



## UNION COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on **Thursday 22 November 2007**

### PRESENT:

Michael Payne	Block of Six Officer / Union Council Chair
Ben Singleton	Block of Six / UC Deputy Chair
Iain MacDonald	LUSU Part-time Officer
Fraser Welsh	Arts & Social Sciences Faculty Rep
Richard Bennett	CRO
Ryan Bate	Science & Technology Faculty Rep
Joe Beech	SCAN Editor
Jon Smith	LUSU General Secretary
Rachel Bowyer	Nightline Service Director
Deborah Dilworth	County JCR President
Sean Arani	Grizedale JCR President
Gareth Coleman	AU Non-Sabbatical Officer
Mark Hinson	Societies Union Chair
Catherine Kealey	Block of Six Officer
David Bonner	Academic Affairs Officer
Johnathan Ilott	LU Cinema President
Craig Bush	International Students' Officer
James Barnard	Furness JCR President
Alistair Bird	GSA General Secretary
Diane Barrow	Cartmel JCR President
Janie Coleman	Bowland JCR President
Ewan Gelling	Green Officer
Laura McGhee	LUSU Women's Officer
Tim Roca	LUSU President
Sarah Baguley	Non-Sabbatical Women's Officer
Leo Wilson	Block of Six Officer
Jonathan Walsh	Block of Six Officer
Alex Law	Observer
Craig Waling	Observer
Charlie Ross	Observer
Paul Williams	Observer
Phil Miles	Observer
Sam Futton	Observer
Chris Cheetham	Observer
Chris Cottam	LUSU Education & Welfare Officer

### APOLOGIES:

Steven Shaw	Students with Disabilities Officer
Simon White	Pendle JCR President

### STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Jo Hardman	LUSU Business Development Manager
------------	-----------------------------------

Claire Geddes	Comms & Support Services Manager
Peter Elliott	LUSU General Manager

- MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING** held 8 November 2007. After it was noted that there were more abstentions than recorded to the ratification of Lonsdale College constitution, the minutes were approved. There were no Matters Arising.
- PRESENTATION / REPORT: MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS**  
 Claire Geddes gave an overview on the non-commercial aspects. She stated that current research projects included collating information on the orientation experience of undergraduate and postgraduate students, using the recent AMSU survey. Of particular interest was the 94 Group of Universities as Lancaster was associated with this, also LUSU Housing.  
 On the horizon included the academic survey / issues, due to QAA audit in 2009, talking to the University regarding the national student survey as the University was likely to be placing emphasis on this [this created the league tables], LUSU strategic plan.  
 On the IT side, work had included the LUSU Card on-line registration, re-building the customer database for LUVU, moving to a more dynamic website, and setting up Advice Direct [a new self-help advice service].  
 Need to deliver on Safe campaigns, work on digital communications still ongoing, need to explore new ideas for the strategic plan, raising income / additional funding from the University. Also in terms of Lancaster University looking at a new Comms / IT strategy there was a need to explore this and understand what it would mean for students.  
 Jo Hardman then stated that sales of the purple card and Introweek were major aspects of extra income generated over and above the costs of running the organisation. Other extra income included promotion distribution, stalls in Alex Square, partnerships [working with nightclubs and other venues in town], SCAN, Information Desk services, Green Lancaster [carrier bags] and the Easy Tiger campaign.  
 Claire and Jo were thanked for their presentations.
- FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**  
 The minutes of 13 November [GM/07/79] were ratified.
- INFORMATION & QUESTIONS**  
 At this point the General Secretary informed the meeting that two Council officers had deemed to have resigned due to non-attendance at the last two meetings, nor having submitted apologies.  
 The General Secretary expressed his thanks to Richard Bennett, CRO for having done a good job on the Union elections.  
 Other verbal information was taken from the Sarah Baguley, non-sabbatical Women's Officer, Gareth Coleman, AU non-sabbatical officer, and Catherine Kealey and Jonathan Walsh, Block of Six Officers.

**College Bars Report / Presentation – Tim Roca, LUSU President**

It was stated that the intention was for the presentation to compliment the motion submitted for discussion later in the agenda. It was noted that the first bar to open had been Bowland and that each new college had social facilities built into them.

In 1993 the costs of running the bars were out of control and a contract was established with NUSSL [NUS Services Limited] for the supply of alcohol: this organisation remained competitive. However, it was noted that 50% less beer was now being sold to Students' Unions generally. Further, College Licensees were working an illegal number of hours and costs had increased to accommodate the employment of more student staff.

The Vice-Chancellor had requested that a Review Group be formed to make recommendations on the future management of the bars and an alternative business plan had been agreed for one year.

Several options had been tabled and rejected and the recommendations were to have three enhanced Bars Managers, one Licensee per three bars, the bars to run through a Board of Principals [this was on hold].

A list of LUSU's aims were highlighted and it was stated that it had been felt important to have the presentation. Thanks were passed to Tim for the presentation.

5. **MOTION TO ALTER NAME OF GREEN OFFICER**

The current Green Officer wished to change the name to Environmental & Ethics Officer as he felt the current title did not reflect what it does. Questions were raised re JCR constitutions, the constitutional review and the fact elections were underway with the current title. **Motion passed**

6. **MOTION ON STATUS OF COLLEGE BARS**

The motion had been re-submitted as requested at the previous meeting and attempted to compliment the presentation given. Emphasis had been placed on reaching target, and that bars were a service not profit-making.

**It was agreed** that Believes 2 would remain. **Motion passed**

7. **ELECTIONS FOR UNIVERSITY DISCIPLINARY PANEL**

It was stated that the panel included members of staff, that it had not met for several years, but deals with serious matters when it does meet. Two student members with two alternates were required and should be equally weighted to gender. These members should not be from the same college.

Jonathan Walsh and Janie Coleman were elected, with Sarah Baguley and Leo Wilson elected as the alternates.

8. **NUS EXTRAORDINARY CONFERENCE DELEGATION**

Although it was felt that in terms of democracy a re-election should take place, it was **agreed** that the delegation which actually attended the ordinary conference should attend the extra-ordinary conference. This group consisted of Michael Payne, Tim Roca, Laura McGhee, Ewan Gelling, Ryan Bate and Mark Hinson.

9. **REPORT OF JCR WORKING PARTY**

Document submitted was noted. Thanks expressed to those officers who were part of the group.

10. **RATIFICATION OF CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES**

Bye-Law 21 – Constitution of Grizedale JCR. After discussion regarding various issues and agreement by the JCR President to make recommendations to further amend the constitution, the bye-law was ratified with 9 abstentions.

Bye-Law 16 – Constitution of Bowland JCR. This was tabled at the meeting and ratified with 3 abstentions.

11. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Various items were mentioned: various Debating Society events, the fact it was 17 years since Margaret Thatcher left office, a Drink-In in Cartmel bar, speakers invited to speak on Freedom of Speech.

Veronica Longmire

29 November 2007