

Student Council Minutes

5pm Monday 27 November 2017 | B103, University Building

Executive Officers	Initials	Meeting 08.11.18	Meeting 2 6.2.18	Meeting 3 12.04.18
Kristina Perelygina (President)	KP	✓		
Tuna Kunt (VP Education)	TK	✓		
Nazia Bharde (VP Activities & Development)	NB	✓		
Abdul Khokhar (SMCSE SRO)	AK	✓		
Surra Mehdi (BME Officer)	SM	X		
Nicole Hernandez-Vazquez (Disabled Students' Officer)	NH-V	X		
Danil Kocherga (International Students' Officer)	DK	✓		
Egor Chetverikov (Cass SRO)	EC	X		
Ruqaiyah Javaid (Health SRO)	RJ	✓		
Ricky Emery (Law SRO)	RE	A		
Edward Armitage (Sports' Officer)	EA	✓		
Fatema Dhanani (RAG Officer)	FD	✓		
Annette Yunus Pendrey (Ethics & Environment Officer)	AYP	✓		
Paty Nascimento	PN	A		

Student Councillors	Initials	Meeting 27.11.17	Meeting 2 6.2.18	Meeting 3 12.04.18
Albena Haytova (Student Council Chair)	AH	✓		
Wenyu (Katrina) Tian (Cass Student Councillor)	WT	✓		
Daria Sharapova (Cass Student Councillor)	DS	✓		
Usama Zaid (Cass Student Councillor)	UZ	✓		
Rahul Jugnarain (SASS Student Councillor)	RJ	✓		
Anne Onwusiri (SHS Student Councillor)	AO	✓		
Muhudin Mohamed (SMCSE Councillor)	MM	✓		
David Wahba (SMCSE Student Councillor)	DW	X		
Alberto Cespedes Gongora (Law Student Councillor)	ACG	X		
Giulia Tonetti (Law Student Councillor)	GT	✓		

Key: "✓" = Present, "A" = Apologies given, "N/M" = Non-member, "P" = Partial attendance, 'X' = Non-attendance

In Attendance	Initials	Reason and Meeting Section
Angelo Weekes	AW	Democracy Manager (Advisor)
Skye Golding	SG	Wellbeing and Insight Coordinator (Secretary)
Josh Hooker	JH	Conservative Society President (Observer)

Part One

1) Welcome and apologies

AH opened the meeting and welcomed the new Student Council.

2) Minutes

As this was the first meeting of Student Council, there were no minutes to approve.

3) Declarations of Interest

EA is Sports Officer and Rugby Captain

FD is RAG Officer

RJ is member of India, Bangra, and Economics societies.

DK is on Cass Russian Speaking Society committee and is a student ambassador.

DS is Cass team leader for University Business Challenge and a cross-country runner.

TK is Nus delegate.

UZ is student representative for actuarial science stage 1.

TO is team leader for University Business Challenge.

MB is SRO for SASS, an NUS delegate, faith representative for the societies board.

RJ is SRO for SHS, an NUS delegate, on the societies board, and Comms officer for the Palestinian society.

AYP is a member of ETHOS (Centre for Responsible Enterprise) at Cass Business School.

4) Confirmation of matters for any other business

N/A

5) Items specially brought forward by the Chair

N/A

Executive Officer Reports

6) Full Time Officer Reports

(paper: SC-001)

a) President – Kristina Perelygina

KP updated council on her actions.

- Please see appendix A.

b) VP Education – Tuna Kunt

TK updated Council on her actions;

- Please see appendix A.

Question: AYP – Raised Shah Week acronym as problematic.

Answer: TK – It is a national campaign but they can work together to think of a new name for City's iteration.

Question: AK – What is current situation regarding lecture capture?

Answer: TK – All lecture theatres with capacity of 60 or above are already equipped. Will soon be expanded to all rooms with capacity of 40+. Currently opt-in and culture among lecturers slow to change. University to make it opt-out to encourage higher participation.

Question: AO – Are we doing any work surrounding consent?

Answer: TK – EA is working with Rape Crisis to deliver consent training to sports leaders. Potential for additional awareness or Ask Angela campaign.

c) VP Activities and Development – Nazia Bharde

NB updated Council on her actions;

- Please see appendix A.

Question: JH – Did we not already have an online magazine called the Howler? Is it not better to work with the Tab to set that up here?

Answer: NB – Up to student media board what they want to do. Howler was independent from the Union and those students have graduated.

Question: JH – What's the benefit of setting up Nightline and how much will it cost? Can't we just direct students to services that already exist, such as Samaritans?

Answer: NB – Nightline will cost 27p from University and 10p from Union per student to set up. Useful out of hours when counselling closes. Nightline is student-led so will help students get experience through volunteering.

Question: AK – Can we have more drop-in sessions for counselling? Students sometimes wait three or four days when in crisis.

Answer: EA – cases are assessed for severity on application form so students in crisis shouldn't have to wait.

AK responded that it is hard to complete the form properly when you are severely unwell.

Officers to investigate with counselling.

7) Part Time Officer Reports

(paper: SC-002)

a) Annette Yunus Pendry

AYP updated Council on her actions;

- Working with University Sustainability Team to facilitate City becoming a signatory of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

b) Ed Armitage

EA updated Council on his actions;

- Overall campaign for the year is 'Play Sport. Love City' – aims to promote sport and build community.
- Holding consent workshops for sports leaders through Rape Crisis.
- Odd Socks anti-bullying campaign.
- This BUCS Girl Can campaign to be launched soon.
- Rainbow Laces campaign in support of LGBT+ involvement in sport.
- Planning Alumni Tournament.
- Working with FD on Charity events such as Movember.
- Planning Varsity Tournament.
- Planning series of events outside of City Bar.

c) Fatima Dhanani

FD updated Council on her actions;

- RAG Board for 2018/19 has been chosen.
- Official charities chosen – Maggie's St Barts (support for people with cancer and their loved ones) and The Natashas Project (educating public about human trafficking and modern day slavery through performance).
- Planning Harry Potter Rag Week for 3rd week of November. Schedule to follow.

- Working on streamlining fundraising procedures and consolidating information on these processes for easy access and understanding.

Items for Decision

Motions

8) City, University of London Students' Union signatory membership of United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Accord

(paper: SC-003)

AH moved that we discuss motions 8 and 9 together due to similarities.

Speech For: AYP explained that the UN SDGs are a call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure peace. The University is a member of the EAUC which established the SDG Accord, which universities can sign to pledge to work towards the SDGs, but is not yet a signatory. The motion would mandate the Union to lobby the University to sign the accord. Item 9 would mandate the Union itself to sign the accord.

Question: JH – What would the University be required to do if it signed?

Answer: AYP - All actions are voluntary but would demonstrate commitment to working towards these goals, which generally the university is already doing. One aspect would be embedding ethical and sustainability considerations into curriculums, eg when teaching financial models students should also keep in mind ethical considerations of things like financial crisis.

Speech Against: JH – Curriculums should be neutral and not discuss ethics so people can make up their own mind.

Speech For: AYP - That is a traditional view but students need to understand implications as well as models. Need to have both sides. Otherwise academics are blamed for crises like financial crash.

Speech Against: JH – I don't think the council have enough information to make a decision on this as they've not had time to research.

Speech For: TK – Council are sent papers beforehand so have had ample time to research. Not many universities have signed so this is a chance for City to be a pioneer. In terms of the Union it is a useful benchmark to measure our activities against.

Chair moved to a vote;

For: 7

Against: 0

Abstention: 0

Decision

Student Council **approved** the Motion. It now becomes policy of the Students' Union.

9) Signatory membership of United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Accord. (paper: SC-004)

Decision

5 for approval, **0** against approval and **2** abstentions.

Student Council **approved** the Motion.

It now becomes policy of the Students' Union.

10) Bye-Law Amendment To make the President an ex-officio delegate to NUS National Conference (paper: SC-005)

KP introduced the bye-law amendment proposal, explaining that currently, the President must campaign for NUS delegate position alongside working full-time. She argued that the President has been elected to represent the interests of all students at City, University of London and the Union itself and therefore should be an ex-officio delegate to NUS National Conference. The role of President also gives them an in-depth understanding of NUS policy. Many other universities already have this policy, such as Manchester, Durham, Nottingham, Kings College London, etc. This would mean one out of six positions was reserved for the President. The other five would be open to all students. This amendment would not affect this year's conference as elections have already taken place, and would come into force next year.

AK asked if it was just academic policy that was voted on at NUS.

KP explained that is depended on the year but policy could cover anything from sustainability to visa issues and included academic policy.

TO asked if anyone could run regardless of knowledge. KP agreed that that was the case.

Speech Against: MB – Expressed reservations that first years would not have voted for the President.

Speech For: KP – Full-time officers don't have time to campaign properly. This policy ensures one delegate has experience and has been to NUS conferences in the past. The Union and the University have invested in FTOs to make sure they understand NUS.

Speech Against: FD – If you are the leader of the SU it's important you are out there campaigning and speaking to students, so you should have time. At least one sabb is always elected anyway. Everyone needs to have a chance to get involved. We can't disregard people because they're not already involved in the Union.

Speech For: KP – It's not because I'm a leader. This is common policy in many universities because they understand the education we receive in the Summer when we are dedicated to working on and studying NUS policy. It's about experience, not leadership.

Speech Against: JH argued that the President shouldn't attend at all and that the Union should disaffiliate from the NUS altogether because he disagrees that there is a quota for women when electing NUS delegates.

Speech For: AYP agrees that experience is important for skills to steer the conversation. She understands through her industry experience how important inside knowledge is in getting the job done.

Speech Against: AK – President can pass necessary knowledge to new people.

Speech For: TK – We pay a significant amount of money to be a member of NUS so it is essential we are able to steer its direction effectively.

Speech Against: RJ – Just because other Universities have this policy isn't a reason for us to do it. Annette said previously that it was important to have the skills to steer the conversation but these skills aren't exclusive to the President. Delegates are all trained before they go. NUS conference is a really important way of others getting involved.

Speech For: KP – We have had more training than delegates received – at least a week's worth on 9am – 7pm days at conferences and trainings. We've been elected for our manifesto points and need to push these on a national level. If others send a President and we don't we are at a disadvantage.

Speech Against: FD - If you're a President already you should easily have the backing to win. Presidents in the past have not done their jobs effectively so shouldn't automatically be granted the right to go.

Speech For: DK - Presidents are more passionate because they are immersed in issues full-time. Connections are the most important thing and the President has those.

Speech Against: AK – Training should be passed onto delegates. Delegates should be more involved in meetings etc in advance.

Speech For: KP – we don't have the money or the capacity to train delegates. NUS trainings cost £200+. It's not possible to make the connections we already have – The full-time officers at other unions are already deciding between them who should be the next president of NUS. We are not taking all six places away, just one.

JH suggested CSU leave the NUS and spend the money saved internally.

KP explained that while there are pros and cons to NUS it provides excellent networking and training for officers and is the only platform providing that service. It gives CSU access to connections and positions of power that allow us to push campaigns.

Speech Against: FD – All students who are members of CSU are members of NUS. She explained that this was about holding a fair election.

Decision

2 for approval, 5 against approval and 0 abstentions.
Student Council **did not approve** the byelaw amendment.

Any Other Business

N/A

12) Date of the next meeting: Thursday, 24th January 2019, 5.00pm
Board Secretary: Skye Golding

APPENDIX A

Student Council

Paper Title	Full-Time Officer Reports
Paper Number	SC-001
Summary	<u>Full-Time Officer Reports</u> President – Kristina Perelygina Vice-President Education – Tuna Kunt Vice-President Activities & Development – Nazia Bharde
Action for Council	To note the reports submitted by the Full-Time Officers

President – Kristina Perelygina

Action Plan

Action plan can be found here: https://www.citystudents.co.uk/pageassets/student-voice/studentofficers/SU_President_Action_Plan_Sept18.docx

<p>Improve Representation of: Liberation groups International Students Postgraduate students</p>	<p>Achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disabled student officer and Postgraduate Taught officer are successfully elected during October - 2 Events are planned during November in order to support BME community and International Students community on campus to improve the career perspective of this groups and also create a platform for communication - The first event of the campaign “Union on Tour” was launched successfully in order to collect the feedback from different students’ cohorts. <p>To be achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To organise the chain of events for the rest of liberation groups campus to improve the career perspective of this groups and also create a platform for communication - To attract more students for the community events - To arrange a monthly meetings with Postgraduate officer, International students officer and Liberation officers.
<p>Charger stations</p>	<p>Achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Successfully implemented 2 charger stations (One next to SU reception in the Tait building, another one in Bunhill Raw.) <p>To be achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To implement charger stations in the library spaces.
<p>Transparency and Awareness of Student Union</p>	<p>Achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The first event of the campaign “Union on Tour” was launched successfully in order to collect the feedback from different students’ cohorts. - The social media accounts are having increased number of engagements. <p>To be achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Proceed with “Union on Tour” to collect more data and achieve the goal to have 300+ conversations with the students during the year.
<p>Improve efficiency of sabbatical officer role in the SU</p>	<p>To be achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Student Union conduct a research to estimate the efficiency of current Sabbatical Officers positions. - Student Union and University approves new SU governance system
<p>Implement Pre – Exam sessions for first year and postgraduate students</p>	<p>To be achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SU organise few sessions as a part of winter Study Well campaign to find out about the demand - University make a pre-exam sessions mandatory as a part of revision
<p>Lobby university to introduce anonymous coursework marking</p>	<p>To be achieved:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - I make a research on the benefits of anonymous marking - University uses anonymous marking system for all assignments

UNAPPROVED

Vice-President Education – Tuna Kunt

Action Plan

Improving the Programme Representatives scheme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Trained 200+ students in 10 sessions and taking part in further training sessions - Embedded important signposting services and support for reps in the training - Took part in the preparations for the programme rep review - Will be holding school specific Programme rep receptions in late November and further events to meet and support reps
Plug Sockets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Contacted PAF regarding the shortage of plug sockets in lecture rooms and received quotes for several rooms - Contacted key people in the university regarding funding on the matter - Currently in the process of putting together a brief report to the Deputy President to highlight the issue and the funding required
Lecture Capture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brought the issue up in all Board of Studies, ECS, EQC, LEaD Board and all relevant meetings including conversations with the Deputy President - Will be collecting feedback from reps to further identify schools and courses that are not using it well - Will be discussing it with relevant key staff to roll out an opt out system instead of an opt in system
Water Fountains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Raised the issue of the shortage of water fountains in the NSQ campus - 2 water fountains added into the NSQ Library - Will be contacting PAF for further possibilities
Print Credit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initiated conversations on print credit with key staff - Will be collecting feedback from reps to further identify the demand on printing - Will be conducting extensive market research by contacting unions and universities on print credit and other available options like printers with ads
UN SDG's	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supported the Ethics & Environment Officer in the policy proposals to be submitted to the Executive Committee and the Student Council
Sexual Harassment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sat on the Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct working group that prepared recommendations for a new policy on the topic - Will focus on City Bar and on communications pieces to show the Union's stance
Sexual Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provided condoms in the SU reception during the welcome period
Academic Impact Awards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secured funding for the awards from LEaD

Action plan can be found here: https://www.citystudents.co.uk/pageassets/student-voice/studentofficers/VP_Education_Action_Plan_Sept18.docx

Vice-President Activities & Development – Nazia Bharde

Action Plan

Action plan can be found here: https://www.citystudents.co.uk/pageassets/student-voice/studentofficers/VicePresidentActivities_Action_Plan_Sept18.docx

Student Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Held first student media meeting of the year and recruited potential students appointed to each category. • Decision was made to create an online magazine 'Carrot Magazine' - categorized into 5 different sections. • Website for the magazine currently under construction. • Training day for students who would like to learn how to utilize the radio station. • Working to develop the Student Media Board
IAM Month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Series of events to highlight the impact of Islamophobia on the student population, understanding the Islamic perspective of dealing with Islamophobia and the barriers faced by Muslim women in different sectors of society. These events will be followed by an eventful evening of spoken word on the presented topic. • Purpose is to highlight the impact of hate-crime on Muslims living in Britain and to present a zero-tolerance stance from the Students Union's perspective on hate-crime.
Mental Health Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitated discussion in the Step Change working group on the student perspective of mental health. • Introduced the idea for student leaders to be mental health trained i.e. society leaders, PTO's, student councillors etc. • Discussed plans with the Psychology department and the City Psychology Society to re-introduce the Break the Stigma event for 2018/2019. • Push City University to introduce the use of nightline as an extra resource for out of hours resource.
Student Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chaired first Society board of the year • Chaired first RAG Board of the year • Identified the benefits of Academic societies and its ability to boost engagement, conjoin friendship groups and develop students' potential for employability and network amongst peers and professionals.