

Union Council on the 17th of October 2011 at 6.30pm
Scarborough Campus

Administration

The President Chaired this meeting until a Chair was elected.

Present:

Aidan Mersh (President)

Tom Peel (VP Community)

Matthew Barrow (VP Education)

Ashley Armitage (VP Sport)

Phil Pocknee (VP Welfare)

Matthew Brown (VP Scarborough)

Dominic Fogg (Chair Media)

Mark Tatton (Chair RAG)

Komal Tariq (Chair ISA)

Ben Croft (Chair Societies Executive Committee)

Kora-Lee Holmes (Chair Campaigns & Democracy)

Joseph Brownridge (Chair Environmental & Ethical)

Paul Harsent (AU Secretary)

Tom Kharchi (AU Treasurer)

Toby Carr-Brown (AU Communications Officer)

Magid Mah (AU Events Officer)

Jez Horsell (AU BUCS Representative)

Clare Price (AU Kit Representative)

Tom Downes (AU Tour Representative)

Mark Weighill (AU Varsity Representative)

Victoria Winterton (Chair Sport Zone & Councillor of Scrutiny)

Jonathan Chambers (Councillor of Scrutiny)

Sean Brawley (Chair Welfare Zone & Councillor of Scrutiny)

Pippa Eveleigh (Chair Community Zone & Councillor of Scrutiny)

Thomas Rawlinson (Councillor of Scrutiny)

Richard Brooks (Councillor of Scrutiny)

Lauren Fincham (Councillor of Scrutiny)

Timothy Sykes (Councillor of Scrutiny)

Madonna Masuka (Scarborough Welfare Officer)

Chris Long (Scarborough Sport Officer)

Jamie Lawrence (Scarborough Education Officer)

Matt Fensome (FASS Faculty Co-ordinator)

Jonathan Milnes (Chair LINKS)
Daryl Jones (Chair Disabled Students)
Ellen Ricketts (Chair LGBT)
Nii Akoto Doodoo-Amoo (Chair Black Students)
Dominique Richards (Chair Women's Committee)

Paul Tatton (Chief Executive)
Sophie Reid (Minute-taker)

1. **Apologies:** Kathryn Kay (Chair Mature Students), Hannah Connor (Scarborough Campaigns Officer), Laura Anderson (Chair HUSSO)
2. **Elect Chair of Council** – The President took the Chair and asked for nominations for Chair Council. There was five candidates: Ben Croft, Jamie Lawrence, Thom Rawlinson, Timothy Sykes, Magid Mah.

Magid Mah was elected as Chair and took over chairing the meeting from this point.

Chair asked for nominations for Deputy Chair of Council.
There was five candidates: Paul Harsent, Ben Croft, Jamie Lawrence, Thomas Rawlinson and Timothy Sykes.

Thomas Rawlinson was elected as Deputy Chair.

3. **Ratification of Union Societies**

- Model United Nations
- HU Formula Student
- English Society
- Lovesoc Society
- Green Society

All passed

Ratification of AU Clubs

- Windsurfing
- Cycling
- Skydiving

All passed

4. Ratification of Standing Orders

2004 Societies Executive Committee
3001 VP Education
3002 Education Zone
3008 Senate Reps
3009 Faculty Reps
3010 Academic Council
300? Course Reps
8001 Elections
8011 Board of Trustees
Scarborough AU Sport Council (proposed)

All passed except for 3009 Faculty Reps, after concern that there is no quoracy for electing Faculty reps. This was to be reviewed and brought back at a later date.

There was a question regarding Elections 8001, regarding if Councillors of Scrutiny are elected at the start of Semester one then when would they finish. It was clarified by the President that this would be for 12 months from when they are elected.

A five minute break was given by the Chair.

5. Motions

Title: Motion of Zero Tolerance to Harassment & Bullying

UNION NOTES

1. The University of Hull has a diverse student population. In 2010/2011, the following figures were reported:

- 46% of registered students are Male, 54% Female
- 13% of students are International students
- 8.8% of students are registered as Disabled
- 44% of students are classed as Mature (age 25 and over)
- 16% of students are BME and international students
- 120 different countries make up the UoH student population

2. The Hidden Marks report, published in March 2010 by NUS Women's Campaign, revealed that 68% of women students have experienced sexual harassment while a student at their current institution. Many women students

reported experiencing persistent harassment in pubs and club nights of the type held by many unions, and reported that this kind of behaviour was seen as normal at such an event. This report also highlighted that sexual harassment against men can also occur and therefore there should be a gender neutral policy.

3. The Hidden Marks report also revealed that Disabled students also face harassment while they are a student at their current institution.

4. The Race For Equality report, published by NUS Black student Campaign, revealed that one in six of survey respondents reported that they had experienced racism in their current educational institution, and focus group respondents provided a range of examples of either experiencing or observing racism while at University.

5. Harassment can have serious negative impact for victims. For example, the Hidden Marks report revealed that victims reported a range of different consequences of violence, stalking and sexual assault on their health, experience of learning, confidence, relationships and mental health.

6. A Zero Tolerance policy aims to help a union create an environment where all students can enjoy time in their Union without being harassed

THIS UNION BELIEVES:

1. That no student at this institution should be a victim of any sort of harassment, due to their disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, nationality, gender reassignment, pregnancy, maternity/paternity or marriage /civil partnership.

2. That action will be taken to ensure that all students are able to enjoy Hull University Union without experiencing harassment of any nature

3. That discrimination of any kind is opposed to the values and objectives of Hull University Union and those who commit acts of discrimination shall be stopped and disciplined for their action.

4. All members, guests, visitors and staff have the right to be in an environment free from intimidation and that the Union upholds the principle of an equal, safe and secure environment for all its members and visitors.

THIS UNION RESOLVES

1. To promote HUU's Bullying and Harassment Policy to all members and adopt zero tolerance to anyone who does not abide by it. This will include bullying and harassment of anyone because of their disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, nationality, gender reassignment, pregnancy, maternity/paternity or marriage /civil partnership.
2. To use the HUU Disciplinary procedure to fairly and objectively discipline any member who has contravened the Bullying and Harassment Policy wherever the contravention has occurred.
4. To actively promote the existence of zero tolerance of Bullying and Harassment to our members, guests, visitors and staff, to prevent problems from occurring.
5. To continue to promote the Union and University's Support Services, where victims can confidentially discuss complaints and receive impartial advice.
6. To train all club and society officers, Council members and staff of Hull University Union in their responsibilities towards equality and diversity in all aspects of our organisation.

Proposed by Phil Pocknee (VPW)

VPW gave a speech for.

Questions were asked from the floor.

Amendment was proposed by Timothy Sykes, that there should be a point 7 in Union Resolves stating that elected members should be proactive in following this procedure. Vote fell.

Jonathan Chambers proposed an amendment. It was as follows:

UNION RESOLVES

1. HUU mandates its UEC to consider the following;

- To promote HUU's Bullying and Harassment Policy to all members and adopt zero tolerance to anyone who does not abide by it. This will include bullying and harassment of anyone because of their disability, age, gender, sexual orientation, race, religion, nationality, gender reassignment, pregnancy, maternity/paternity or marriage /civil partnership.
- To use the HUU Disciplinary procedure to fairly and objectively discipline any member who has contravened the Bullying and Harassment Policy wherever the contravention has occurred.

- To actively promote the existence of zero tolerance of Bullying and Harassment to our members, guests, visitors and staff, to prevent problems from occurring.
- To continue to promote the Union and University's Support Services, where victims can confidentially discuss complaints and receive impartial advice.
- To train all club and society officers, Council members and staff of Hull University Union in their responsibilities towards equality and diversity in all aspects of our organisation.

When consulting with Union Council, and more specifically the Welfare Zone and Liberation Campaign Chairs when defining and implementing a Zero tolerance to harassment, bullying and discrimination policy for HUU before the next Union Council meeting.

Speech for given by Jonathan Chambers.

Speech against given by Dominic Fogg.

Amendment passed by majority vote.

To clarify the amendment passed, there was discussion that the different zones would discuss it separately and feeding their comments on to the Governance Zone and then this would be fed to UEC.

Matthew Barrow proposed tabling the motion in a procedural motion until the next council meeting. The vote fell on the grounds that council wanted to pass the motion - as a step towards the policy.

Daryl Jones proposed an amendment to combine the existing policies on bullying and harassment the Zero Tolerance policy.

Speech against given by Timothy Sykes.

Vote fell.

Motion was passed in full by majority vote.

6. Reports

1. Governance Zone

(a) Report by Chair of Governance Zone

- Over welcome week there was only one ambulance and one arrest.
- The partnership approach taken to Welcome Week by HUU and UoH was a success. There was a good turn-out of volunteers for Adopt a Fresher, who did a brilliant job –

Especially those working in Ferens and Downs.

- There was an issue with VAT as a new officer at HMRC did not like the present arrangements. This should now be sorted. Johnny Mac and Sanctuary are now classified as restaurants during the day as the majority of trade at this time is food. HUU had budgeted a 90k loss for this academic year. The University gave £40k towards this shortfall and it is hoped the VAT changes will cover the rest.
- HUU had secured a loan of £250,000 from the UoH to cover capital expenditure plans for the redevelopment of the first floor of University House. The UoH has decided to gift this to HUU due to the recent accreditation of HUU with SUEI gold.
- Week 4 elections are all filled apart from the Faculty Co-ordinators for HYMS and PGMI. All filled positions are contested apart from the HUBS Faculty Co-ordinator. HUU did some targeted email campaigns and there has been good feedback with 800% increase in interest for Part-time & Post-grad positions.
- The University Foundation Award (UFA) is a HEFCE funded part-time award at the UoH. To get the UFA, students need to complete five x 10 credit modules then finish a short dissertation. All the HEFCE funding is gone now. Previously it generated around £150k for the UoH while costing £1.5 million to run. It could only run through HEFCE funding.

In September HUU was made aware that the UoH wants to end the UFA and had to generate a response by early October. The president worked on the response and is pushing the UoH to allow completion for all students on UFA programmes as they have a moral obligation to do this. We are using Leeds University as an example of good practice as they supported all students through to completion when they ended similar programmes. HUU wants the UoH to look at other funding models to sustain it. The current Access Agreement offers 20 full fee waivers. HUU is pushing the University to use this capital for community adult learning. AM to circulate UEC response to UFA.

Chair Campaigns & Democracy

- HUU did Union Council training went well. SR and KLH wanted to help induct members of Council more to open it up to them, teach them how to do motions and to ensure they are active. Four people came to Chair/Deputy training for Council and two in Scarborough.
- New handbooks have been produced for those who sit on Union Council.
- The council is looking to impose Article 4 Directions on Houses of Multiple Occupancy in the Newland Avenue area of Hull. Students are standing against this and there has been a lot of media interest. KLH is talking to Hull City Council next Thursday. Following the petition they have been granted a 5 minute slot to speak. The issue is being tabled for cabinet on the 24th.
- For a future campaign, one on broadband is being considered. It is hoped that utilizing Hull City Centre they can gain public interest too – provisionally on the 29th

October. The campaign would lobby OFCOM to look into the Kcom monopoly. There will be publicity out on the 21st and a stall in HUU on the 27th.

- There is a panel debate on the 25th in Johnny Mac with AM, Daniel Vulliamy from the UCU, hopefully also a UCU regional rep and Toni Pierce from the NUS. (Usman Ali is now representing NUS)

Chair Environmental & Ethical

- Freshers stall went well, but only 5 students attended the first meeting
- Strong environmental movement in Green Soc
- Energy saving competition at the Lawns. 50% of all savings to be invested back into facilities
- Recycling waste to electricity
- Motion to the Zone next meeting to look at bottled water and water fountains.

No Questions.

2. Community Zone
 - (a) Report by Chair Community Zone

Media

- First edition of The Hullfire was printed successfully.
- Also found that JAM are in debt. This has now been sorted out.
- HUU:TV doing really well with lots of interest.
- The new media home is in the old Volunteering Hub

VP Community

- There has been a lot of change within the Community Zone with moving. Benefit is that there is a lot more face-time with students
- The biggest thing that VPC has been working over the Summer, is the council suggesting to impose Article 4 Directions on Houses of Multiple Occupancy in the Newland Avenue area of Hull.
- Street Reps has been launched. This involves students representing out in the community. There will be 8 areas, with 2 reps per area.
- Hall Wars was a success.
- Aiming to hold an event every Semester.
- VP Community gave a big thank you to all the volunteers from Community Zone, for all the hard work they have put in so far.

RAG

- RAG nearly have a full committee.
- Have got lots of plans for the upcoming year.

- First raid is on the 29th November.

HUSSO

- Freshers Fair went really well.
- Projects will start to go out from the 24th October, hopefully.
- Thinking about reorganising some of the Projects, and maybe even the possibility of adding some additional ones. Prison projects were very popular last year, so could be worth trying to push for additional projects there.
- Will hopefully have 10 regular projects running, depending on applications and if projects are re-shuffled.

ISA

- ISA is doing well, with 822 coming to the Welcome Party.
- Foam Party was a success.
- The first trip happened to York and next trip is to Liverpool.
- Have had issues with online membership.
- They made a profit of £176 at Welcome party.

Societies Executive Committee

- Societies bizarre went really well.
- At the time of first Community Zone meeting they had 588 signed up to a society so far but this will also have increased since then.
- Managed to get £1500 of sponsorship from East Yorkshire.
- Issues with the online membership.
- The first Society Council happened had a good turnout.

Questions

- Chair Societies asked about the status of HUU:TV and whether it fell under Societies or a Standing Committee and was looked after by Chair Media. VPC explained how HUU:TV and Media were heavily linked and therefore it makes sense that they are based with Media, even though they are classed as a Society. President commented that Standing Committees have been tabled for Christmas and hopefully come to an agreement about HUU:TV and how it will run. It was agreed to be discussed in Community Zone and fed back to Council members.

3. Education Zone
 - (a) Report by Chair Education Zone

- Recruitment of Course Reps is going really well, with 122 already elected. This is better than this time last year.
- Working on new Code of Practice.
- Currently electing Faculty Co-ordinators, Chair Part-time Students and Chair Postgraduate students. The only two positions that did not receive any nominations were Faculty Co-ordinators for HYMS and PGMI. Prompted Councillors to vote.
- We have recruited a new Education Admin Assistant, Hannah.
- The library refurb that was happening over Summer is now completed. They had spent £100, 000 on it and made a social learning space.
- Working on a Code of Practice regarding noise in the library.
- The University have agreed £ 20 million on the new library re-development.
- 8th February has been agreed for the annual Student Conference. Guests confirmed so far include: Liam Burns, David Davis, Alan Johnson, Prof Callie Pistorius (VC) and a few others.

(b) Questions

- Question asked regarding if the design of the library would be available for students to view. VPE responded that hopefully it will. VPE also commented that some members of Council went to the meeting the architects and got valuable insight into what will happen.
- VPE was asked why he had an all male panel for the academic conference day - despite the point being raised throughout the year he should approach women. There was a suggestion from Council that he finds a suitable women Chair if no women are on the panel as a last resort.

4. Scarborough Campus

(a) Report by VP Scarborough

Governance

- The Scarborough Executive Committee has only had one full meeting. This is due to two factors. Both the Scarborough Campaigns Officer and the Scarborough Welfare Officer have been away due to personal reasons. Whilst it would be unfair to go into detail, it is fair to say that their absence and the fact that we have no Community Officer, has meant that we have only had two Officers. Consequently we have not had enough numbers to hold an Executive Committee meeting since the last one however; I would urge patience due to these extenuating

circumstances. The current team have worked hard, especially in welcome week and deserve credit for all of their hard work.

- Within the Governance zone on Scarborough we have had a good response to the election for the role of Scarborough Community Officer. Two students are standing for this post.
- Sabb Sofa's are happening every week in the Keith Donaldson Library on a Tuesday afternoon from 13:00 to 15:00 with 17 student been seen over the past three weeks. Most of the issues that were dealt with was to do with Course Representative elections, however some smaller issues such as accommodation were dealt with.
- In terms of campaigns we have decided to do a campus campaign on the issues of Student Societies. The number of Societies on campus are still low, as a consequence the Scarborough Campaigns Officer has been tasked with coming up with a campaign to address this issue which the rest of the Scarborough Executive Committee and myself will assist with and I will help lead.

Education

- Within the Education Zone on the Scarborough Campus both myself and Jamie have been campaigning for students to volunteer to be their course Course Representatives for the 2011/12 academic year. We have done lecture shouts around campus and have received 60 applications. We are now advising department who need help on how to conduct elections.
- The Scarborough Education Officer is creating a survey to find out students views on the Study Advice Service on the Scarborough Campus. Due to its location and the fact that the University wishes to improve its student retention rates, we see this as a key service to allow us to move forward.
- I have been involved in the Periodic Review of the Scarborough School of Education. This ended on Friday.

Welfare

- Within the area of Welfare we decided over the summer to increase the Advice Centre on Campus from 1 day a week to 2 days. The second day has been very successful with the Advice Centre Advisor seeing 11 students and the Advice Centre Coordinator seeing 12 students over the past two weeks. However, the Advice Centre Coordinator is off due to personal reasons for the next three weeks. We will assess how stretched the service gets and work with our colleagues in Hull should we need help during this period.

- The Scarborough Welfare Officer is now recruiting for the Welfare team this year. We currently have three students who have volunteered their services.
- The organisation of Adopt a Fresher went extremely well. 46 students took part in the scheme. Their efforts were well received by both the students and staff who complemented on their willingness to help settle students into their new homes.

Sport

- Within the Sports Zone we have been working closely with the University over the proposed new £3.5 million development of a new Sports and Fitness Centre on campus. In order to ensure that the plans are fit for purpose and student demand we held an Ideas Cafe in conjunction with the University. Approximately 100 people attended this session.
- In terms of Sports Teams we have 9 teams on campus with a total of 354 students involved, however only 16 students are members. This is of some concern however we are expecting students to officially join up as BUCS fixtures kick off. This reluctance may be down to the fact that the cost of joining sports teams has increased significantly over the summer. Last year's membership was £15 and it is now £25.
- The proposal of a sports centre to be built on campus has done a lot for the morale of the students who are actively involved in sport so far this year.
- On top of that the retention of players who want to play their respective sports is excellent, turn out at training and trials for respected teams have been excellent according to reports. The selected committees have been excited and energised by their prospects going into BUCS this year because of the enthusiasm, shown by the fresher's who have signed up.
- On a more serious note, there are places where the sports officer and others feel we have come against brick walls, from that Chris believe it is more to do with university politics and governance than a sporting issue. We lost out on a new society this year, and strong one at that. The swimming society that took over 100 sign ups and has retained 50-60% of that interest on a weekly basis, has decided to stay away from becoming an official club within the student union because of the issue with insurance. The Sports Officer has talked with Alex Harrison extensively about the matter he does tend to agree with the views and issues she raised with him.
- On a more positive note we have had interest in starting other clubs including a surfing club, a Cheerleading club and general interest to see other sports take off in Scarborough.

- As regards to an Au Council within the next couple of weeks Chris is keen to have met with all of the sports teams in one venue to vote on people to the AU council.

Community

- Scarborough has flourished within the area of community. So far 30 students have signed up to volunteering projects, and 10 students have signed up to Hi-lights. The student Volunteering Advisor has worked very well and has now got a situation where we are under pressure to find extra placements to deal with student demand.
- Within the area of Community we have also been working with Department and outside organisations to set up and maintain society numbers. The big success this year has been SHrUBS which is linked to CEMS. This has now got 55 signed up members thanks to the hard work of the department staff and students. Other departments have not been so engaging. However, I am pleased to report that we are in the founding stages of setting up a D of E society on Campus with one student contacting me to ask if they can lead the group. Furthermore, we have been working with all three political parties to try and establish Societies that match the Hull ones. The party's came to the Freshers Fair and had interest from 20 students in the Conservative Party, 15 in the Liberal Democrats and 22 in Labour (However they failed to take details).
- Societies – 2 Societies gone for ratification with a combine number of 65 students involved in the department. We have 23 students interested in starting up societies on campus, however only Table Tennis is close to getting the 10 students needed to become an official society.

(b) Questions

- Question was asked by Chair Societies about Scarborough intended to increase societies. VPScar responded by saying that they were working with departments. They've also linked with Duke of Edinburgh.
- The AU Treasurer asked about insurance issues and what this meant for students who wanted to play. VPScar said they can train but can't play until they have paid.
- Chair Media was concerned that he had no contact with anyone from Scarborough Tide and had never seen a copy. VPScar is going to address this concern.

- It was asked if it was just VPScar on the Sabb sofa. Yes, as it is a smaller campus so doesn't need the entire exec. He always has one exec member with him and operates an open door policy.

5. Sport Zone

(a) Report by Chair Sport Zone

- **Website** - Hullstudent has been updated to provide more information for students and easier access. Although there have been a lot of improvements there are still more VP Sport wants to make.
- **Finance** - Towards the end of last year up keep of finances was neglected. VP Sport has spent a lot of time sorting them out.
- **Staff** - The Sport zone now has a full time coordinator during term time, who is part time out of term time. This means there is less pressure on the AU exec and will have more time to focus on their degrees as some have suffered in the past.
- **Tour** - 31st March to 6th April 2012 The decision has been made by VP Sport and others to go back with the company "I love tour", and back to Salou. Reasons for this are,
 - Better value for money
 - Salou is a bigger resort.
 - More sports available
 - More activities available
 - Backed by Thomson

The budget is also better this year, VP Sport has made the decision to charge £10 extra to cover the cost of the shirt and for contingency funds. There will also be a Tour themed Tower before Christmas to get people involved and excited about Tour.

- **Training** – This year the new AU exec have all received training for the first time. As of the first Sport Zone meeting, Tuesday 11th October
- **Statistics** – There were 1100 members signed up with the largest volume of students coming through the AU office at around 810, excluding lunch breaks where stats were not taken. Struggling with capacity for the facilities but VP Sport has been in contact with the university department and things are getting better.

Hall wars was a success, some adjustments had to be made but it worked well in the end with over 200 students participating.
- **Wednesday Nights** – Asylum now sponsors 18 clubs, and in the first two Wednesdays has had record breaking nights. This has increased the retention for clubs as fresher's are encouraged to stay a part of successful clubs.

- **Club Finances** – Some clubs are in the red from last year, some will be fixed when the membership is paid in. Others have plans set out by VP Sport to pay off the debt.
 - **Dates for your Diary** – Naked Calendar – 28th October. AU Ball- 17th November
- (b) Questions

6. Welfare Zone

(a) Report by Chair Welfare Zone

Chair Black Students

- Have been busy working on plans for Black History Month
- There will be an event in the Johnny Mac on the 18th

Chair Women's Committee

- Working on the Love Your Body Campaign
- Doing campaign regarding the Egyptian Revolution
- Also have White Ribbon day coming up

Report by Chair LGBT

- Have been working on signposting people to the office and getting posters organised.
- Had a social.
- Looking into plans for SHAG week.
- Organising a guest speaker, with possible talks from Lib Dems.

VP Welfare

- Working on Mental Health Activities for the year. Thinking of a comic book theme, with different characters representing different issues.
- Plans for Black History Month are coming along well

Chair Disabled Students

- Working on getting an accessibility guide around Hull.
- Plans for Wheelchair Basketball, but this is dependent on getting grants to get chairs. Waiting on VPW to try and confirm funding.
- Working on plans for Mental Health Month. Timing on this depends on the Organisations that we get involved with.
- Making plans for Disabled History Week.
- Working on Hate Crime Campaign.

(b) Questions

- VPW asked when the Love Your Body Campaign was happening. Wednesday (19th October) from 10-12.

7. Any Other Business

There was an issue brought up about one link for the Vote Now for elections not working properly. The D&E Co-ordinator contacted someone immediately after the meeting and this issue was fixed.

Meeting closed 9.15pm