:

- 1. that the following policy continue in force until reviewed again in Easter Term 2019: to support the replacement of affiliation fees with a levy on colleges, as adopted by Council on 30 November 2011 and again on 2 May 2012;*
- 2. that all other policy made before 18 June 2013 be revoked.*

Submitted by the President

7. Emergency motions

The Council will consider any emergency motions submitted between the circulation of the Agenda and the start of the meeting.

8. Elections by Council

There are no elections to be held.

9. Any other business