

Student Council

Tuesday 17 October 2023 6.00pm to be held online via Zoom

Minutes

1. Welcome and Apologies

Attendance:

Student Council Members Attendees in Yellow and Apologies in Green		
Role	First name	Last name
BAME Representative (BL)	Shreya	Senthil Sathya
BAME Representative (ME)	Aliya	Garraway
Commercial Services Officer	Charli	Maguire
Dental Society President	Qasim	Hanif
Disabled and Specific Learning Difference Representative (BL)	Amelia	Pendlebury
Disabled and Specific Learning Difference Representative (Mile End)	Krishan	Shukla
International Representative (BL)	Taehyun	Choi
	Amelia	Qistina Binti Ainul Hasniz
International Representative (HSS)	Samarth	Lakhanpal
International Representative (S&E)	Oleg	A Bogachek
LGBT+ Representative (BL)	VACANT	
LGBT+ Representative (Mile End)	Jules	Buet
Postgraduate Research Representative (HSS)	Lei	Yuan
Postgraduate Research Representative (S&E)	Quan	Zhou
Postgraduate Taught Representative (HSS)	Prasiddhi	Shahi
Postgraduate Taught Representative (S&E)	Amarja	Shivraj Pawar
School of Biological & Behavioural Sciences Representative	Maria	Alaswad
School of Business & Management Representative	Rahimankhan	Esupkhan
School of Economics & Finance Representative	Saphia	Rahman
School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Sciences Representative	Saloni	Salian
School of Engineering & Material Sciences Representative	Fahim	Faisal
School of English & Drama Representative	Tamunotein	Karibi-Whyte
School of Geography Representative	Tatiana	Sevyan
School of History Representative	Molly	Reid
School of Languages, Linguistics & Film Representative	Scott	Jason Doyle
School of Law Representative	Ru	En
School of Mathematical Sciences Representative	Bilal	Zahid
School of Physical & Chemical Sciences Representative	Victoria	Williams
School of Politics & International Relations Representative	Walid	Slimani

Societies Officer (BL)	Jayanth	Mummidi
Societies Officer (ME)	Muhammad	Mohib
Sports Officer (BL)	Alice	Larsen
Sports Officer (ME)	Ahmed	Aslam
Student Council Chair	Azzah	Abubacar
Sustainability Officer (Mile End)	Lily	Throssel
Sustainability Officer (BL)	Alexandre	Duponcheele
Trans Representative	Carter	MacCalman
Volunteering Officer (BL)	Natasha	Alia Mohd Razman
Volunteering Officer (Mile End)	Manisa	Regami
VP Barts	Raghuv	Kanwar
VP London	Kavi	Thobhani
Welfare Officer (BL)	Evie	Russell
	Tia	DSouza
Welfare Officer (HSS)	Sejal	Kakkanattu
Welfare Officer (S&E)	Henriana	Kombo Nguila Iyongo
	Ishani	Nanda
Womens Representative (BL)	Naz	Ismail
Womens Representative (Mile End)	Zoe	Thomas
BLSA Malta Co-President (Activities)	Sonia	Leon
BLSA Malta Co-President (Education)	Yeshodhaa	Soobramoney
Institute of Dentistry Representative	Karar	Al-Atia
	Safwaan-UI	Hoque
Institute of Health Sciences Education Senior Representative	Shirin	Massroor
	Jumainah	Rahman
Institute of Health Sciences Education Junior Representative	Alex	Safar
	Hasan	Al-Hakim
Barts Cancer Institute Representative	Bishoy	Yassa
Blizard Institute Representative	VACANT	
William Harvey Institute Representative	Shruti	Sabnis
Wolfson Institute of Population Health Representative	Fajar	Sawar
Executive Officers		
Students' Union President (Chair)	Serena-Amani	Al Jabbar
Vice President Welfare (& Deputy President)	Tahmid	Khan
Vice President HSS	Jovani	Palnoni
Vice President S&E	Aisha	Qadi
Vice President Communities	Matthew	Beach
VP Barts and The London	Amaan	Abbas,

2. Members were reminded:

- The meeting would be recorded and also live streamed.
- To be respectful towards each other at all times.
- To use the 'raise hand' function if you wish to speak during the meeting.
- To remember to keep themselves muted during the meeting, unless asked to speak.

3. Chair's Introduction

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first Student Council meeting of the year.

4. Election of Deputy Chair

Two nominations were received: Fahim Faisal (School of Engineering & Material Sciences Representative) and Shreya Senthil Sathya (BAME Representative (BL))

Fahim: 8 Votes

Shreya: 13 Votes

Shreya Senthil Sathya was elected as Deputy Chair of Student Council for 2023-24.

3. Terms of Reference of Student Council and its Sub Committees

The Council's terms of Reference were unanimously **approved**.

5. Minutes of Previous Meeting (*appended at end*)

The minutes of the last meeting of Student Council held on 7 March 2023 (the meeting scheduled for 4 April 2023 was inquorate) were **approved**.

6. Minutes from Sub-Committees

Most Sub-Committees had not met at this point in the year, and so no minutes were available.

7. Reports from and Questions to the Executive Officers

The Executive Officers were invited to give a brief verbal report highlighting any particular matters of interest, Council members and any students attending then had an opportunity to put questions to the Officers.

8. Bye-Law Changes

Amendments were proposed to the following Bye-Laws:

- Should the Students' Union repeal Bye-Law 9 Scrutiny Panel and thereby remove the Scrutiny Panel, returning scrutiny of the work of the Executive Officers to Student Council?** - *held over from previous inquorate meeting.*

Proposer: Azzah Abubacar (Chair of Student Council)

Seconded by: Serena-Amani Al Jabbar (SU President)

As the Chair of Student Council was the proposer of this motion, they handed over the Chair to the Deputy Student Council Chair for this item. Aisha Qadi - last year's Deputy Chair then took the Chair as Shreya had lost internet connection).

In Favour: 15
Against : 0
Abstain: 3

The amendment was **passed**.

- b) **Should the Students' Union amend Bye-Law 7 Executive Committee to clarify the powers of the Executive Committee and to establish a mechanism to resolve deadlock?**

Proposed by: Executive Committee
Seconded by: Executive Committee

In Favour: 16
Against : 0
Abstain: 5

The amendment was **passed**.

- c) **Should the Union amend Bye-Law 13 Code of Conduct, Complaints and Disciplinary Procedure to include protection for Students' Union Staff?**

Proposed by: Executive Committee
Seconded by: Executive Committee

In Favour: 13
Against : 0
Abstain: 5

The amendment was **passed**.

9. Motions

- a) **Should the Students' Union investigate DDS Support for Students?**

Proposed by: Jules Buet
Seconded by: Rosie Nee

For: 17
Against: 1
Abstain: 1

The motion was **passed**.

10. Policy Renewal

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 due for review and could be lapsed, renewed or embedded. These had been discussed by the Executive Officers, who will have made recommendations for each.

Held over from Previous inquorate meetings (and therefore still active)

The following policies were due for review in February 2023 and have been carried over as the meeting had become inquorate by the time they were due to be considered:

Policy	Recommendation
The Union should introduce a 'Big Green Box' online 'suggestion box' /concern reporting form	Renew
The Union should introduce sustainability training for all SU staff	Renew

The Union should introduce a new 'sustainability role' within society committees on a voluntary basis	Renew
All Queen Mary Students' Union staff should undertake suicide awareness training	Embed
The Union should recommend all staff and student officers to include their name pronunciation in their email signature	Embed
The Union should lobby the University to implement a long-term scheme to provide and distribute free menstrual products on Campus	Renew

In Favour: 16

Against: 0

Abstain: 3

These recommendations were **accepted**.

The following policies were due for review in March 2023 and have been carried over as the meeting had become inquorate by the time they were due to be considered:

Policy	Recommendation
The Union Should Discourage Staff and Students From Flying on Trips Associated With the Student's Union	Renew
The Students' Union should develop and offer a sustainable menu in all of its eating outlets.	Embed
The Students' Union should lobby the university to make all welfare provisions, including Advice and Counselling and DDS services, more accessible to students regardless of which campus they are on or which course they study	Renew

<p>The Students' Union should lobby schools to consider length of teaching recordings so as to ensure they are suitable for student learning and allow for regular breaks. This could include splitting recordings into shorter clips or adding timestamps to videos so students can more easily navigate content. However, any approach should be faculty specific and appropriate to their own students.</p>	<p>Renew</p>
<p>Should the SU provide accessibility guidance on events, campaigns and social media?</p>	<p>Renew</p>
<p>Should the SU lobby the university to introduce mandatory accessibility training for all staff?</p>	<p>Renew</p>
<p>Malta vs London Tuition Fees Flexibility Differences The Students' Union should lobby the University to allow Malta Students who are self-funding their tuition fees to pay in multiple instalments as allowed for London based students.</p>	<p>Renew</p>
<p>The Students' Union should lobby the university to reevaluate and publish a process for the suspension or cancellation of active courses that recognises the need for student as well as staff consultation when making such decisions.</p>	<p>Renew</p>
<p>The Union Should Broadly Endorse the Aims of the Green Charter, and Facilitate a</p>	<p>Renew</p>
<p>Method of Direct Democracy in Working Towards its Full Implementation</p>	
<p>The Students' Union should provide recycling in its facilities on all campuses (UK and international) and lobby the university to so the same.</p>	<p>Renew</p>

In Favour: 15

Against: 0

Abstain: 3

These recommendations were **accepted**.

Due to expire after this meeting:

Policy	Recommendations
QMSU should publicly acknowledge its own issues of institutional racism alongside lobbying for the University to do the same	Renew
QMSU should declare a climate emergency, and lobby the University to do the same	Renew
Should QMSU revoke the adoption of anti-racist policies that are not fit for purpose and call on QMUL to do the same	Renew
Technology of Q-Review requires updating	Renew
QMSU should lobby the university to mandate compulsory Consent and Bystander intervention workshops for first years	Renew
QMSU should lobby the university to provide subtitling on Qreview videos	Renew
QMSU should lobby the university to improve the accessibility of affordable student housing	Renew
QMSU should provide the perks student council members receive and specific trustee training for QMSU student trustees	Renew
All Toilets in QMSU Buildings to have provisions for both purchasing individual sanitary products and disposal of sanitary products	Embed
Should QMSU Lobby QMUL to install sanitary bins in all male toilets around campus for the Transgender Community?	Renew
Oppose Prevent and support groups that campaign against it	Renew
QMSU should lobby the University to establish an Advanced Manufacturing Training Course for the Science and Engineering Students	Lapse

In Favour: 14

Against: 0

Abstain: 2

These recommendations were **accepted**.

9. AOB

The Annual Members Meeting was scheduled to take place on Monday 27 November 2022 at 6pm, and all Student Council Members were expected to attend.

