

Student Council

Minutes

Tuesday 18 October 2022, 6.00 pm - Held via Zoom and livestreamed

Present

Azzah Abubacar, Chair of Student Council

Executive Committee:

Adi Sawalah	President
Jojo Croft	VP Welfare
Muneer Hussain	Vice President Science and Engineering
Saynab Sharif	Vice President Humanities and Social Sciences
Charlie Sellar	Vice President Barts and The London
Radhika Thiagarajan	Vice President Communities

Student Representatives and Part-time Officers

Aisha	Qadi	International Representative (S&E)
Amélie	Barone	Sustainability Officer (Mile End)
Sarah	Chan	Sports Officer (BL)
Kayatre	Giritharadas	Womens Representative (BL)
Ali	Hammed	Societies Officer (BL)
Shivin	Hassan	LGBT+ Representative (BL)
Rahma	Hegy	School of Medical and Dental Sciences Clinical (Medicine) Representative
Kaye Tian	Hoo	International Representative (BL)
Lahmia	Hoque	School of Biological & Behavioural Sciences Representative
Austin	Iroegbu	BAME Representative (BL)
Kareemah	Jaigirdar	Allied Courses Representative
Ivy Lee	Jia Jia	International Representative (BL)
Yunus	Khan	Welfare Officer S&E
Eileen Jia Huey	Lee	Disabled and Specific Learning Difference Representative (BL)
Asma	Majeed	School of English & Drama Representative
Naomi	Marshall	School of History Representative
Liam	Nicholson	VP London

Jumainah Fardaus	Rahman	School of Medical and Dental Sciences Pre-Clinical (Medicine) Representative
Faizan	Sheikh	Disabled and Specific Learning Difference Representative (Mile End)
Yugesh	Sundharam	SEMS Representative
Janice	Tan	Volunteering Officer (BL)
Sofia Heras	Valdivielso	Volunteering Officer (Mile End)
Annie Mae	Wright	VP Barts
Roulian	Zelo	School of Mathematical Sciences Representative

In attendance:

Brad Coales	Secretary and Governance Adviser
Marianne Melsen	Student Voice and Insights Manager
Jak Curtis Rendall	Head of Communications and Marketing

Apologies

Apologies were received from the following:

- Matthew Beach, Postgraduate Research Representative (HSS)

1.0 Chairs Welcome and Announcements

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2.0 Chair’s Introduction

The Chair reminded Members that the meeting was being recorded and live-streamed.

3.0 Election of Deputy Chair

There being no other candidates, Aisha Qadi, who had held the position of Deputy Chair the previous year, was unanimously appointed Deputy Chair for 2022-23.

4.0 Terms of Reference of Student Council

This being the first meeting of the academic year, Council were asked to approve their Terms of Reference. There were no questions, or issues raised and the Terms of Reference were unanimously approved.

5.0 Minutes of Previous Meeting

Members were asked to approve the minutes of the Meeting of Student Council held on 15 March 2022. The minutes were duly approved.

6.0 Minutes from Sub-Committees

This being the first meeting of the year, with many of the Sub-Committees yet to meet, there were no minutes to consider.

7.0 Report from the Scrutiny Panel and Executive Officer Updates

This being the first meeting of the year, with the Scrutiny Panel yet to meet, there was no report to consider.

The Executive Officers were invited to give brief verbal updates on anything they wished to draw to the attention of Student Council, or anything occurring since the report to QMUL Council.

There were no questions to the Executive Officers.

Lahmia asked about progress on the ISOC motion that had been passed concerning Rohingya Muslims, and Adi replied that he was trying to get the University to update their ethical investment policy, at present they had no policy on divestment, but he would continue lobbying. Muneer added that he did not think the University took the Union's policies seriously.

Motions and Amendments

7. Byelaw Changes

a) Should the Union amend its Bye-Laws to reduce the number of subcommittees of Student Council?

Proposer: Adi Sawalha (QMSU President)

Seconder: Saynab Sharif (QMSU VP HSS)

Adi spoke in favour of the motion.

Radhika suggested that the name of the Welfare and Liberation Board be amended to Welfare and Communities Board and the role of Chair of the should be split between the two Executive Officers concerned. This was agreed.

There being no speaker against, the motion was put to a vote:

In Favour: 22

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

The motion was **passed**

b) Motion to amend the Scrutiny Panel Bye-Law

Proposed by: Azzah Abubacar (Student Council Chair)

Seconded by: Adi Sawalha (SU President)

Azzah introduced the motion, as per the covering paper and after taking some questions, there being no speaker against, the motion was put to a vote:

In Favour: 14

Against: 5

Abstentions: 2

The motion was **passed**

8. Motions

a) 8a - Separate EC/Assignment Deadline Extension Process for Disabled Students and those with SpLDs

Proposed by: Laila Staubmann

Seconded by: Amna Anwar

Laila spoke in favour of the motion, and Charlie asked what criteria would apply. Laila explained that a student's DDS contact would put auto-extension arrangements in place when they joined the University, therefore a student would not need to produce evidence for each request. The arrangements would only apply to those registered with DDS, who would be assessed on for eligibility a case-by-case basis.

There was some discussion concerning technical issues, but it was agreed that these would be for the University to resolve; the motion was to lobby for the provision.

Aisha pointed out that some assessments were excluded from 2-week extensions due to weighting/timing, so not everything could be extended and this was something to raise when lobbying the University.

There being no speaker against, the motion was put to a vote:

In Favour: 18

Against: 1

Abstentions: 3

The motion was **passed**

9. Policy Renewal

- 8.1 *Policy passed more than two academic years earlier shall be presented to Student Council with a recommendation from the Executive Committee to renew, embed or lapse.*
- 8.2 *Any policy that is renewed will be debated again after 2 years.*
- 8.3 *Any policy that is embedded will be considered permanent policy until Student Council brings it back for debate to retain or lapse.*
- 8.4 *Recommendations shall require the approval of a simple-majority of Student Council to be passed and should be done in 1 vote for all policies at the same time.*
- 8.4.1 *Student Councillors should make clear to the Chair any individual recommendations they would like to be debated separately, the Chair shall bring these forward for debate before being voted on. The rest of the recommendations shall then be voted on in 1 vote.*
- 8.5 *A Union member may, at any time, bring policy that is considered to be out of date to the attention of Student Council to be debated.*
- 8.6 *Policies which exceed the 2-year limit for any reason shall be brought forward for debate at the next meeting of Student Council.*

The following policies were now due for review and could be lapsed, renewed or embedded:

These had been discussed by the Executive Officers, who had made recommendations for each as follows:

Policy	Recommendation
The Union should have a policy on Union Development	Lapse – the majority of these actions have been completed, and the remaining ones have been superseded by later policies
QMSU should lobby the university to change the QMUL bursary payment dates	Lapse – this has been achieved and no further actions are required
QMSU should live-stream student council and AMMs	Embed – this is now normal practice in the Students' Union
No crown on BL clothes	Embed – this is now normal practice in the Students' Union
Investigate Mental Health Support	Lapse – this has been completed

There being no speakers against any of the recommendations contained in the block, it was put to a vote:

In Favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstentions: 3

The motion was **passed** and therefor the recommendations of the Executive Officers were accepted.

11. AOB

Aisha encouraged Council members to attend the networking event with members of the University's Senior Executive Team scheduled for 12 to 2pm on 21 November.