1. Objections to the Order of Items on the Agenda

2. Discussion of the matter for referendum. (Papers 1119GM.A-E)

   Do you approve of the dissolution of CUSU and the GU
   and the creation of a new single students' union in the
   form of Cambridge SU?

3. Any Other Business
Available Resources on the proposals for a new Students’ Union

Website: www.new-su.co.uk

The above website includes the following resources which may be of interest to attendees:

- Frequently asked questions about the project
- Video explainers
- Explanations of the structure
NEW-SU
the referendum
Introducing the University of Cambridge Students Union, or more informally known as, Cambridge SU.

Cambridge SU, a brand new students’ union, comes from a simple suggestion; what does better postgraduate representation look like? From this grew ideas and plans to not only improve postgraduate representation but the experience for all students at Cambridge University. It has taken a lot of time and work to get here, but we hope you’ll be as excited as we are we present what the future of student representation could, and hopefully will, look like.
We foresee New-SU as a groundbreaking organisation that leads the way in representation for all students, both undergraduates and postgraduates. New-SU will replace two current students’ unions, and be a single union for all students. In combining our expertise, we will ensure that all students, regardless of level of study, are represented, supported and have their voice heard across the University of Cambridge.

In addition to this, we will continue to champion and elevate the voices of those with protected characteristics who are not always heard across the university. No matter your level of study, background or the marginalisation you may experience, New-SU will be a union that fights for you.
Postgraduate Representation

A new BME sabbatical Officer

Support and opportunities for you!

In our new structures we are further proposing two additional members of staff that will be focussing exclusively on welfare and activities; we know these are two areas that are really important to students. The creation of a new single students’ union will give us the opportunity to offer these provisions to you!
The Executive is a group of elected students that work alongside the eight elected sabbatical officers in ensuring the union work for and is relevant to Cambridge students.

They shall be responsible for:

- Campaigns that promote and protect the interests of the Members
- The implementation of Policy set by the Student Council
- The distribution of budget and funds to campaigns

There is a total of 22 representative on the Executive committee, in this new make up we have ensured that the representation of undergraduates and postgraduates is balanced. Where a campaign has two representatives on the Executive committee, one of these must be undergraduate and one postgraduate.
## Structures

### Executive (EXEC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SABBATICAL OFFICERS</th>
<th>CAMPAIGN REPRESENTATIVES</th>
<th>PORTFOLIO ROLES</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President PG</td>
<td>BME Campaign</td>
<td>Part-Time Students’ Officer</td>
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<tr>
<td>President UG</td>
<td>Class Act Campaign x2</td>
<td>Mature Students’ Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access, Education &amp; Participation Officer PG</td>
<td>Disabled Students’ Campaign</td>
<td>Families Officer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access, Education &amp; Participation Officer UG</td>
<td>Ethical Affairs Campaign x2</td>
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<tr>
<td>BME Officer</td>
<td>International Students’ Campaign x2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Disabled Students’ Officer</td>
<td>LGBT+ Campaign x2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Welfare &amp; Community Officer</td>
<td>Women’s Campaign</td>
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<td>Women’s Officer</td>
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1119GM.C Information Booklet
8 Sabbatical Officers  11 Campaign Representatives  12 Schools Reps  62 College Reps  3 Exec Members
WHAT’S NEW?

- Closer links with Sabbatical Team
- Better staff and financial support
- Undergrad and Postgrad structural co-leadership
Academic Forum is run throughout the year. It’s a space for Academic Reps to meet one another, to bring up issues that are of concern to the students they represent, to share best practice, and to discuss the wider issues surrounding education in Cambridge. Half of the meeting is currently given over to issues the reps themselves want to raise and then the other half centres around a discussion on a particular topic, such as Study Skills or Libraries. As Faculty Reps do not sit on SU Council, this is the primary contact they have with the Student Union and the forum is encouraged to write policy for Council to be proposed by the School Reps who do sit on Council.

College Forum is run throughout the year, hosted by a different college each time. It’s a space for JCR and MCR Presidents and Vice-Presidents/External Officers to come together to discuss issues that are of concern to the students of their colleges, share examples of best practice, and to discuss wider issues in the collegiate university.

WHAT’S NEW?

• Organised and scheduled with needs of both Undergrad and Postgrad students in mind
• Possibility for Undergrad and Postgrad specific forums
Motion to Mandate the Graduate Union to initiate the process to activate a Referendum concerning the Proposals for a New Single Students’ Union

*NB* The below motion was passed by the GU Council in on 21st October 2019

**Proposer:** Alessandro Ceccarelli, President and Chair, Graduate Union (henceforth GU)

**Seconder:** Mrittunjoy Guha Majumdar, Chair of Exec and Vice-president, Graduate Union

The Graduate Union notes:

1. That extensive consultation and proposal development has been undertaken in the past months on joint proposals from the GU and CUSU on the creation of a new students’ union;

2. *See Appendix A.* That 51 undergraduate and 93 postgraduate students responded to our recent survey. 90% of undergraduate respondents supported CUSU and the GU working more closely together and 78% supported the proposal for a single union. Of postgraduate respondents, 86% supported CUSU and the GU working more closely together and 65% supported the proposal for a single union. Between 73 and 75% of postgraduate respondents supported the proposed sabbatical, executive committee and council and forum structures. Between 60% and 75% of undergraduate respondents supported the same proposed structures. Undergraduate respondents were most supportive of the proposed council and forum structures;

3. That the proposal have been modified in order to respond to areas of concern. For instance, concerns were raised about the proposed access and education roles, an LGBT+ role, and the need for an equal postgraduate voice in any new council and forum structures. These and more requests and concerns have been actively addressed at GU-CUSU working group meetings and a new updated proposal has been developed so as to meet a compromise between the needs and requests of UG and PG students (*See Appendix B*);

4. That in July, August, September and October 2019 the GU and CUSU Sabbatical officers and members of staff have consistently and successfully undertaken positive and constructive conversations to improve the proposal so as to promote better representation of PG students with a ‘New Single Students’ Union’ (henceforth ‘New-SU’);

5. That MCRs and Postgraduate student representatives have been kept informed during the proposal developments and their voices, needs and concerns have been presented to the GU-CUSU working group, as well as discussed and integrated in the proposal as far as possible. (see paper 1019.L);

6. That a Business Case was formalised and presented to, and accepted by the Trustees of each charity (ie. CUSU and GU);

7. That discussions with the GU Board of Trustees have been conducted so as to guarantee the interests of the GU Charity;
The Graduate Union believes:

1. That we need to continue to engage with students and to endorse a Referendum concerning the ‘New-SU’ to be presented to the University of Cambridge student community;

2. Since postgraduate students make up half the student body, and a majority of postgraduates are international students, we must develop a ‘New-SU’ structure, procedures and mission statements that ensures parity of PG and UG students, as well as home and international students;

3. That the current GU and CUSU sabbatical teams (2019/20) should continue the current direction of travel and campaign to raise awareness of this positive initiative among the student population until a Referendum is held;

The Graduate Union resolves:

1. To endorse a Referendum concerning the ‘New-SU’ to be presented to the University of Cambridge students community in Michaelmas Term 2019;

2. To campaign in favour of the ‘New-SU’ project and raise awareness among the student population until a Referendum is held.
Appendix A: Report from the GU-CUSU Proposal Consultation

Q15 - Student status:

- Tripos
- Clinical
- PhD
- MPhil
- PGCE
- Other Master's

Q9 - Do you support the concept of a new single union?

- Definitely yes
- Somewhat yes
- Unsure
- Somewhat no
- Definitely not

Q2 - Do you support the proposed sabbatical structure and roles?

- Definitely yes
- Somewhat yes
- Unsure
- Somewhat no
- Definitely not

Q8 - Do you support the proposed executive committee structure?

- Definitely yes
- Somewhat yes
- Unsure
- Somewhat no
- Definitely not

Q4 - Do you support the proposed council and forum structure?

- Definitely yes
- Somewhat yes
- Unsure
- Somewhat no
- Definitely not
Appendix B: Some students’ requests concerning the ‘New-SU’

(Students’ signatures not included below)

**MCR’s requests concerning the new single union, “New-SU” project (2019/20)**

The following lists of suggestions and requests are crucial elements that we would like to include in the Constitution of the new single union currently designed by GU and CUSU. The following requests have been presented by MCR Officers and by GU Exec Officers, and aim to improve and guarantee the representation of Postgraduate (PG) and Mature Undergraduate (UG) students.

**Trustees of the New Union:**
- Two or maximum four trustees out of ten should be sabbatical officers, and 50% of them should be equally PG and UG. This structure will guarantee the best support to sabbatical officers and will guarantee equal representation.
- If non-sabbatical students Trustees are appointed, they should also be 50% UG and 50% PG.

**Council, voting and quoracy:**
- In order to guarantee equal representation and voices of PG and UG at the Council, structural mechanisms should be in place. Both the quoracy and the voting system should be structured in ways that guarantee equal representation.
- There must be an ‘electoral college system’, whereby the membership of the Council is divided into two groups (‘undergrads’ and ‘postgrads’) which must give approval/vote individually for a motion. In addition to this, the council as a whole must provide its approval for the motion, (this would however be done in practice in one vote).
- There must also be a quorum of PG and UG representatives present in order for a vote to go ahead and be binding – exact numbers would depend on the membership of the council.

**Structure and representation:**
- There must be equal structural co-leadership (UG and PG) of executive portfolios and campaigns (e.g. ‘liberation campaigns’).
- The frequency and workload of informal and formal platforms (e.g. Academic Forum, College Forum, and Councils) must take into account PG v UG cultures equally. Excessive numbers of informal meetings for MCR representatives may generate confusion and may dilute the overall energy of student representatives.
- We suggest to host a maximum of one extra informal discussion meeting for MCR reps per month (e.g. one informal College Forum per month).
- We request at least one or two Fora or Councils per year dedicated exclusively to and for postgraduate students during Terms, as well as one or two meetings per year exclusively designed for undergraduate students.
- Inductions, trainings and certain events should be mindful and respectful of PG and UG cultural and social differences. Ideally, sessions for/on Postgraduate students should be ran and delivered by Postgraduate students (i.e. by students representatives who are/were postgraduate students). Similarly, sessions for/on international students should be delivered by international students (i.e. by students representatives who are/were international students).
- The logo of the New Union should not resemble the current logos (e.g. bubble speech or shield) and a new brand identity should be designed.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
<th>ACTION</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday 21st October →</td>
<td>GU Council Mich 1</td>
<td>Delegate responsibility of Mich elections to the Elections Committee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 28th October →</td>
<td>CUSU Council Mich 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 28th October → Or</td>
<td>Announce Referendum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 29th October →</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 30th October →</td>
<td>Deadline to give GU council 14 clear days notice of the matter to be taken to referendum</td>
<td>Email GU members</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 5th November →</td>
<td>Campaign team deadlines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 7th November →</td>
<td>CUSU College Forum Mich 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 11th November →</td>
<td>CUSU Council Mich 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 12th November →</td>
<td>Mich elections nominations close</td>
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<td>Wednesday 13th November</td>
<td>Candidates briefing from the EC</td>
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<td>Thursday 14th November →</td>
<td>GU General Meeting to discuss the matter raised in the Referendum petition</td>
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<td>Deadline for amending materials</td>
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<td>Friday 15th November</td>
<td>Campaigning opens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 18th November</td>
<td>Voting Opens in Referendum &amp; Mich elections</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Campaigning Period</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 21st November</td>
<td>Voting closes</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Announce provisional results</td>
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