



CARDIFF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS' UNION
UNDEB MYFYRWYR PRIFYSGOL CAERDYDD

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

6.30PM THURSDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2012

GREAT HALL, STUDENTS' UNION

Agenda

1. Welcome and Apologies for Absence
2. Minutes from the previous AGM 2011
3. Minutes from Student Council on the 2th February 2012
4. Annual Report 2010-11
5. Financial Reports 2010-11
6. Executive Achievements 2011-2012
7. Strategic Plan
8. Notice of Elections
9. Affiliations
10. Tabled Motions
 - i. The Student Charter
 - ii. Student Trustees of the Students' Union
 - iii. Changes to the Elected Officer Job Roles & Structure
11. End of Year Event
12. Any Other Business

Please contact the Democracy Co-ordinator on 02920 781433 or email agm@cardiff.ac.uk to discuss any amendments or queries you may have.

@DemocracyCSU

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting of the annual general meeting held on the 17th February 2011 in the Great Hall, 2nd Floor Students Union at 6.30pm

1. Welcome

Sarah Smith Chair: Importance of quoracy – request that all remain in your seats or on the floor . Stress that on behalf of those attending on behalf of sports clubs and societies the register of attendance is taken on those who are in the room at the end of the meeting and not the end of motions, at the end of Any Other Business.

There is an information desk which is attending by Steve Wilford, any questions during the meeting, ask SW who will explain. When raising your hands to ask a question or to speak, please raise your voting card or hand high in the air, in order to be seen clearly. If at any point you are invited to speak, please clearly state name for the minutes and when asked to vote please ensure the voting card is raised in the air clearly for the Chair to see.

2. Minutes from the previous AGM 2010

Minutes of the previous AGM: Chair asked if anyone had minutes from the previous AGM. Show of hands required to pass the minutes. **Agreed: Minutes passed.**

3. Minutes from Student Council 8th February 2011

Minutes from Students Council: Any questions? Show of hands required to pass the minutes. **Agreed: Minutes passed.**

4. Annual Report

Chair invites Darryl Light, Finance & Commercial Officer to the stage to give the :

Darryl Light: Welcome and introduction. Referring to the annual report contained within the packs. This reports on what the Union has done in the last year and what is hoped to be finished by the end of this year. Highlight:

- Pages 7 and 8 : Impact report section. The AU last year had 4,500 members, Gair Rhydd had 27 issues throughout the year with 7020 words throughout the year. Democracy this year year, the SU took 342 students to the National Demo in London in November. Cardiff Student Lettings this year saved students £86,000 in Agency fees by not charging students anything , which is a saving for our students and something that the Union is really proud of.
- Page 9: Cardiff Union Events. We printed and sold 250,000 student tickets this year, overall we had 300 events in the year, which is 9 events a week, so is providing a varied entertainments schedule for our students, something again to be proud of. The SDU this year has taught 3,883 students developing their personal skills and also employability skills.
- This year we have 5500 members of societies. The Societies have raised £129,000 for international and local charities. Societies should be really happy about. SVC have this year had over 1000 volunteers taking part in 36 varied projects. The volunteering centre is something that the Union does very well and is renowned throughout the UK ,as one of the best in the UK.
- Communications: Freshers website had unique 10,000 hits between August and Sept 2010, obviously students are trying to find out as much as possible about the Union before they get here.

Any questions on the report, can be addressed today or by calling on Darryl, 3rd floor , SU.

Edmund: Savings on student media ? – *question not picked up by the recorder*. DL confirmed that it was in the financial report, in the next part of the presentation. Question will be addressed then.

Alec Care: Cant see any section showing the environmental or ethical changes that have been done this year, or what is being looked at for next year. Is there a report, or could one be provided? DL responded that the E & E discussions will be covered under the Executive report, section 6.

5. Financial Report 2009/10

Darryl Light: The document is a top level document detailing what the Students' Union makes and spends during a year, a top level summary, not a lot of detail, but if any more detail required, see DL who would be happy to explain any queries on how the Union spends its money. The organisation is transparent and it is important that students are aware how their money is being spent. Points:

- CSU is a not for profit organisation, which basically means that any profit made through the Bars, Retail outlets, Hairdressers, Letting Agency, is recycled back into the Union and to the services of the members. The AU and Societies budgets, they all come out of the profit made from the Bars and retail outlets. Also things like redeveloping the Kitchen, that came about by having surplus from other businesses.

- Income: trading went up from 08/ 09 to 09/10 by £90k, bearing in mind the tough climate we're in, is something to be happy about DL pleased that the Trading department are happy to do that.
- Block Grant : looks like its decreased by £100k, that is not the case, the Union were given £100k during the year 08/09 for redevelopment of the Kitchen , which was done during that year, that was £100k that the University gave to the Union to redevelop part of the Union, which we did not receive in 09/10, because the redevelopment had taken place.
- Other income : things like bank interest and other minor financial things, that's where the £60k comes from. Total of £7.6m that the Union has as gross income.
- Basic Trading Income: Bars and Catering are the highest trading income with 41%, roughly equates to c £2m that Food and Beverages bring in to the Union. Ents 19%, which equates to c £1m, Jobshop 22%, which equates to c£1.1m.
- Split of Contributions: Block grant, which is the money that the University gives to the Union every year in the form of monetary amount, which is £2.25m. That is spent directly on student activity and student support services. The other money : trading income that was on the previous slide less the cost of trading, things like; employing staff, ie the students that work in the Bars, the background managers, that's where all that cost comes from. Money that the Union takes, less the cost of trading, gives the gross profit , which you can see split up. F & B is by far the highest contribution, that roughly equates to £80k that F & B raise themselves, which is then spent directly on students. Without the F & B , the Union wouldn't have that £800k to spend on students. (*discrepancy in DL's speech of the F & B contribution*).
- Expenditure: The cost of trading went down slightly from 08/09 to 09/10, obviously tried to gain a higher profit, but at a smaller cost of trading. Administration: goes up slightly from £3.13m from £3.06m. Administration deals with all student services i.e during the year 09/10, Campus Groups systems were introduced, which AU and Societies use, to maintain their financial accounts and membership. That came at a cost, but is for the Students, also had a new member of the Advice & Rep team. Total of £7.64m.
- Split of Expenditure: The most money is spent on is Facilities, which is the building , such as maintaining the building, cleaning, utilities, it's a huge building and are unique as a Students' Union as being one of the only one that maintains our own building rather than the University maintaining it. That cost is £1.3m, but gives the Union the facilities to have so many student activities and events. After that the next biggest spend is Union activities such as, AU Clubs, Societies, Media and Campaigns, and are obviously spending the most money we can on stuff for the students. Everything is spent directly on students, ie. Transport, student services; ARC and the SDU, Finance; helping clubs with their finances, they are all support structures for students that allow them to engage in the activities that they love at University.
- Summary : Total income, slightly reduced, that's because of the £100k that was lost , that the University didn't give us for the Kitchen redevelopment, but we did absorb some of that loss by increasing the amount of training that was done. Expenditure is slightly more, but again the costs can be drawn from the additional member of staff and Campus Group system. So there is a smaller surplus of £10k, that surplus is carried over to the next year as a form of contingency, look at the overall income and expenditure, the Union raised £7.6m and only saved £10k of that, so are spending the majority of income, as much as possible, on Students, which shows the priorities are right.

Any questions:

Edmund: Repeat, how are savings in student media realised?

Response: The savings in student media: what has happened is that we have had a new member of staff join the student media, in the Communications Team, who's increased the revenue in student media, so by selling advertising and increasing our advertising revenue, student media hasn't required as much funding directly.

Chair: Show of hands required to pass the report – passed.

6. Executive Achievements

Chair invites Olly Birrell, President to the stage. To start the executive achievements.

Olly Birrell: Introduction and welcome. "All the financial figures that have just been explained; will now try and give more of an impression of what the money actually goes on, the impact it makes on the students. Presentation to follow on what all 8 executive and the 8 part time executive officers have been getting up to. To show the impact the Union makes on students and should anyone think of running in any of the elections this year, can see what you might be getting up to day to day. Questions will be at the end. Commence with President's slide.

It was identified over summer that clearly tuition fees was going to be a big topic of discussion for students and the Country, following the Browne Review. Publicity was produced, awareness raised, held the EMM, lobbied local MP's

up to the vote; demo in London. Took 342 students to London, making a record breaking attempt, at Cardiff Students' Union, by taking the most ever in our history. The local MP, Jenny Willott, was also voting in favour of the students, after extensive lobbying by OB and Cosimo and local student groups in Cardiff. Also this year, have been taking part in a process known as SUEI, this stands for Students Union Evaluation Initiative, which is a 2 year programme which helps benchmark ourselves against other Unions. More importantly it helps us examine why we do what we do and how we do what we do. To ensure that we're challenging ourselves and making sure that everything that we do is in the interests of you out there, our members. Already this year we have hired a new Policy Advisor, to help with representation on University committees, that is just the start of some big changes that will be coming to make sure that we're spending the money correctly for what you want. Darryl Light has also been working on a few things, recognising this year that the Summer Ball this year was no longer a viable option for the Union, a lot of time was spent thinking about alternatives. The new May Ball, held jointly between the University's main building and the Students' Union building, was the new concept that was come up with. It aims to encapsulate the formal appeal and prestige of a former Ball while still providing the fayre rides and excitement of a summer ball we've had in previous years, all ending with a great event here in your students' union. Also hooked up with Beach Break live to give our students their very own VIP tent, at the UK's biggest student festival, giving students somewhere to celebrate at the end of this year, after their exams or in their final year. Also worked on this year by Darryl, has been Welcome Crew, for those that don't know, Welcome Crew are the team of students that help welcome students to Cardiff at the beginning in Freshers, so settle in with their University life. Darryl, alongside has already managed to secure its own set of International students welcome crew, being funded by the International division in the University, which will specialise in settle international students here at Cardiff University. They are also working on a strategy document for the future development of the welcome crew, with a view of working very closely with the University to gain better funding and support across the Halls of Residences. Darryl Light will now speak."

Darryl Light: Video presentation on Freshers/Welcome Crew.

Cosimo Montague Societies, Events & Activities officer: "One of the big things I've been working on this year is making sure that societies are properly recognised by both students and the University at Cardiff. On the student front we've developed the societies page in Gair Rhydd which is now regularly advertising the society events for the week, as well as the key highlights of those societies across the year. On the University front societies are now set to become a big part of the University's employability drive and from that will be involved a lot of the University's recognition in where the key transferrable skills come outside your degree. This is something that I am really pleased is happening. Another area is the democratic structure within the guild of societies, we use to have societies council which was were all the societies exec would come together and the societies officer would update on what's going on. That has now been broken down to 7 much smaller groups in order to gain a lot more actually feedback from those students and implement some real policies based on what society execs want. Based on that managed to adapt the Stars awards, have been looking at the Guild funding options and other areas as well. Rose has been working a lot on housing this year, but will be seeing a short video on this. Another big thing for Rose was the Welfare Audit. The Welfare Audit seeks to map out all the welfare service provision in both the University and the Union. Currently we're at the stage where we're taking interviews on the Welfare Audit with the various members of staff involved and the idea behind it is it will help sign post students where the right places to go when they're having a welfare issue. You will also see as part of your AGM pack, the ARC postcards, the reason these are in there, is so that you can fill out any thoughts you have on any part of the Union i.e thoughts on the nightclub nights, this event, societies or sports teams and how things should be run, please drop them down, there are boxes around the hall to drop them in, this will really help to do our job as your elected officers in making the changes you want to see in your Union. Next a Housing video from Rose".

Rose Savage – Housing video

Oli Luton – Healthcare Officer: Speaking for himself and on behalf of Sarah Ingram, University & Academic Affairs Officer. First project: Heath Hub renovation. Built 2 years ago to cater for the healthcare students at Heath Park campus, Cardiff University, the purpose was to provide the same provisions that are provided here at the Union. This was trialled for a small period (2 years) and has found that it wasn't exactly what the students wanted, so, together with staff at the Union, we have worked really hard this year, a review has been conducted with the decision to make a dramatic change, it will now become an information hub with a full time, paid member of staff and state of the art technology. The second project is a service provision, as some of the sabbs here have mentioned, we have really great service, like the Advice Representation centre, Jobshop, Letting Agency and Finance provisions for Clubs and Societies here. There is none of that at the Heath, so will be driving that this year. So far ARC has thrived up there and has gone down really well, so are looking to push the other services in the future. Speaking for Sarah Ingram: A great job this year on the Course Rep system and these guys look after your welfare. They sit down with the University and make sure that everything on your course is running smoothly, you have a lot to thank for these people, there is a short video which will be shown presently. The Enriching Student Life Awards, this is a new initiative started by Sarah Ingram and the Students' Union and is a set of 9 awards which students nominate University staff for. The idea of the award was to reward staff that have made your time at Cardiff University what it is today. All the nominated staff receive a card of recognition, also any staff that are shortlisted from the nominations attend an award ceremony

hosted by the VC where they are presented with an award. The nominations open from now until the 28 February and you can nominate at Cardiffstudents.com/staff awards. Introduction to the Course Rep video.

Sarah Powell – Head of Student Media: First project is the development of the Student Media Board. This was something that was passed at Student Council 2 years ago, its composed of the CE of the Students' Union, the President of the Students' Union, Head of Student Media and two media law lecturers from Jomec. Its basically a safety blanket for the Head of the Student Media, providing training and advice but without compromising editorial independence of Gair Rhydd. It is a way of handling potentially inflammatory content without fear of legal battles and has already been used once already this year and can tell its going to be increasingly useful for the next Head of Student Media. Second Project is the re-vamped Gair Rhydd office, a lot of feedback has been received from the Media volunteers, stating that it was a grim place to work, not because of the Head of Student Media but because of the office itself, we listened, secured some funding, knocked down some walls, got some new computers and even spoilt with a new carpet. Its now a much more pleasant place to work and invite you all to come and see it. Also, here to talk about Jack, AU President. One of his main priorities this year has been a service level agreement, the service level agreement is also know as the AU agreement. It's a policy that's held between the University and the Students' Union and concerns facilities and block bookings for AU clubs, among other things. The current policy expired in 2005, so Jack has been spending a lot of time updating and implementing a new policy and its hoped that it will include things such as a guaranteed assurance that University is going to consult with the AU on any future changes to facilities or gym prices. In this way the Service Level Agreement ensures that the relationship between the University and the Students' Union has its students' best interests at heart. A more well publicised thing that Jack has been working on is Varsity, a video will be shown shortly, this year is the 15th anniversary of Varsity and its being held in the Millennium Stadium.

Olly Birrell – President. Lastly there are also the other 8 part time officers that work alongside the elected officers. They have spent a lot of time and energy this year working on the new associations model that was introduced in previous AGM;'s making massive steps forwards it's been taking up a lot of their time. One big step forward has come from the LGBT+ officer, Mark Anderson, this year helping with the introduction of gender neutral toilets across the students union, which will start coming in place over the next couple of months. It has also been identified from the part time officers that their induction and training has often resulted in a lack of engagement in previous years. So we have gone about as a team to remedy this. We have been working on a new induction and training process to start as soon as they are elected in the March elections to become part of the full time executive team to make sure we can get the best out of everybody on the team in coming years. Hope you have enjoyed the presentations, this just scratches the surface of some of the work we get up to as Officers, if there is anything you would like to come and speak about after, that's in the presentation, please do as there's an awful lot we get up to. Now its time for a few questions from the audience.

Chair: Moving on to Agenda Point 7:

7. Affiliations

Basically affiliate to several groups on an annual basis. The NUS, BUCS, individual clubs and societies have also got a range of organisations and national governing bodies which they are affiliated to. Need to see a show of hands to accept these affiliations.

Vote: agenda item 7 clearly passed.

Chair: Moving on to the main event-

8. Tabled Motions

Procedure explained. Motion looks to propose a new action, initiative or policy for the students' union to undertake, the resolved section is the action that would be undertaken if the motion passes. The deadline for the amendments to be submitted for the motions closed today at 3pm. Amendments were submitted for one motion and there were two amendments which will be covered in more detail later. Chair is conscious that there are several motions to get through, so proposing a limit of 3 rounds of debate and 5 minutes of questions. It will then be at the Chair's discretion if she feels there's a demand for more time to be spent on any of the motions. Any questions should be clear and concise with name being stated before raising the question.

1st Motion: Medsin Proposal

Proposer Joe Rylands. Medicine Society.

Motion to encourage the research that is produced by Cardiff University, particularly in medicines to be more accessible for people around the world in lower, middle income countries This is part of an international campaign called Universities Allied for Essential Medicines. It was started in Yale in US and has spread through all the Ivy League schools. It has been put through in Canada, Oxford and Edinburgh in the UK, also in Sweden and there's proposals in Germany.

The reason that is being done now is because the World Health organisation has a list of essential medicines which is currently being updated and it considers basic human right for everybody in the world to have access to these medicines. Unfortunately, 1/3 of the world does not have access in sub Sahara Africa, it is as high as 70%. There are many reasons for this the biggest reason is the high cost of new drugs, because they cost so much to research in development for pharmaceuticals to produce these drugs, when they do manage to make one they get given a patent, this patent can last up to 20 years, which means only they can produce the drug, this means essentially they can charge whatever they like. This has justification for the west so they can make enough money back to be able to research into more drugs. However, the price that we pay is the same as the price that is charged to developing countries, so it means that somebody in Wales has to pay the same price as somebody in Ethiopia. This creates a huge discrepancy and is quite unjust. Students are in a hugely unique position to be able to impact on this. A large amount of research that goes to pharmaceuticals companies, for these essential medicines, comes from students. What we are proposing to do, and what has already been passed in the US, Oxford and Edinburgh here, is that we make a change to the patent licensing, so that when research gets given to pharmaceutical companies, we put in a clause which says, "that any lower, middle income country can produce the drug generically", which means that they don't have to pay the huge price. Whilst this might seem like the pharmaceutical companies would lose a huge amount of their profit, despite the fact that lower, middle income countries make up about 88% of the world's population, its only 8% of the pharmaceutical's profits. Also, because there will be so many more people having access to essential medicines that students have helped to produce, their revenues would probably actually increase. There are other potential problems with the fact that it might reduce funding to the University, but it is completely unfounded because the University gets almost entirely their money comes either from the government or independent charities. Pharmaceuticals don't give that much and as already been said they are going to be making more money anyway. There is also a potential problem with black market drugs coming through, but there is already generic drugs on the market and they have huge controls at borders, probably even more than illicit drugs do. Essentially there isn't a good reason to oppose it. The reason for being here today is to try and gain support so that when we go and talk to the School Board and University Court which we will be doing shortly, can say that we have all your support behind us which will give us much more impact and will be able to make the research that's produced here available to millions more people around the world.

Chair asking for speakers against: None.

Questions: Rob Frances, DOE Society. Just wondering if there is any data on the uptake from pharmaceutical companies on the patents from the Universities that have passed this motion?

Response: In the US Harvard has the strongest policy about pharmaceutical companies and hasn't been any decrease at all in the amount of research that has been taken up by pharmaceuticals.

Summation : wavered.

Vote: Motion clearly passed.

2nd Motion: Welsh Assembly Referendum :
Proposed by Helydd has wavered her speech to Will Griffiths.

Will Griffiths. All aware that there is more than one referendum taking place in Wales this year. In addition to the AV referendum in May, there's also the devolution referendum being held on 3 March. This referendum proposes to remove the process by which the Assembly asks for legislative powers via Westminster, which is an expensive, time consuming and bureaucratic process. If there is a no vote, the Welsh Assembly will remain and continue to operate in the way it does presently. However, voting yes in this referendum will mean that the Assembly will be able to carry its work out in the efficient manner in which it was created to do. Requests for legislative powers can take up to 4 – 5 years, which is longer than an Assembly term in itself. You can take the environmental protection legislative competence order which is a request by the Assembly for legislative powers in regards to environmental protection. This was announced by WAG in 2007, and was given assent in 2010, so you can see how long this process takes. It is amazing that anything gets done at all. The Welsh Assembly is the only legislative body in the entire world that actually has this system by which it makes laws. Its no wonder its expensive, inefficient and lets down the people of Wales on the efficient governance they expect. The Welsh Assembly has done much to help students in Wales, back in 2010, the Assembly announced that it will pay the difference in fees increases, so that no Welsh domicile student will experience a rise in tuition fees. The Assembly also announced that it will not scrap the EMA either. The referendum is not about granting the Assembly tax raising powers or increasing its Assembly members and its certainly not to going to pave the way for independence. Even if you support a no vote on this referendum, please vote for this motion as it will improve student participation in this debate so students can have a democratic debate which they should have rather than it being fuelled by misinformation and possible scaremongering.

Chair asking for speakers against: None.

Questions: Tony Town, Economics Society. How are you going to go about raising awareness?

Response: We can have a form of debate among students and basically want to encourage a debate between yes and no, so that people in the University, when it comes to voting on 3 March, can make an informed choice, whether they want to vote yes or no, rather than just going on the basis of assumptions, which would lead to perhaps a less valued judgement.

Vote: Motion clearly passed.

3rd Motion: Support the March for the Alternative :

This motion has two amendments. The first amendment has been accepted by the proposer which you can see on your screen. The word 'Coach' has been added to resolves 5.

Ray Lewis Ayling . The TUC will be marching on London on 26 March as the motion points out, in what could be the biggest anti cuts demonstration we've had for well over 30 years. We have already supported and have been supported by them in the past. We were supported by the TUC in our action to defend ourselves and our education from the horrendous cutbacks proposed by the Tories and Lib Dems government at the moment on 9 Nov. Further than that its obviously in our interests when our interests coincide to work together. The TUC represents almost 8m working people in the UK, it is the single largest organised body and we are being offered the chance to go along and be supported by them in our own fight to defend our own education. I don't actually see any reason why we shouldn't be taking that up, its not as though its being demanded that we do anything for them at the moment. Within Wales we're looking at various University mergers over the next short period and the creation of a 2 tier system between research universities and the rest, which will price a lot of ordinary people out of going to some of the better universities like Cardiff, I myself would be able to . Although the Welsh Assembly has promised to pay the extra tuition fees, that was only done because of the campaign that was organised within Wales. If we relent now and start showing weakness, there's an election coming up this year, after that election, these main parties are going to feel more confident unless we keep them on a tight leash that we have them on now. The NUS supports this March for the alternative, as an affiliate of NUS I would argue that 's further reason that we should be going along. Finally this could be a good day out with over 1m people on the streets.

Chair: the second amendment that was proposed for this wasn't accepted, so are now going to a debate about the amendment to the motion. The proposer of the amendment needs to come to the stage.

Ben Ruthersford: Will keep this brief, I fully support the motion that has gone in but also think its very important that the conservative/lib democratic party conference is taking place in Cardiff on the 5 March, both these demonstrations are linked very closely together, if you have a big demonstration on the 5th in this city, could be a spring board for us to take a massive presence from Cardiff to London on the 26th. Already the demonstration in Cardiff is backed by various trade unions, the Welsh TUC and Cardiff Trades Council. It is a real opportunity for the people of Cardiff to come together. What we have seen so far, within the anti cuts movement nationally, we've seen the students that lead in the way, now the real question is, is one of unity, we should be linking up with everyone that wants to fight these cuts, workers, the unemployed, pensioners, disabled, everyone that wants to fight these cuts need to come together. The key is they are coming for us all and we need to stand together and fight back . I think the demonstration on the 5th March offers a massive opportunity to build unity and to strengthen our movement. The people that are wrecking the lives of millions of people across Britain should not be allowed to swan into our city and plan next how to destroy the welfare state. We should not let these people close our schools, our libraries, our hospitals, our Universities, sacking thousands of workers across country, just come here and plan what to do next. I think the people of Egypt show the way for us, we can turn Cardiff into Cairo on that day, bring the spirit of Taris Square to Queen street, we should chase this illegitimate government out.

Chair: Questions from the floor for this amendment.

Question: Mark Anderson, LGBT+ Officer. Already this year in Student Council we have quite a few requests to support certain demonstrations, can we please have a little bit more clarity on what you mean by support in AGM resolves.

Response: Just to put out publicity to have the Cardiff Students logo on the leaflets and posters that will be going out, like what was done for 10 Nov demonstration, if possible to put posters up around the Union and to put it on the Cardiff What's on events, if possible.

Summation: Wavered.

Ray Lewis Ayling invited back to stage to speak against the amendment. Response: happy to accept to accept and waive the opposition.

Chair: accepted into the motion, to be added to the original motion. Invitations to speak against the entire motion.

Change of dictation, first part of speech missing, speaker not known.

Against: People want to get away, don't want to be here, they are forced to be here, these things just slide through lets not just vote yes and leave we've got to think critically about what we're putting through today. We may be rare, but we actually do exist within the students union, conservative and lib democratic students, I kinda feel like the idea of making an official policy within the students union, to basically label us as being evil and people we have got to protest against, there are people within this Union who actually have a different view on the economy and a different view on the way that things have to be done. I feel very uneasy about us just deciding that we're going to go arm in arm with the trade union congress. I don't think they have a grasp of the economics of the world, a realistic grasp, I think it's a slightly outdated view of the way the world works, we're a very diverse Union, we've got diverse ideas, its all about having diverse ideals, I don't think we can make this official policy, sure go to the march, have fun, express the March, advertise the March, but don't say that this Union is the March, because we're so much more than that, we're so much more diverse, so please vote against this, because I don't think we can let this become our official policy for everyone here. There are minorities within this Union who really, I think, would feel offended and vilified by this.

Chair invites anyone for a 2 minute speech. 1 hand shown for 'for' 1 for 'against'.

Speech For: Mia Holsing Socialist Students. As a students union, its our responsibility to speak up for the rights of students and for the interests of students. This government as you will know has made massive attacks on education and on students. They have suggested a rise in tuition fees, they want to cap EMA, which doesn't affect us directly, but it affects future generations of students because if you cant afford to get you A levels you cant go to University, its as simple as that. They are also proposing various changes to student loans, they are cutting funding for Universities, for our courses. Some of the staff will go, in many Universities whole departments have gone. Libraries are being cut. All the things that we care about as students in our Universities are being cut by this government. Of course we need to protest against it, when there are other people who agree with us, which the TUC does, they support all of our demands, I cant see why we shouldn't march together with them. Yes we should support them as well, they support us, so we should support them in return. Even for ourselves this our interest we're talking about, so please vote for this motion.

Speech Against: Rob Frances DOE Society. I am voting against this motion, because I'm worried about cost, where is the money going to come from, for us to travel to London for the March? We have already wasted enough money on this Union, we pay a lot of money to affiliate with the Union, so would like to see that money come back towards us. I don't think we should spend more money going to London for this March with the Socialist Students. Would also to say that I support the diversity of this University and don't think we should stick with one political idealism.

Chair invites anyone for further speech. 1 hand shown for 'for' 1 for 'against'.

Speech For: Sahib Khan Economics. We need to look at this from a broader prospect, the fight against the cuts is not just a socialist hoax, main stream economists have said that the current actions of the government will damage the economy and we should be aligning with the people who are in our favour and as one speaker said that these socialists or the trade unionists haven't got a grasp of the economics, actually is wrong, its George Osborne or the people which are telling us that we need to have the cuts. Actually, they don't understanding how economics really works, basically when they say we are all in this together, what they mean is that they politicians and the bond holders and the share holders are all in this together, they don't mean that the students or the ordinary workers are in this together. So please don't get into this misconception that the politicians who come on the tv, they know all about it, economics. People who fight for ordinary people's lives they don't know that somehow an unrealistic view of the economy, so please do support this motion. Also, the costs I don't think it costs too much to get a couple of coaches to the March, its about the survival of the students union as well, as I think this government if its lefts to them they would not allow the students union to work. So please support this motion.

Speech Against: I speak for all of us when I say we've spent far too long on this subject already. It's a very short note from me, I'll just say this, they want to go for a walk and they want our cash to do it, forget it.

Chair Invites the proposer back to the stage.

Question: Mia Holsing. How will this be paid for?

Response: The TUC are putting on more than 26 coaches from Wales alone, we can actually get in for free, I don't want your money, because you don't actually pay to affiliate to this union. The point to make anyway is that we can get on their coaches, we've been invited on their coaches, there is no reason why we cant publicise it with our students union, to try and represent our members and go with them,. In fact that would be even better, because we're going to be marching with them, might as well take the free ride.

Question: Claire Travers, SWD Officer. If its not financial support that you want , what kind of support would you be expecting from the Union for both of these different demonstrations ?

Response: We're expecting the Union to campaign , like it did during the lead up to the 9 Nov demonstration. We put on a massive campaign that was brilliant, we had the posters up , we had people talking , we had it publicised within our students union, around the University . We had emails out, that kind of thing. That was a wonderful campaign it got us well over 350 people we took, which is a historic record from Cardiff on a historic day, the biggest student demonstration in 20 years. If that's what we can get, we had to put coaches on for that as well, if we talk to the trade unions now we will be able to go on theirs. We 're not even having to put on the coaches necessarily.

Question: Sarah Ingram, Academic & University Affairs Officer. If you don't need us to organise coaches they can we strike out from the Policy we need to contribute to organise coaches and also if the coaches are independent then why should we contribute our own coach stewards to the coaches that have been organised by TUC.

Response: Feel that we should contribute our coach stewards, due to updates that here are the occasional discrepancies in the document. In terms of coach stewards I do think that Cardiff University should try and organise its own contingent so that we can have our own student presence there. We want to be working with the Trade Unions, but don't want to devolve ourselves we want to be us, we have Unite there who's worried about public service cuts, you have RMT etc, Union, PCS, they're worried about public service cuts and they support us in our fight against education cuts, but for Unions that like, the education cuts aren't the major thing and actually this is why we need our stewards to organise our own contingent so that we can have a coherent block of University students there shouting, our demands will not go unheard as well.

Question: Tony Town: Can only echo the question put to you from the opposition, we cant we just maintain neutrality and not support either cause? Its fine to be for or against it but there's no need to lump everyone in with one point of view.

Response: Its not about lumping everyone in with one point of view, this is a Union ultimately, it operates on a principle of democracy, also operates on the principles of looking after its members, its in the interests of our members to defend ourselves against these vicious cuts coming from government, in the majority of our members, I should say. There may well be a minority of members and the vote, we'll see I suppose, what people think about it. There may well be a minority of people who don't believe in fighting the cuts, we're not going to be standing there saying they do, we're not going to be claiming they do. All we're doing is claiming that the majority within Cardiff Students' Union do, if its voted through. In terms of maintaining neutrality I think it's a ridicules idea that in a time when our members are under attack we maintain any kind of neutrality, ultimately neutrality in this situation is actually picking for the attacks side. It's a case of aiding by doing nothing.

Chair requested that Steve Wilford or Jemma Mallorie come to the stage for clarification.

Question: Tim Bergman. For a point of clarification, because its got pretty muddled up , do you basically just want the Union to do what they did for the other March, is that it? What was the amendment all about?

Response: That is what we're arguing for , but we're arguing that actually they might be able to do one less than that and get on the TUC coaches as well. The amendment: on the 5th March the Torie and Lib Dems are having their conference within 100 meters of each other, down the road in the Angel Hotel. There's been local trade unionists in the area and the TUC are backing a demonstration outside the conferences. Our argument with the amendment is that we should be publicising that.

Tim Bergman: The big march 9th and the little march on the 26th ?

Chair : Have now run out of time and understand that there are a few more questions, so need to see a show of hands to continue discussing this motion.

Clarification required before going to vote, with the question that Sarah Ingram asked did something get removed? Proposer: Requested that it is edited to publicise TUC coaches. Chair: This is to clarify that when we move to a vote Section 5 will have been removed from AGM Resolves. Need to remove: and organising coaches from dissolves 5, that's no longer in the motion.

Proposer: as a point of information two things: 1) the effectiveness of the protest , I would like to point out there was a question someone raised about us going for a walk with your money, actually the reason in Wales the Assembly has agreed to pay the excess fees is because we organised a massive demonstration and campaign, there's no question about it the only way we can fight back is by fighting back and doing something, if we sit back and do nothing where does that get us.

Chair: Any procedural motions or points of information.

From the floor: Section 5 on the resolutions should be voted on separately, there seems to be a lot of different arguments going just on that point.

Chair: so you're going for a procedural motion in parts? Affirmed.

Chair: to do that we have to go through a procedural motion in parts. Need to see if someone will second this procedural motion. BREAK for clarification. Because the procedural motion came after the summation it means that we can't do it and have to go to the vote.

From the floor: Under the guide it states that these motions can be called at any point.

Steve Wilford: Once the summation has finished, we're actually into the vote and once the vote is taking place, there are no more procedural motions that can interrupt it. We are now at that stage. Repeated.

Vote : Motion falls.

4th Motion: Bring Students and Educators Together Against the Cuts:

Edmund Schluessel: Who are the UCU? The University and College Union represents lecturers, academic library workers, information services, markers and demonstrators, the people who make education at this University happen. As a post graduate teaching duties, I'm a member. The UCU has been working hard to ensure continued public funding for higher and further education, it's been campaigning alongside students unions and the NUS nationally. When we marched in November 10th, December 9th and December 29th last year UCU branches were there with the students. UCU lecturers at Cardiff even sponsored seats on the coaches that took us London demonstration, bringing down the costs to our Union. When students and lecturers work together it's a powerful thing. Someone will always say, what we're planning is unrealistic, what's proposed is from cloud cuckoo land well let me ask you why it works. Last year at Swansea Uni the UCU and students joined together to oppose cuts to environmental sciences, courses and won. At Aberystwyth the student and lecturers linked up to save bio sci courses and won. Just two months ago at UWIC students and lecturers worked alongside to save the sculpture and won and here at Cardiff, students and lecturers were able to blunt the worst of cuts in Lifelong Learning by campaigning together demonstrating together, fundamental to all that organising together. So now lecturers face job cuts, pay cuts and pension cuts UK wide. Proposals from University bosses would cut lecturers pay across Britain by 5%, make it easier to sack the most experienced lecturers, institutionalise a 15% pay gap between male and female union employees and lead to the loss of 40k, that's 10 Cardiff's worth of lecturers in academic jobs. We already know that there are 700 potential redundancies at Cardiff alone. So the UCU is now voting now on whether to strike. This is very likely to happen, there's no better way to get a 60 year old professor involved in action than to put his pension under threat. This coming year is going to be the hardest for University education in decades. We have to work to secure the best education for ourselves now and for our brothers and sisters in years to come. Talking with the UCU, identifying areas of common interest and cooperating on those areas is an essential part of any plan. Because if students don't take part the consequences are dire. This year at Swansea Uni the management have gone after modern languages. Poets, Nobel prize winners, famous authors have all rallied the cause, but students aren't being linked in and as a result plans are being put forward that would cut modern languages at Swansea by 2/3rd and see the end of Russian and Italian teaching. Fighting to save lecturers jobs means more contact time and better feedback on course work. Fighting to save pensions means more experienced lecturers teaching us. What's more the NUS has already made it policy to support lecturers if and when they strike on jobs, pay or course cuts. Nobody is in this to get rich the average lecturer makes less than the average train driver, this motion doesn't require Cardiff Students' Union to support a strike, that's a decision to be made in march when we know the Lecturers Unions plans are. If a strike is going to happen that's a tool for us students to put forward what we want to defend our education. The best way to do that is to meet with the lecturers regularly, find out what interests we have in common and decide how best to advance those interests together. That's what this motion calls for us to do, vote yes.

Chair: Invite to the floor to speak against.

Against: Sarah Ingram – Academic & University Affairs Officer. Please look at the resolves of this motion. Will go through each one in turn. 1st: that Cardiff University Students' Union hold regular meetings with Cardiff UCU. Myself and the President held the meeting at the beginning of this year with the UCU, it was great, we chatted, we don't need to hold regular meetings with them. If we wanted to we could, but we don't want to be motioned to do it, because it would be a waste of time for us and the UCU. 2: For the Students Union and Cardiff UCU to work together on areas of common interests. Edmund's speech shows we already do that, they did sponsor seats for us, it was great, they made us money, the lecturers sponsored us to go on the march. We worked together to stop the cuts in Lifelong Learning, fantastic, we already that we don't need to have a motion about it. 3: That in the event of industrial action on jobs, pay, education provision, the Students' Union should coordinate with Cardiff UCU. We will when it's in the interest of our members, we don't think we should be motioned to always to do, if it's not in the interests of

students, we don't think we should have policy on that, we think we should make up our minds on a case by case basis. We would also ironically be passing this motion without really discussing it with UCU, we haven't heard from Todd Bailey, the UCU President, that they even want us. Like I'm sure they wouldn't say no but they haven't told us its really important to them, so see absolutely no reason why we should pass this motion.

Chair: Asks if there's another demand round of speeches. Edmund requested to return to the stage. No questions.

Summation: Sarah basically asked the question why formalise what we're already doing. Well how did this start. We are in the position where we happen to have a UCU member, Edmund, on the Executive of the Students' Union. This doesn't happen very often. I will not be around here for ever. Its good that we have set the structures in place, its good that discussions are happening. But the fact is we need to make this policy because its easy to trip over ourselves, its easy to get split up. The gains that we've made by working together over these past several months are too good to lose in the muddle and confusion of the next few years of academic cuts. Have we talked with the UCU? Well Ive been nominated the executive, I talk with Todd Bailey regularly there has been no objection to this. If things haven't gone to Sarah's desk yet well here they are now. Don't see the point of the objections. Would it be wasting time? Well we're not being mandated to hold the meetings every 10mins, every month, every 3 months, whenever we find it necessary. Overall there's no reason to say no and every reason to say yes to continued work, and think it symbolises all the gains we've made and symbolises all the hope that we have for the future, that's a little over the top! If we pass this motion today and show that students and lecturers will continue to work together for the benefit for all in the future.

Vote: Motion falls.

Chair requests that while people are speaking you try and keep it down there is a lot of noise especially from the people sitting on the floor, because we cant see you, doesn't mean we cant hear you.

5th Motion : Continuing the fight against fees and cuts

Edward Mason : first of all there's a little typo in notes, its technically not an EGM it was an EMM. Essentially what happened at that meeting was most important. We as a Union passed a policy that said no titled fight against fees and cuts, which reaffirmed, as we always have done, our opposition to top up fees and it resolves specifically to stand against attempts to lift the cap on tuition fees. That was done then specifically in relation to the 10 Nov march and issues surrounding that and the vote in parliament. What has happened now is much more complex in different events and so requires a different motion. Essentially what has happened is the government had already said in London, that the basic rate of tuition fees £6k and that Universities may, if they so wish, raise it to £9k. There have already been Universities in the Russell Group especially, Oxford, Cambridge and Imperial College London that have said that they want to raise it all the way up to £9k. Even here in Wales where we have the Welsh Assembly and the WAG have said that the basic rate is £4k instead of £6k. For Welsh students wherever they study it will stay at around £3300. Even then different Universities will be able to set just how high they go just as long as they don't go higher than £9k. I understand that is one of the points that will be on University Court meeting next month. Essentially we have got a dilemma on how we approach this, because Cardiff University has, in the past, stated its desire not to raise its tuition fees, it has said this through Institutions such as Higher Education Wales and the Russell group, but it may feel that it has to do so especially because of the cuts to higher education, to the teaching budget, in some departments its as high as 80% and that's why we got together the issues of fees and cuts and so we feel that Cardiff University especially as a member of the Russell group is best placed to contribute nationally to this debate so that we as a University and we as a Students' Union it doesn't look as all the top Universities in the UK support the idea of increased tuition fees. If we believe now as an Union what we did back in October/November when we held the emergency members meeting and we wanted to march to London, if we believe that fees are being increased are bad and if we believe that cuts to higher education are detrimental especially when that means that fees may have to be increased to £7 or £8k just to equalise because of the cuts being made, then please vote for this motion and call on Cardiff University to publicly oppose both fees and cuts and to contribute to the national discussion.

Chair: Hands against this motion? Chair is seeing people leaving, need reminding that if you leave your attendance isn't registered towards your sports or society.

Sarah Ingram: Academic & University Affairs officer: Again I will concentrate on the resolves. The first resolve to call on Cardiff University to issue a public statement opposing the rise in tuition fees. If and when the government have now voted in the rise in tuition fees Cardiff University have made no such statement to say that they will not have a similar fee as their Russell group comparator intuitions. They don't agree with us that tuition fees shouldn't be raised and actually now that the Welsh Assembly Government have minimised the cost of £4k being the base rate, if the University only charged £4k they would be able to offer us less because they would be loosing money, so we get even less books, facilities, sports clubs funding worse funding than we have already. So we're not actually sure that that is a good idea for us. Instead what we have been doing which I suggest is a better alternative is saying that we know you are going to increase the fees what can get for that? So we've been having conversations with them on the

better facilities that we can get on the better buildings we can get and we think that if we're actually going to say "no don't increase your fees at all" we miss out on that conversation and indeed they just give us the current level of provision but with increased fees anyway, because they definitely going to. On the second point of the resolves, to further call on Cardiff University to publicly oppose any cuts to the higher education budget they've already done this, they do this through HEW, Higher Education Wales, which is a group of all the VC's of Wales where they get together and make statements because as a whole they are less than each individual one, so they have, and you can look on the website, already made a statement that they are against educational cuts. Therefore there is no reason to pass this motion. The first one is a waste of time, will not get us anywhere and will actually decrease the student experience that we're currently fighting for and the second one has already happened to greater effect than is written on this piece of paper.

Chair: Is there a demand for another round of speeches. For and against.

For: Edmund Schluessel. I should simply note that its inappropriate to treat the academic cuts that have passed as the end of history, we have seen the indicative budget for Wales for the next two years. 13% academic cuts in Wales were passed this year, but the Assembly is projecting a further 27% cuts over the next two years. In the UK the UCU and every analyse out there says that the average fee will have rise to £7500 if the current level of funding is to be maintained, even if that happens extra income from higher tuition fees don't kick in until the 2012 academic year whereas the cuts start happening tomorrow. Those cuts £400m of shortfall in England, we don't know the Wales figure yet, will start affecting the 2011 academic year. We need to keep the fight on because we cant pretend its over.

Against: Olly Birrell. Will keep this very short and brief. As Sarah has already put so well, the vote has gone through its happened, its unfortunate that the current market we're about to look at and the increase in fees is going to happen. Now none of us wanted that and we very much campaigned very much so against that, however Cardiff University wants to be a world leading research intuition. The people sat around the table are in no way going to entertain the idea that they are not going to charge the fees that they need to continue the University growing and developing. Now for us as students, with our degrees, sat here, if Cardiff University was in ten years time to no longer have any funding our degrees would become worthless they would not be anywhere near the Now that might be very small minded of us but unfortunately we have to be pragmatic about this, if we thought that we could change what the University could do we would take this battle up, but Im saying as President who sits down around the table with these people they are not going to change their mind on this and if we were going to go up to them and start this battle with them, they would simply block us out of all conversations to do with the rest of the University and what's going on. What we have done is open up conversations on investment in the student experience be it the Union buildings, estates across the University, employability, student support services and those are the conversations that we as an Union are now having, So I say vote against this, don't force us to go and have those conversations but we as an executive are campaigning everything we can to make sure that every penny of this money goes back to make the student experience better and our University better to get the greatest outputs.

Chair: Any demand for another round of speeches.

Discussion: Edward invited back to the stage. 2 Minute summation.

Edward Mason: Given that there's points raised about the resolves, I'll just go over them once. It doesn't say in this motion that we're asking Cardiff University to publicly state it definitely will not raise tuition fees, there's a difference between definitely not raising tuition fees and saying that you dont want to. We recognise that they may feel the pressure because of the cuts to higher education to raise tuition, it actually said in the motion itself, it says "AGM notes for" and we say then and AGM believes one, it says specifically they may feel like they need to but they should say that they don't want to, there's a difference there. Also, on Resolves 2, Sarah said for instance that they've already released a statement through the proxy of Higher Education Wales, saying that Cardiff University specifically is an institution is a Russell group University, there are other Russell group Universities in the past week, Oxford, Cambridge and Imperial College London that have gone to the national news and released a statement that they want to raise fees all the way up to £9k. You say that Cardiff University then, I think, is especially places as another Russell group institution individually to contribute to that discussion. Even if's got to be raised to £7k or £8, even if they do feel in those discussions that they've got to raise it at least to that level we can then go into conversations with them about whether they need to go all the way as to how far up the ladder they need to charge if they do indeed feel the need to charge it, that discussion can still happen, there's no reason that any conversations are being cut, there's no reasons that have been given to believe that, I don't think. So please vote for this motion.

Chair: Asking for people on the left hand side not to speak while other people are speaking.

Vote: Motion falls.

6th Motion: Free movement during occupations, also bought form Edward Mason.

Edward Mason: This is a very different motion, so if we can put aside the motion we voted against to have a look at this one. Basically, what happened last year in November, students across the University decided to go into occupation and following that Student Council passed a motion which said because at the time of the occupation the full/part time exec felt it was bound by the fact that there was no policy, which led to a restriction of how the University could communicate with the occupation and what the Union was able to provide for the occupation. They then passed a policy about that, I'm saying it had some good stuff in it, a lot of good stuff, for example, the University refused toilet breaks for a lot of the occupation. It meant that basically you had to go and p**s in a bucket if you want to not leave the occupation, it guaranteed that if you've got medical problems, if you're disabled then you should be able to get medical treatment or have special access given to you if you so need it, so that you can participate in the occupation. Seeing those sort of policies that were put forward in that proposal by Student Council is a belief that such occupations should be fully democratic. But one thing that was missing from that and that's why I'm bringing it to AGM now is the idea of free movement to and from the occupation, I believe that's possibly just as important as if not more important than the other points saying that essentially if you want to have a true democratic participation in a protest or an occupation, for example, you might not have heard about it before it actually happened, because obviously you can't publicise an occupation that's happening too far in advance, or security will block you from entering the Theatre or the Foyer or wherever you're actually doing it, so there will be an extent to which you can only publicise it after it's already started. If there is no freedom of movement to and from the occupation then people who want to get involved can't do so, people who want to get involved in the decision-making process in an occupation, in the negotiations that might happen between the occupation protesters and the University, they can't take part in that because they have been blocked from actually entering the Lecture Theatre or the Foyer. To say then that's a very important part of it. Furthermore, it's not unusual to have freedom of movement, not only because Cardiff University is not the only University to have occupations happening at the same time on the same issue, there were lots of other Universities taken place in pretty much all of them, if not actually all of them, freedom of movement was ensured. But not only that, there was another occupation in 2009, held by Cardiff students against the war, where actually Cardiff University management allowed freedom of movement to and from the occupation, in that occupation in 2009. Then it reversed its decision in 2010, that doesn't seem to be particularly fair, it doesn't seem to be particularly reasoned, it was just said at the protest, we take each one on its merit. What this motion is saying is that you shouldn't take it on its merit, it is a pure part of being democratically involved in a protest that you should be able to enter the protest after it's already begun. It's unprecedented to not be able to do that in any other circumstance. You should be able to, it's very important that if you have a policy where the Union stops, provides the democratic participation of occupation the freedom of movement is a vital part of that, which is why I urge you all to support this motion.

Chair: Any speeches against.

Against: Claire Travers, Students with Disabilities Officer: Also the original proposer of the policy which was passed by Student Council and is called, referred to in your pack as, An Introduction to Occupation, Guidelines and Support. Firstly it's important to tell you a bit about the motion, I know Ed has already covered part of but will go over it again. This is not as a motion meant to simply respond to the protests demands that happened on the 24th November, rather this policy allows us as a Union to protect and represent students even during their occupations, this includes access to food, water, toilet facilities and allows disabled and sick students to leave to get medical treatment and then to return. Secondly I think it's very important to note that this amendment was actually put to Student Council when the policy was put through and was voted down and I'd like to tell you exactly why that was on two counts. Firstly, this policy as I've already said is to protect students in occupations, it was never and it's not a policy to prescribe how an occupation should be run. We will support students in occupation regardless of when, why or where they are and this policy gives basic freedom to the students that are in them. But freedom of movement for any other reason for those given was deemed not useful for the protection of students but only useful for the continuation of occupation and therefore has no place in the policy which it wants to be a part of, that's not the place for it. If a policy was created to prescribe occupation methodology I don't feel freedom of movement would be considered. Freedom of movement makes an occupation a bunch of people in and out of a room it reduces the impact and effectiveness of an occupation and dissolves the political point. The debate about the pros and cons on freedom of movement is a very long one and one that has already been taken into Student Council and has come out the other end, there is nothing to stop an individual from occupation from asking for this clause to be involved in their individual case by case circumstance but this policy is not the place for it and it's ill equipped to support this kind of amendment. The policy should be about students first, not occupations and for that reason I ask you to please vote against this amendment.

Chair: Any further speeches for and against?

Questions: Edward Mason to return to stage.

Ian Martin: Would like to know what the reasoning was the University gave behind denying you access in and out of the occupation.

Edward Mason: The answer is they didn't. When the person who was officially representing the University first came to the occupation, obviously there were lots of questions, one of them was at the last occupation we held, why wasn't

it, the freedom of movement was allowed, why isn't it being allowed here, as you've just refused here. The answer was "we decide things on a case by case basis". As far as I'm aware they didn't go any further than that.

Sarah Smith: If this motion was to be passed what's to stop an occupation from carrying on for the entire of the University year, if you're allowed to move freely from and to it, what's to stop you from going in in the morning, then going to lunch and then going back, when would this ever end if you're allowed to go to and from?

Edward Mason: It would probably end when the University recognised that students have a desire to be heard, if they feel they haven't been heard through the official channels. In deed actually to be honest a lot of occupations where freedom of movement was allowed, the University decided to do was after 4 – 5 weeks the University felt that they had done more than enough and the protesters hadn't, what the University then did was went to Court after that length of time to actually evict them from the premises, so technically if you really want an answer that's what could happen. The protest would then probably continue to happen if the students felt they hadn't had their voices heard properly.

Cosimo Montagu: In a way supportive of the idea that there should be free movement to and from an occupation, however I think there's also an interesting question about which I'd like to ask you, do you feel it makes a stronger statement for a group of people to be there of there's free movement to and from, like was mentioned is a bunch of people going in and out of a room, do you think a stronger statement is made by the same people being there and really sticking it out and making their point?

Edward Mason: Not particularly no because as I put in AGM believes 2, what happened during the occupation in 2010 was because students were not allowed to leave and then come back and extra students were not allowed to come back in the University would very easily be able to say, oh look there's about 10 – 11 people it's unrepresentative, you're not representing students' interests. Where actually what was happening outside the Lecture Theatre was there were lots of students protesting and demonstrating and petitions were being circulated and they were being signed, so what actually happens if you allow freedom of movement actually into the occupation is not only do you then get an actual demonstration, the University of just how many students you get better representation of how many students support the occupation, but also more and more students are able to take part in a negotiating process with the University, in the decision making process within the occupation as to when it ends, what demands they put etc, it's very important that you have everyone in the same room or in the same area for that to actually happen.

Martin Rouch: You said when the other Unions allow these freedom of movement at occupations to continue, sometimes up to 4 – 5 weeks, does not unduly affect those students who normally have lectures, in these theatres?

Edward Mason: Not particularly for two reasons firstly, there are lots of lecture theatres around and it's often very easy if they've got awareness that an occupation is happening in a lecture theatre it can be often very easy for Universities to simply move between Lecture theatres. Also what can happen is that as happened in 2010 was the occupiers within the lecture theatre were actually willing to sort of move the occupation to the back of the lecture theatre, allow lectures to continue as normal and so the lecturer could speak at the front, students could sit on the seats, they could have their lecture and the occupation was still happening. There's no requirement within an occupation for education to be disrupted if it is, it's because of what University management does.

Point of Information:

Mark Anderson: In the original motion that was passed in student council it was actually stated that the student union would support occupations within rooms that wouldn't affect not only the lectures, but the students as well in the future.

Edward Mason: Sure and if the occupiers are at the back of the lecture theatre and they're allowing a lecture to continue

Chair: it was a point of information rather than... anymore questions?

Owain Lewis: have you been in any dialogue with the University staff or security?

Edward Mason: No particularly we understand that they already are minded on particular circumstances to allow freedom of movement so it's not as if they're dead set against the idea we would have to have a meeting, it's just saying that the Union should have as part of its guidelines that it should try and push this to the University to have this as something, it's something, if an occupation were to happen in the future the Union would then have the dialogue with the University I don't think it's particularly important that it happens now.

Summation Wavered.

Vote: Motion falls.

Motion 7: Cardiff University Students' Union Supports the Anti Prohibition Movement.

Ed Carey: I have never supported a motion or proposed a motion that I felt so important or care about so much but also potentially divisive based on factual misrepresentation and things like that, more so than ideology . Three things I want to talk about , why it affects students and the Union as a whole, 2) A little about transform which the resolution point, the vehicle we will be supporting and a little bit of time to expand upon some of the analysis and facts and some of the arguments that are made in the motion itself. Why does it affect students? The vast majority of drug users are say 15 – 30 years old, single highest occupation of that group of people are students, whether you like it or not, whether you agree with or not some people think its their own right to take recreational drugs and the vast majority of people who do, do it unproblematically . Either way you think its terribly bad or think it can be ok in certain circumstances is an incredibly important public health issue... harm as well. We 're a fantastic lobby machine we as students we're the next generation and would like to think that what we do in this room, what we do when we elect people to NUS and all sort of other different vehicles, we're setting the tone for the next generation, I would like to inherit a system of laws in a society that I'm more proud of than I currently am now and think we all do now especially in the climate of cuts and that's what we want to do here as well, is use and incredible machine such as the Union to represent that and hopefully in 1- 20 years time we can inherit something that is better. The catalyst for this was the Bedlum event some of you might have read about it in the Gair Rhydd I don't want to use this as a prime example although it was the catalyst, this was an event where , it was a non student event primarily although several 100's of students I think students attended this event, where the police and the Union worked together to try and target the drug use at that particular event and it was an event that was more attractive to drug users than ordinary . The tactics used by the Police included ways in which it was more effective to arrest and convict people with possession which obviously is very different to supply, they also caught people supplying, but I think possession is particularly interesting and concerning . I was also concerned that this was seen as a good thing I don't think it's a good thing to have drugs in the Union, I think we can't do anything about legally if we intend having a bar and selling alcohol and all things like, we have to comply with the law. Which is why I want to change the law by supporting a group who lobby on those fronts, so really all we're doing is doing that. Transformed briefly they are a charitable think tank they discuss the legal status of drugs , they lobby politicians, no this seems like a radical thing that I'm supporting, I'm legalising something that can put you in prison for several years, actually I think the decision to make a moral statement and blanket banning a substance, or several substances for the majority of users have very little harm or several harm comparable to alcohol and tobacco and other substances that's the radical approach, not this one. Several politicians including David Cameron before he was in the shadow cabinet, Nick Clegg before he was in the government , the late Mo Mowlam, when she was responsible for drugs, Leanne Wood from Plaid Cymru, many, many police chiefs have supported this stance that legalisation of drugs with regulation on every single type of drug appropriate to its harm, is the best way to go about things. If you get time have a look at the blue print, Transform, look at the website in the blue print is an incredibly good read and incredibly persuasive . Legalisation, even if you think drugs are a civil right you think that's your motivation for maybe voting for something along these lines or even if you think that drugs are incredibly harmful thing in our society the moral justification ...

Chair: Any speeches against?

Sarah Ingram: How sad is this motion ? This motion is premised on one false fact. That there are some people that use drugs that suffer no physical or mental health consequences , whether your knowledge comes from people you know that take drugs , from watching BBC documentaries about drugs, or watching Bobby the stoner on tool academy I think we can agree that drugs are harmful. In society we believe that when things are dangerous we make law about them that's why we have to wear hard hats on building sites, why people can't consent to torture and why drugs are illegal . The drug culture within our society is becoming more wide spread Ed was right, especially within the 16 – 24 age group, especially with those that are unemployed. Just this year there has been a substantial rise in the amount of dealers in Cathays, why anyone would think of embracing this as a good thing is crazy, just the statement at the top of your motion, the vast majority of us use non medical drugs regardless of the brackets afterwards ; tea and coffee, is absurd to have on Union policy record. We as a Students' Union want to be respected by our current members, the University, prospective students and employers, this policy is based on personal opinion and does not cover all members views and as it is relevant to higher education there is no need for us to take a view on it one way or another and we should not tar ourselves with this motion. I've looked at the Transform website , Transform describes itself as a think tank that campaigns for sustainable well being, promoting the replacement of drugs prohibition with effect humane systems to regulate drugs ie to legalise all drugs . They go on to say however , that the biggest threat for non problematic drug users wellbeing is criminalisation , maybe that is true if the phrase non problematic drug use existed . Being criminalised for illegal habits that you previously know are illegal is not worse than the damage done by drugs, when the damage done by drugs equals a thousand deaths every year. Mental issues – does the drug sentencing need to be looked at? maybe it is a personal opinion but do we want to represent all 28,000 of our students on a motion unrelated to higher education that is based on personal habit, deluded in incorrect statements and encouraging activity which is inherently dangerous, I would not be able to stand here as a proud member of our Union if this is something we supported.

Chair : Any speeches.

Question: Ed Carey returns to stage:

Point of Information: Rob Frances: AGM notes no : 4 - that most of drug harms are due to the way the particular drug is required is quite incorrect, in that heroin, cocaine and ecstasy destroys the brain whatever way you look at it. I study pharmacology so I know.

Question: A primary premise of the against case is that criminalisation is the most effective form of dealing with harmful habits such drug taking, what does Transform suggest instead of criminalisation, which would just as effective?

Ed Carey: Transform suggests that regulation of all substances , as we regulate things that are harmful, that regulates medicines that would be harmful in the wrong hands. Transform suggests that that model is more effective, first of all it cuts out the unnecessary criminalisation of people who use substances, you use those resources, you that communication to channel welfare advice that's consistent with how we legislate for , so currently we put loads of welfare material out in PSE classes in school, in the Union itself, we fund needle exchanges, but that's incongruent with how we actually legislate for it. Having a consistent approach is a law that's more respected and its also more effective in how you deal with addiction and how you deal with the harms of, when I say non problematic use, ones that are only self harming and no more self harming than alcohol, tobacco , the gentleman over there ; heroin, crack absolutely, massive harms but if you are going to put people in position where they are going to buy anyway, why not buy it from people that actual made it, people like yourself, people who have actual studied pharmacology rather than people in some back street garage. I think that's a lot safer. So that's my response on things like mda and things like that and obviously any drug that has been made in a lab is safer for people who are going to use it anyway.

Edmund Schluessel: The opposition's stated that we regulate things that are harmful in society, noting that not so long ago divorce , abortions, sodomy and women getting the vote were all regulated as considered harmful, how did we as a society outgrow that and what lessons can we draw from that in this?

Ed Carey: I guarantee that wasn't a loaded question, because I haven't spoken to Edmund before, but is right, we were told that if you know its wrong you've done it anyway then its your fault, you've eaten from the tree of knowledge, you've been kicked out of Eden into prison, or whatever, its really ridicules thing to say for instance the Students' Union movement in particular in the 60's and 70's and in the 80's and 90's all sorts of important liberation movements , students right from the heart of it and they've changed the law, you cant break the law because the law is right in every case, when the law doesn't command any respect from you or doesn't make sense logically or doesn't serve the purpose or the objectives that it looks to address, that's when people break the law, that's why people, I understand, take drugs if they're not addicted to it. Either way they are not going to be helped by putting people who are addicted or suffering in prison, or giving them a conviction which would ruin their career. Yes, in the past it was illegal to engage in sodomy and we wouldn't agree that was a right thing either.

Joe Rylands: Point of information - about David Nutt who was the Government's chief drug advisor , who's a consultant psychiatrist and a well respected scientist who published the papers saying how mda use was actually less dangerous than horse riding, how he's leading his campaign against the fact that the government drug laws have no correlation to any scientific work .

Mark Anderson: Firstly Im disgusted about what was said a minute ago those things that were mentioned were human rights and we're talking about legalisation of drugs, people may argue that maybe in that category but that's to be decided by the government. Why do you feel that the President should write to this organisation to represent the view of the entire student body, when clearly people disagree in this room, why should we mandate the President to send a view that people clearly disagree on?

Ed Carey: I'll be absolutely honest, there are people in this room I knew that I'd.....in and wouldn't support me , I don't know if I can expect this to pass, what I know is that Im one student who I think a number people agree with me a number of people agree with the logic because I don't see the fault in the logic , Sarah's going to be a fantastic defence Barrister but she's actually going to be defending everything against the Union tonight that she likes and I don't think the logic actual makes any sense that she puts forward . What we have here , in summary, youre right this isn't as important as human rights but when people make personal decisions that they get put in prison for or convictions that end their careers that's a problem we need to address and when it affects young people, of which students are the single highest proportion, that's when I feel it becomes a student issue. Why do ask Olly to write to them on behalf, well your saying people clearly disagrees with me, yes they do, but this is a democratic organisation and Im just asking putting the question out there . If 51% of you say yes that's why its should happen, we don't pre judge a motion before it comes, although some of you already have to night, that's how it works. Im proud coming up and saying that I believe in.

Summation: Ed Carey – Its very easy to speak against this motion, its very easy to say things truism, like drugs are harmful, why would encourage this? The second part of that sentence is false . I would not encourage drug use , what I'm saying is the moral justification behind banning drugs prohibiting drugs, spending loads on convicting people and everything that comes with it, the moral justification for that is that they think it will stop it , drugs supply, drug demand and expenditure on drugs and the prohibition of is increasing . To regulate it would be a more effective approach as it would be a more effective approach therefore a more moral approach , it seems completely different to what we do now, therefore we not air on the side of caution, why associate ourselves as intelligent students and vote against something that seems crazy and cookey and embarrassing and we cant hold our heads up high when we go and talk to adults and big people. Big people support this they just don't come out and say it until after they've come out in their public office position, because the Daily Mail and the Daily Express will slam them, they wont win their next election, why don't you be the big people.

Vote: Motion falls.

9. Notice of Elections

Chair invites Rose Savage to the stage and Point 9.

Rose Savage: As you will be aware Student Union elections are fast approaching and the positions available are up on the screens in front of you. Nominations for these positions open on the 23rd Feb and closes on the 2 march which gives you a week until it opens and a week to cast your nomination. Being able to lead the Union is a brilliant opportunity and it is the students time to re-elect and new cohort of representatives, so not only can you run in the election which takes place between the 16t to 22 March, campaign week, you can vote between the 18 to 22nd . You maybe sitting there thinking why should I vote and the answer is because the Union relies on you to make the correct decisions as you have seen today. To elect a body of people who care and take this union forward in your best interest. Being elected will mean that you will represent students on a daily basis within the University, local community and on a national level. Dependent on the title with which you engage. Leading a £7m organisation is no mean feat it is a respected job, position and way of life. If you wish to find out more please contact us we are sitting all at the front here, if you're interested in any of the positions . You can come and see us on the 3rd floor of the Union we're there 5 days a week working long hours and you can also pull of the information off the website. I hope you have enjoyed AGM has got you inspired about running for a position because running in a position means that you will really make a difference to students and your Union.

10. Any other business

Charlotte McCloud – May Ball. I would like to bring up an issue with the up coming May Ball which is on the 15th May As a combination event to effectively replace the Summer Ball this year, I would like to question why the May Ball could not be put on at the end of the academic term? As a student I don't think its fair that the event has been put on a time so close to the exam period which begins the day after. For the purposes of next year's event if I could just have a show of hands who agree that a similar event should be held at the end of the academic term and the end of exam period.

Chair: Request to fill out your ARC feedback postcards, if you have anything to put in the boxes that would be great.

AGM closes.

STUDENT COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of student council held on THURSDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2012 in the Aneurin Bevan Room, 4th Floor Students' Union at 6:30pm

PART I – STANDARD ITEMS

1. Minutes from Previous meeting 06/12/11:

Action Points:

Harry Newman: I wasn't credited on system for a long day due to an am/pm mix up.

Marcus Coates Walker: UCU or coming to next student council.

Voted : Passed

2. Elected Officers Reports and Timesheets

Full Time Officers Reported

Nick Matthew: Apologies

Sam Read: Unauthorised absence due to illness. Refreshers gone well. *Questions → none*

Chris Davies: Nothing to add. *Questions →*

James Rimmer: Developing website- what progress?

CD: Currently under progress.

Alec Care: Chlamydia campaign last report, not on this one?

CD: Sent letter out in reference to campaign, nothing going on with it at the moment

Claire Travers: Elaborate on campaigns for campaign.

CD: Launched today. Assisting student with facilitating campaigns they want to run

HN: Nothing to add. *Questions →*

Emma Jarett: How many societies in new store

HN: About 20 in new store on 3rd Floor. New one ready on ground floor next week.

EJ: Why was the dark room got rid of?

HN: Prime room could be better utilised for a lot more people. Plans to re house Photo Soc in the future. Currently they are making good use of Chapter.

Bethan Lloyd: How do societies apply to use space?

HN: Email me

Sarah Halpin: Nothing to add. *Questions → None.*

MCW: Nothing to add. Unauthorised absences, unable to rectify them on system as Ruth is off. Will be live tweeting from student council today.

BL: You took down emails at prior Student Council of people interested in being involved in officer review. Not been contacted.

MCW: Because I've come with the consultation today. Board of trustees decided we would take the lead on the process and come for consultation.

AC: Organising refreshers on STP for next 3 weeks.

MCW: At that time it was still a STP.

Kate Boddington: How did interviews go for 3rd trustee?

MCW: Narrowed down to 2 for next round.

CT: SUEI pre assessment?

MCW: Should just say audit.

Olly Smith: Nothing to add. *Questions → None.*

Oliver Devon: Apologies it was late. Apologies on unauthorised absence. *Questions → None.*

Elizabeth Button: Captains Forum- when is that happening?

OD: Soon. Also space still on Dodgeball.

Part Time Officers Reported

CT: Nothing to add. *Questions →*

Emyr Gruffyd: Self defence classes- when? And who for?

CT: Facebook event. Open to anyone. Pay to take part.

Kathryn Mackridge: International Womens' Day?

CT: Still coordinating, definitely room for people to get involved.

BL: Why has it taken so long for a complaint around the panto to be dealt with?

HN: One complaint received and being dealt with. Act One President has been far more receptive than I first thought. A meeting has been scheduled with Claire and Act One

CT: Didn't make complaint in the end, advised everyone to make individual complaints. Happy to chat afterwards.

MA: How did the meeting on the Leveson enquiry go?

CT: Went to speak to Jenny Willot who was very receptive.

AC: PV bids put forward. Looking at funding. *Questions → None*

KB: LGBT history month, event in Senedd yesterday was very good. *Questions → None.*

Cath Mackintosh: Nothing to add. *Questions → None.*

Nick Holbrook: Nothing to add. Apologies have to leave early. *Questions →*

Claire Smith: Harsh to Nick in last meeting, went to meet and greet, though it was great. Would like more.

SR: Most mature students to a meet up any officer has ever managed to get together

Hasan Alfarra: Nothing to add. Apologies late. *Questions* → *None*.

Sarah Smith: Census go to Ollie, Hansan, and Usman.

Voted: Passed

3. Associate Memberships

SH: Does she need an authorised committee member?

SS: We will put on hold those without authorising committee members and vote to pass the rest.

Voted: Passed (Hannah Osman and Emma Battensby on hold till next meeting).

PART II – TABLED MOTIONS

Motion 1: Fair trade Clothing

AC (*Speech for*): Brought financial figures to back it up and included in motion notes

Speech Against no one.

SR: The ball comparison is wrong- that is the Company. £1000 is about ¼ of mine and Sarah's budget just to put your figures into context.

SS: Discussed this at length in previous meetings, going to take the motion straight to a vote unless anyone objects.

Voted: Passed

Motion 2 Financial contingency fund

CD: (*Speech For*) **Financial contingency fund** (FCF) pot of money for students. It's been slashed, don't think it's enough. Lobby university for more money for the pot to avoid things like pay day schemes. Make sure there is enough money in the pot.

Speech Against no one. Questions →

OS: 3rd point Does that include financial?

CD: Developing relationships, increasing advice, available etc.

CM: Student Council Believes 3 Didn't like the idea of less effort in night events. Think its sad already lost events. CD had reassured me that we wouldn't lose.

CT: Not great at lobbying. How are you wanting to lobby?

CD: Working with Ben Lewis in student support.

CT: Next year will this effect block grant?

CD: Don't have much knowledge on that matter, will pass it over to Jason Dunlop

JD: Comes from HEFCW, it's a different pot of money.

MCW: University fees going up. University have to set aside money for a hardship fund £750,000 for next year, its more an issue of it running out this year.

AC: Wanting to set aside some for those that don't receive. Would training in budgeting be more beneficial?

CD: ARC do that already. Not about the Union putting money to one side.

SR: Student support set their own rules.

HN: How important is it to lobby University or HEFCW?

CD: Need to make sure our students can access this. May need to lobby both.

Rhiannan Humphries: What students can access this? Would you lobby more bodies to do this?

CD: I don't know.

SR: After winter council this should be working at a higher level based on funding portion for postgraduates.

Voted: Passed

SS: Due to large number of things on the agenda, we are going to move on to Part III. If there is time at the end of the meeting, we will return to the remaining two motions.

PART III – TABLES DISCUSSION

Discussion 1: Elected Officer Review

MCW: Hope had the opportunity to read the paperwork. Started this process because current team not been reviewed in about 3 years. SUEI process puts pressure on to make us more representative. Seen things we should/shouldn't be doing. This is a consultation process, not actual decision. In the timing, if you feel this is slightly rushed, this can only be passed at AGM, which is on the 16th. We can't start this in September as we don't know the roles then.

Questions →

CT: Ed Marsh included in this?

MCW: No.

AC: Can we call another AGM?

MCW: Can call an EMM but elections are just around the corner.

SH: Roles here in line with other Unions? How did you come up with it?

MCW: More important to look at Cardiff issues. Explains papers given to councillors. What we feel officers need to cover. What naturally fits together to make effective position. Conclusion then ready for wider consultation. This could change. But wanted something to work with. Main questions want to draw the attention of student council too are at the end of the Review document.

SH: We didn't always agree during the process. This is no means finalized.

SR: Want to have further consultation with PTOs. Needed to get ready for this as it's the last SC before AGM.

AC: Position 1 if taking a lead on face of the Union should then be seen to be overseeing democracy/financial. Would it be too much control for one person?

CT: Not obvious that democracy and financial go together. Position 4 - Societies/associations I don't think they go together.

SR: Why not societies/associations go together?

CT: Assumes that they have the same structure.

MCW: Currently overseeing organisation and structure of associations sits with President. Don't have sufficient time, therefore most logical place seemed societies.

CT: Propose more naturally under welfare

OS: More scrutinising finances than in control.

BL: How come P1 doesn't have time to do associations but does have time to do F+C role?

MCW: Counter Argument. Financial scrutiny didn't take up that much of his time.

JR: To what extent does this new role 1 encompass the current F+C Role?

MCW: Financial scrutiny and setting budgets.

EMcG: Trying not to compare the 2 too much but you have 7 assigned positions, now we have 8. Not seen any of you sitting around. Where has that stuff gone?

MCW: Certain people felt elements of their job that were too operational that should be done by itself to make them more representational.

CS: In one sense it's less important for what roles sit in with post. Looked in terms of skill sets. Competencies. Perhaps scoping it out more. Might assist better with elections.

SH: Great Point. Jemma Mallorie already working on skill set promotion.

RH: There's quite operational side. Some more long term strategies.

SR: Position 2. Yes, important that societies. There are staff who assist with the support structure of societies, AU, need more staff reinforcing the operational side. My position campaigned for more support for 3 years. Need to look across organisation.

SH: If I was a student and I wanted to do a charity event would I go to 4 or 5.

CD: Fundraising isn't a campaign. Engaging in the community is different.

MCW: How would you put it?

SH: Instead of community → stakeholders

HN: Charity, fundraising companies sit together in different ways. Very little to choose between. I prefer it under societies role. But also depends on campaigns for campaigns.

Megan David: When we approached to do Go Green. Nick's had already done it.

HN: An event championed by people and planet. Society would approach Harry. Go Green different because the predecessor in Nick's role had a keen interest and so he has just kept it going.

MCW: People and planet could be an SLS and they would take the lead of it with PS.

AC: Considered Healthcare still needs full time or part time to full time.

SH: History behind role. My role not there for long term but not an end pt inside yet until at a stable point.

MCW: Pt 2 consultation want to know opinion.

JR: Position 2 needs to include being targeted at University.

SR: Battling on it. Position 2 education issues can be expanded on. Moving education out of President and on to academic officer.

JR: Bring up as an AGM motion pressure on exam board.

SR: Very valid point, discuss outside of the meeting.

AB: Is there enough money?

CT: Points of info. You can only have 8.

MCW: You can have as many as you like.

CT: Full time/part time consultation been separate in consultation.

SR: Typo Position 5 should also include environment.

SH: Which would you see move from part time to full time?

CT: Obviously women's, done at lot, Swansea has a full time womens officer

AM: Need to have people doing what we want them to do. 'Representational'

EB: Consultation pt 3. Assuming want to run for that role would need both skills, including finance

MCW: Haven't cut out a position. Rubbed all out. Started again. Union development position could work on making the Union better as a whole.

EB: Like the idea of student voice.

DA: Position 8 almost seems a bit like there was a mash of left over. Consider part time officers instead?

MCW: Union development, reception, getting officers out. Is it staff/student?

EJ: It sounds like you got in a room and Nick said he wasn't needed.

RH: One officer responsible for campaign → all officers. Strategic plan. Employability (where does it fit)

MCW: Campaigns. P 5. Student lead campaigns. All officers deal with relevant campaigns. Employability: How much do we represent students?

EJ: P8 Is there room for a full time E+D officer?

AC: I don't think anyone person could fit that role

Anna Miles: Done for FT. Quite like to see this for PTP.

MCW: Pg 3 things need to cover responsibilities under represented.

SH: 7 is not enough. A lot has been put into P5.

HN: Nick knows best having done the position. 8th position is about spare campaign time. More freedom to do whatever is needed across the board

BL: Agree with Harry that there is a need for 8th Position. Lumping environment into welfare would cause environment to suffer.

MCW: This wouldn't get full discussion now. Any feedback email before 8th Feb. By no means closed door.

PART IV - INFORMATION

Information 1: Charity budget update

MCW: Marcus talked through the charity budget as presented in the pack. *Questions* →

JR: Campaign costs, would like more of a breakdown in terms of what's wage cost / materials / publicity etc.

JP: Chris you have more Zeros than anyone else?

CD: Some campaigns haven't happened. Others have been spent elsewhere. Some haven't happened, others have been in partnership where the cost has been picked up by an external body and we have helped.

MCW: A lot have been under environmental umbrella

AC: Student media income. How much from external or internal advertising?

OS: Purely external advertising

Information 2: Student Charter

SR: Brought the charter. Have a read on it and feed back to me. HEFCW has required all universities to have a partnership document. Feed comments back to Sam. It's going to AGM to show our support. *Questions* →

RH: Student expectation. Concerns it might negatively impact disabled students/parents.

SR: More of an ethos. Expected now, it's not a legal document.

EJ: Some departments do require compulsory attendance.

SH: This is a University wide charter. Individual handbooks for schools

HN: Fascinating writing a contract that's not a contract

SR: All backed up by University policy. This works to tie it all together.

Information 3: HEFCWs reallocation of student numbers

MCW: Gave a brief update on how Cardiff fair with the HEFCWs reallocation of student numbers system. For information in full, feel free to get in touch with Marcus.

AGM: 16TH Feb. Motion deadline 12pm 10th.

Next meeting of Student Council 21st February 6.30pm in Aneurin Bevan room

SS: Council were happy to continue and return to PART II Tabled Motions to continue with the remaining agenda items

PART II – TABLED MOTIONS

Motion 4: Banning Lads Mags

CT (*speech for*): Lobbying directors to continue practise of banning lad mags. Including magazines that self define as *Speech Against: no-one*

SH: Wonder because we already do it is it better to bring it in at the end?

CT: Didn't want to worry about quoracy dropping off

MCW: What is a lads mag?

CT: FHM coined phrase. FHM, Front, Nuts, Zoo

CS: Suggest as new magazine are launched perhaps define characteristics of a lads mag.

CT: Portrayal of womens of body, sexual violence etc

SR: Some women's magazines do that.

MCW: I have no views on this, but is it subjective to whether magazines objectify women?

CT: Women's association opinion.

MCW: Feel should we in a society of freedom of speech be banning things.

SR: Industry term as lads mags

BL: Posters often from comms seen by womens officer to check if acceptable, could this not be done

OS: Censorship. Objection to seeing these things in the shop. Hidden or displayed?

CT: No.

AC: Stopping seeing them £36 of profit that won't sell if hidden.

Procedural motion EJ: Question now be put

JP: Second

(*Against: no-one*)

Vote on procedural motion: Passed

Vote on motion: Passed

Motion 4: Becoming a zero tolerance union

CT (*speech for*): Proposing a zero tolerance space poster used to 4... what we have to do. Timescale

Taking it out of a campaign making it

SR (*Speech Against*): Point 3 could be more dangerous publicising the message than not publishing it Don't want to highlight an issue that doesn't exist. Might cause more incidences instead. Don't think need to mandate people to train. Need to target front facing staff.

JP: Need to be careful from a legal perspective. Need to think about wording re: employment law on sexual harassment. Understanding Oxford dictionary of Sexual Harrasment is fine.

Questions →

RH: SCR1 definitions entering the other sex's toilets. The fact we have gender neutral toilets dangerous ground with trans student in toilets.

CT: Poster has it in there, it was an old poster example. Added in prior to GNT when used last year.

EJ: Maybe point of wording to be clarified 'maliciously entering'.

JP: Could seek expert advice on this to get it right rather than rush through it.

Motion withdrawn.

PART V – ANY OTHER BUSINESS

EJ: Where is the elected welsh officer?

MCW: Heledd elected January, arrange to meet with her on Tuesday next week. Now that exams are over and will invite her along to future meetings.

SR: Looking for Welsh-speaking student to record some videos, let me know if you are interested.

Meeting finished 9:25.

Motion I: The Student Charter

AGM Notes:

1. That HEFCW require all Universities in Wales to have a Student Charter by the incoming Academic year (2012-13) (As set out in HEFCE circular W11/31HE, 21 September 2011. Available [:\(http://www.hefcw.ac.uk/documents/publications/circulars/circulars_2011/W11%2031HE%20Guidance%20on%20the%20development%20of%20student%20charters.pdf\)](http://www.hefcw.ac.uk/documents/publications/circulars/circulars_2011/W11%2031HE%20Guidance%20on%20the%20development%20of%20student%20charters.pdf) its guidance is based on the recommendations of the Student Charter Group which reported in January 2011.
2. That in developing the Student Charter (Appendix 1) the University has undertaken the following process outlined in Appendix 2.
3. That the Charter will be in place from 1st August 2012.

AGM Believes:

1. That the Student Charter is a useful resource for students inasmuch as it clarifies what they should expect from their experience at Cardiff.
2. That there should continue to be student input in to the creation and the future annual review process for the Student Charter.

AGM Resolves:

1. To endorse the draft of the Charter (appendix 2)
2. To recognise that at draft stage, there may still be minor changes to the Charter and that there is a continuing role for the Elected Officers of the Students' Union in ensuring that the document does not change to the detriment of students.
3. To support the development process and mandate officers to ensure that this process of student consultation is carried on into future developments and reviews of the Charter.

Proposer: Samantha Reid
Secunder: Sarah Halpin

Appendix 1: The Student Charter

The journey so far...

The Student Charter sets out what students can expect from the University and Students' Union, what the University and Students' Union can expect from students and what to do if those expectations are not met. It is a tool to be used in induction to introduce students to the Cardiff community and as a resource where students can find all the information they need throughout their time at University.

The Student Charter will not be 'signed' by students, there are no additional expectations on anyone: it is not an aspirational document, everything it describes already happens. However, it aims to frame the student experience in one simple reference point.

The main way of accessing the Charter will be online. It will give further information about each of the communities and all the useful links that are within that community, so that you can find all the services available to you within one click.

Our Student Charter has been developed in partnership between students and staff. The working group (which brings together all the comments and makes decisions about the charter), has four members of the Students' Union on it: two elected officers (the President and the Academic and University Affairs officer) and two staff members (the Chief executive and the Policy Advisor).

The charter has already gone through several consultation processes that have included students:

- Academic Council (5th December 2011), students discussed the purpose of the charter and an initial draft;
- Education and Policy Network (10th January 2012), students and staff viewed a later draft and aired initial positives and concerns about the charter;
- Student Council (2nd February 2012), students were informed of the latest developments of the Student Charter and invited to give feedback;
- Elected Officer meeting (7th February 2012), all elected officers were given the latest draft of the Charter to comment on and communication of the Charter was discussed.

The Charter is still in the development stages and there is more consultation with students to follow, including the wording of the charter and how best to introduce it to students.

If you have any comments about the Charter then please email Sarah Williamson at WilliamsonS2@cardiff.ac.uk.

Appendix 2: The Student Charter



Student Charter: Our Partnership

“The Cardiff experience relies on a successful partnership between the University, the Students’ Union and our students. At Cardiff you are studying in a successful, vibrant, multicultural and diverse University, set in the capital city of Wales. There is a strong sense of community that is characterised by the balance we achieve between our educational, social and sporting experiences. The Cardiff community creates an environment where expectations can be met and ambitions realised, which is expressed in our Student Charter. Please use our Charter as a pathway to everything key to the Cardiff experience, we hope that you take full advantage of the opportunities on offer to you.”

Joint Statement from the Vice-Chancellor and the Students’ Union President

You will benefit from an inspiring and enriching educational experience, informed by world-leading research and scholarship. The Cardiff experience is intellectually stimulating and challenging. It ensures knowledge can be discovered, applied, disseminated and preserved. The experience develops creativity and innovative thinking, and instils values of professionalism and academic integrity. We work in partnership with you to enable you to become an independent and lifelong learner within a culture that fosters, promotes and respects equality, dignity and diversity.

Our Student Charter has been developed in partnership with our student body and defines the roles and responsibilities of students, the Students’ Union and the University. Our Charter informs you of what you can expect from the University and the Students’ Union, what is expected of you, and what to do if things do not meet your expectations.

We pride ourselves on the level of engagement we have with our students and work in partnership to enhance the Cardiff experience. This experience will be unique to you and is based on the choices you make and your level of engagement with the range of opportunities available. Taking advantage of these opportunities will help you to expand your knowledge and abilities beyond the educational experience.

You are a partner in the Cardiff community, which is:

- **a welcoming community**, enriched by diversity and providing a friendly and supportive introduction to the Cardiff experience;
- **a dignified and principled community**, where diversity and inclusivity are valued and individuals are respected; behaviour is guided by codes of academic integrity, ethics and good conduct; everyone accepts their responsibilities to each other; and a community which is committed to equality for the Welsh language;
- **an educationally-driven community**, where you work in partnership with staff to strengthen your educational experience and engage in the pursuit of knowledge;
- **a research community**, with internationally renowned researchers and a culture of teaching and development enriched by research ;
- **an engaged community**, where you are invited to participate in student representation, societies, debates, sport and support the local community;
- **a forward-looking community**, where we help you to meet the challenges of your future career, educating you about sustainable development and supporting you in becoming a global citizen;
- **a caring and supportive community**, where your well-being is supported according to your individual needs and where the support of others is encouraged;
- **an open, honest and fair community**, where information flow is two-way, accurate, clear and timely, and concerns are dealt with sensitively and professionally.

As a partner in our community we hope you see the importance of your contributions to the development of the University and the legacy this builds for the benefit of our future students, as those before you have done. You will continue to be a partner in our community after you graduate, joining a growing network of more than 80,000 alumni based in over 100 countries around the world.

Our Student Charter is supplemented by further information for each of the communities outlined above, detailing what you can expect from the University and the Students’ Union and what they expect of you.

Motion II: Student Trustees of the Students' Union

AGM Notes:

1. That the Students' Union undertook an all encompassing governance review in 2008. In line with best practise, it is appropriate to review the governance structures of the organisation on a regular and ongoing basis. This governance review should incorporate the Board of Trustees.
2. That the Board of Trustees is the accountable body that is responsible for the legal compliance, financial accountability, duty of care responsibilities and the strategic direction of the organisation.
3. That the Board of Trustees currently consists of:
 - i. 8 Full Time Elected Officers
 - ii. 3 External Trustees
4. That the composition of the Board of Directors for the Students' Union's trading company (Cardiff Union Services Ltd) replicates the composition of the Board of Trustees for the Students' Union itself.
5. That the Students' Union is a membership organisation and that there should be credible student input at all levels of decision making.
6. That the Student's Union needs to seek the permission and endorsement of its membership, of Cardiff University and of the Charity Commission in order to make amendments to its governing documents, the Memorandum and Articles of Association.

AGM Believes:

1. That it could be perceived that the Board of Trustees is not open to scrutiny by the Student membership of the organisation.
2. That to give students credible input into decision making at all levels, there would be significant value in creating positions on the Board of Trustees to be held by current registered Students of Cardiff University.
3. That the recruitment of Student Trustees would allow for the opportunity for the positions to be filled by a diverse representation of the student body.
4. That in creating a role for current registered students, the Students' Union can continue to improve its transparency.

AGM Resolves:

1. That the Board of Trustees shall, seek appropriate legal advice and consult with Cardiff University and the Charity Commission in order to make provision for the recruitment of 3 Student Trustees to the Board of Trustees of Cardiff University Students' Union.
2. The replicate the same composition within the Board of Directors of Cardiff Union Services Ltd.

Proposer: Marcus Coates-Walker

Secunder: Nick Matthew

Motion III: Changes to Elected Officer Job Roles & Structure

AGM Notes:

1. That a governance review was conducted in 2008 and that the Elected Officer team was changed to fit the needs of students.
2. That it is necessary to regularly review the Elected Officer positions to ensure that they are providing the best representation for students.

AGM Believes:

1. That the review has been conducted this academic year in the process detailed in the supplementary material "Elected Officer Review Process"
2. That the Students' Union's current Elected Officer Team needs improving to effectively represent the needs and issues of Cardiff Students.
3. That this should be done in two stages. The first is a change to the current Full Time positions to ensure that positive change is brought about for next year. The second is that a more comprehensive review ought to be undertaken in the remainder of this year to be handed over to be presented at next year's AGM. This will review the elected officer team as a whole.

AGM Resolves:

1. To make the proposed changes to Appendix 5 in the Constitution relating to Elected Officer Names and Job Descriptions.

Proposer: Marcus Coates-Walker

Secunder: Harry Newman

Motion III – Supporting Document 1

CONSTITUTION AMENDMENT

APPENDIX FIVE EXECUTIVE OFFICER JOB DESCRIPTIONS

1. President

a) The Main Purpose of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To be the team leader of the Elected Officer team
- ii) To be the main point of contact for external stakeholders
- iii) To take the lead on the strategic direction of the Students' Union

b) The Main Duties of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To act as the Chair of the Board of Directors of Cardiff Union Services Ltd (CUSL) and the Board of Trustees of Cardiff University Students' Union.
- ii) To co-ordinate the Elected Officer team and act as chair of Elected Officer Meetings
- iii) To retain the casting vote in a case of a split decision in the meetings described in i) and ii)
- iv) To develop democracy, including elections and AGM, within the Students' Union
- v) To be the key liaison with the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Management Team of the Students' Union.
- vi) To be the key liaison with the Vice-Chancellor of the University

c) The Additional Duties of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To appraise the Chief Executive Officer
- ii) To fulfil duties and responsibilities as a member of University Council (Governor and Trustee of the University)
- iii) To fulfil duties and responsibilities as a member of University Senate
- iv) To be responsible for conducting the complaint system or delegating to the Union Development and Internal Affairs Officer.
- v) To work with fellow Elected Officers to effectively execute duties required as a Director of Cardiff Union Services Ltd (CUSL) and as a Trustee of Cardiff University Students' Union to ensure the successful financial future and governance of both.

2. Education and University Affairs Officer

a) The Main Purpose of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To campaign and raise awareness of academic issues affecting students
- ii) To take the lead on the student academic representation system
- iii) To work with the President to develop a strong and effective relationship with the University and other key national stakeholders (e.g. the Government, NUS etc)

b) The Main Duties of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To maintain and develop the student academic representation system across the University and its schools.
- ii) To provide and develop training and support for the student academic representatives
- iii) To Chair and develop Academic Council
- iv) To work with the relevant Pro-Vice Chancellors and Deputy Pro-Vice Chancellors to discuss academic issues facing students across the University
- v) To maintain and develop relationships with key members of staff from across the University to discuss and represent the educational issues of students.
- vi) To attend University Committees and use evidence to represent student views

c) The Additional Duties of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To take the lead on Widening Access issues and attend all relevant University Committees

- ii) Ensure that all student academic representatives are aware of the advantages their position brings to their employability and facilitate them to articulate these transferable skills to employers
- iii) To work with fellow Elected Officers to effectively execute duties required as a Director of Cardiff Union Services Ltd (CUSL) and as a Trustee of Cardiff University Students' Union to ensure the successful financial future and governance of both.
- iv) To fulfil duties and responsibilities as a member of University Council (Governor and Trustee of the University)
- v) To fulfil duties and responsibilities as a member of University Senate

3. Heath Park Campus Officer

a) The Main Purpose of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To develop and improve the student experience of students studying healthcare related degrees
- ii) To increase awareness in the Students' Union and University of issues specifically affecting students studying healthcare related degrees
- iii) To develop the Students' Union presence at the Heath through the Heath Hub

b) The Main Duties of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To work with and support the healthcare sports clubs and societies in their activities and events
- ii) To facilitate and develop the student academic representation system with regard to those representatives studying healthcare related degrees
- iii) To work with fellow Elected Officers to ensure policies and events are suitable for students studying healthcare related degrees
- iv) To attend University committees and use evidence to represent the issues of students studying healthcare related degrees
- v) To collate and use evidence to maintain awareness of issues surrounding the Heath Park Campus

c) The Additional Duties of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To fulfil duties and responsibilities as a member of University Senate
- ii) To facilitate the development of Parklife
- iii) Ensure that any committee members are aware of the advantages their position brings to their employability and facilitate them to articulate these transferable skills to employers
- iv) To work with fellow Elected Officers to effectively execute duties required as a Director of Cardiff Union Services Ltd (CUSL) and as a Trustee of Cardiff University Students' Union to ensure the successful financial future and governance of both.

4. Welfare and Community Officer

a) The Main Purpose of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To develop, prioritise and co-ordinate Students' Union welfare campaigns
- ii) To campaign and raise awareness of issues affecting students' welfare
- iii) To facilitate student-led campaign and act as the main point of contact for student activists
- iv) To oversee student-led welfare services (currently Mental Wealth, SRSB, SHAG) and to support their activities
- v) To develop the Students' Union's commitment to environmental issues and corporate social responsibility
- vi) To develop a culture of positive working relationships with key stakeholders

b) The Main Duties of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To co-operate with student media on articles relating to welfare issues
- ii) To be the main liaison officer between the Students' Union and the Community
- iii) To work with and develop the Advice and Representation Centre to most effectively deal with student issues
- iv) To assist the President in developing partnership projects between key stakeholders
- v) To represent students at Community forums (e.g. PACT)

- c) The Additional Duties of the Role Shall Be:
- i) To engage and work closely with all welfare societies and student groups
 - ii) Ensure that all students involved in campaigns are aware of the advantages their position brings to their employability and facilitate them to articulate these transferable skills to employers
 - iii) To involve students in the development of the Students' Union's welfare campaigns
 - iv) To work with fellow Elected Officers to effectively execute duties required as a Director of Cardiff Union Services Ltd (CUSL) and as a Trustee of Cardiff University Students' Union to ensure the successful financial future and governance of both.

5. Athletic Union President

- a) The Main Purpose of the Role Shall Be:
- i) To be responsible for the development of the Athletic Union and all the clubs that are a part of the Athletic Union
 - ii) To increase and widen participation in student-led sport and activity within the Athletic Union
 - iii) To represent evidenced based issues on student sport to the University
- b) The Main Duties of the Role Shall Be:
- i) To be responsible for the budgeting and welfare of Athletic Union clubs, ensuring that students' needs and views are represented
 - ii) To lead on events such as Varsity and AU awards
 - iii) To work closely with the University Sport department to ensure that both competitive and recreational sport programmes within the Students' Union and University are in the students' best interest
 - iv) To oversee the running of the Intra-Mural Games system, working closely with the University to develop a strong programme that reflects student need
 - v) To co-ordinate the Athletic Union Executive team
 - vi) To be responsible for the publication and development of UNODD
- c) The Additional Duties of the Role Shall Be:
- i) Ensure that club committee members are aware of the advantages their position brings to their employability and facilitate them to articulate these transferable skills to employers
 - ii) To work with fellow Elected Officers to effectively execute duties required as a Director of Cardiff Union Services Ltd (CUSL) and as a Trustee of Cardiff University Students' Union to ensure the successful financial future and governance of both.

6. Societies Officer

- a) The Main Purpose of the Role Shall Be:
- i) To be responsible for the development of societies and student-led charitable fundraising.
 - ii) To develop opportunities for students to get involved in student-led groups
 - iii) To increase and widen participation in societies
- b) The Main Duties of the Role Shall Be:
- i) Attain evidence from students involved in societies and represent these issues to the Students' Union
 - ii) To be responsible for the budgeting and welfare of Societies, ensuring that students' needs and views are represented
 - iii) To take the lead in the organisation and development of Go Global week, Societies Awards and the Societies Fayres
- c) The Additional Duties of the Role Shall Be:
- i) Ensure that committee members are aware of the advantages their position brings to their employability and facilitate them to articulate these transferable skills to employers
 - ii) To work with fellow Elected Officers to effectively execute duties required as a Director of Cardiff Union Services Ltd (CUSL) and as a Trustee of Cardiff University Students' Union to ensure the successful financial future and governance of both.

7. Head of Student Media

a) The Main Purpose of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To act as Editor-in-Chief of *gair rhydd*
- ii) To be responsible for the executive editing of Quench Magazine
- iii) To assist all the Students' Union's student media in its operations and continued development
- iv) To act as the publisher of *gair rhydd* and Quench Magazine

b) The Main Duties of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To provide adequate training to all editors and students involved in the production of *gair rhydd* and Quench Magazine
- ii) To co-ordinate and support the Editor of Quench Magazine, Controller of Cardiff Union TV and Station Manager of Xpress Radio
- iii) To monitor and evaluate the effective distribution of all forms of student media

c) The Additional Duties of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To facilitate the development of Parklife
- ii) To support and develop any 'grass-roots' student media
- iii) Ensure that all volunteers are aware of the advantages their position brings to their employability and facilitate them to articulate these transferable skills to employers
- iv) To work with fellow Elected Officers to effectively execute duties required as a Director of Cardiff Union Services Ltd (CUSL) and as a Trustee of Cardiff University Students' Union to ensure the successful financial future and governance of both.

8. Union Development and Internal Affairs Officer

a) The Main Purpose of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To be responsible for the development of the organisation's governance and democracy
- ii) To be responsible for the ongoing development of both the company and the charity side of the Students' Union in line with research and the Strategic Plan.
- iii) To hold the staff and Senior Manager Team to account and offer transparency of both the company and the charity to the student body

b) The Main Duties of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To be responsible for financial budgets and any physical resources
- ii) To scrutinise and offer transparency of the Union's finances
- iii) To co-ordinate a range of projects and initiatives designed to improve student awareness of the Students' Union's democracy, governance, financial transparency and Elected Officer team
- iv) Utilising examples of best practice to assist in the development of the Students' Union.

c) The Additional Duties of the Role Shall Be:

- i) To be responsible for complaint system at the delegation of the President
- ii) To work with fellow Elected Officers to effectively execute duties required as a Director of Cardiff Union Services Ltd (CUSL) and as a Trustee of Cardiff University Students' Union to ensure the successful financial future and governance of both.

Motion III – Supporting Document 2

Elected Officer Review Process

INTRODUCTION: Why are we doing this?

The current elected officer positions have not been effectively reviewed since the Governance Review in 2008. There was an interim review completed in the 2010-2011 which was taken to Student Council for approval, which made minor changes to the job descriptions and titles.

The reason Elected Officers exist is to represent students. Although any role cannot be completely representative as it will always have an operational element, the aim must always be for Elected Officers to be as representative as possible.

Through our interim review, the SUEI Assessment process and the first half of this year, the current team have identified that a full review is necessary to ensure that anything that an officer team does currently which they should not do is removed and also if the remits are missing certain elements of representation that they are included. Consequently, a review has been undertaken. The current officer positions, the review process and the next steps are outlined below. It is essential to understand that this review is around what students need and want to represent them. Furthermore, it is also important to understand that if after consultation an outcome is achieved that does not differ greatly that this is still a successful review resulting in a representative unit that has been justified by a wide range of people.

THE REVIEW PROCESS

It was decided by the Trustees that the first stage of the review process would be most effectively undertaken by the Full-Time Elected Officer team. This commenced in early January and has taken the following form:

1. It was discussed what in the new Strategic Plan was representational and consequently what from the plan an Elected Officer Team, as a whole, ought to have within its remit generally.
2. This was then coupled with data from the Redbrick Market Research conducted in 2010-2011 and the Freshers' Survey undertaken in the academic year 2011-2012.
3. The result of this was that an extensive **evidence based** list was compiled for what an officer team in general ought to cover.
 - a. Please see file attached "Things that the Elected Officer Team in 2012-2013 should cover"
4. This list was then broken down into elements that naturally grouped together and were relevant to each other using the expertise of the current Full-Time Elected Officer team.
5. This was then consulted at Student Council and with Part-Time Elected Officers.
6. This has formed the roles that are currently before you for consultation.