Summary of substantive changes to the Memorandum and Articles of Association agreed by the Board of Trustees as the basis for consultation with students, September 2024

Note: The proposed changes fall into two categories:

- Substantive changes and new provisions
- Textual amendment and administrative tidying up

The former are summarised below. The latter are shown on the Marked Up Copy of the Articles, but are considered self-explanatory and have no further commentary.

Student Council/Senate

Student Council and Student Senate are interchangeable names. Senate is most widely known as Senate and elections are run for places on Senate. The existing Articles continue to use Council, and it is proposed that the Articles are brought into line with custom and common usage.

'For the avoidance of doubt'

This expression appears several times within the document but does not add anything to the meaning of the provisions so its deletion is proposed.

Article 5.3

RAG (Raise and Give) was a traditional part of student fundraising but no longer functions under this name at CSU. It is proposed to delete the specific reference to RAG and leave the broader wording of "fundraising activities". Likewise RAG removed from glossary of terms

Article 6

New provision such that student trustees employed outside the union via the Job Shop shall not be considered as employed by the Union for the purposes of this Article.

Article 12.5

New provision expressly permitting a student who opts out to rejoin.

Article 24

Amend "elected" to "appointed"; no election is held so appointment is the correct term.

New provision states that Student Trustee terms of office need not be consecutive

Article 25

The University Governance Committee, at its meeting held on 26 May 2022, recommended "that the Students' Union should review the criteria within its constitution that a lay member of Council could serve a maximum of four terms on the Students' Union Board of Trustees, as this was incompatible with the maximum term of office of lay members of Council." This amendment incorporates that recommendation.

Articles 24, 25, 26

In each case, a provision regarding the status of Trustees has been moved from the glossary of terms into the substantive articles, as it has binding force and therefore inappropriately placed in a glossary. Meaning unchanged.

Article 28

Removal of "good employment practice" as a subjective term and replace with "SU HR policies and employment law"

Article 33

Removal of the requirement to prescribe the composition of Committees, in order to give greater flexibility on appointments, depending on Trustee skill sets rather than Trustee category

Further to the above, a new provision that Sabbatical Trustee members of a Committee will form the majority of the membership

Article 52

Updated to provide that the Chief Executive is deemed to be Secretary for the purposes of the Article, unless the Board determine otherwise. (See also Article 33, secretary to committees)

Glossary

Definition of secret ballot added