



**Union Council Minutes**  
**Monday, 30<sup>th</sup> October, 6pm.**  
**Students' Union Main Room**

<b>Agenda</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Notes / Outcome</b>
<b>1. Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>	Welcome	The Union Chairperson welcomed everyone present at the meeting and introduced himself.
	Apologies for Absence	Ammaara Nalban – BAME Officer
	Approval of minutes from the previous Meeting	The previous meeting was not quorate and there are no minutes.  Members were notified that the minutes from the Council on February 17th can be found on the web.
	Matters arising from the minutes	None.
<b>2. Deputy chair election</b>	Speech - Anna Hunter	Speech Given
	Speech - Rhiannon Perrett	Speech Given
<b>3. Officers' Report</b>	The Officers will report on their activities and this is a chance for you to find out what they have done for you.	Individual officer reports are now presented during Zones. The Union Development Officer (UDO) gave a report on behalf of all the FTO's and can be found on the website.
<b>Return to 2. Deputy chair election (results)</b>	Total votes received:	48
	Abstentions:	3
	quota to win:	22.5
	Rhiannon Perrett	30
	Anna Hunter	8
	Votes for R.O.N.	7
	Result:	Rhiannon Perrett Elected
<b>4. Council - Your Ideas</b>	We'll discuss and vote upon the Ideas that have been submitted to Council.	
<b>1</b>	<b>The Final Straw (Matthew Poulton)</b>	
	Vote	PASSED
<b>2</b>	<b>Campus Compost (Matthew Poulton)</b>	



	<p>Questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Location <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ With other bins</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Maintenance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Estates/Aber Conservation Volunteers</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Rodents <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Rodent Proof Bins</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Collection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Once a year</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Frequency of use (not enough students will use it?) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Too many will overfill it too quickly anyway</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>Invitation for additional speakers (For or against)</p>	<p>Points raised against the Idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Brown bins are provided by council</li> <li>• It takes too long to see any benefit</li> <li>• Not too keen on the idea of it being by halls</li> </ul>
	<p>Vote</p>	<p>DOES NOT PASS</p>
<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>We want a President</b></p>	<p>Submitted by Bruce Gardiner, the proposal of this Idea was deferred to Bruce Wight.</p> <p>This Idea was amended since its original submission and display.</p> <p>The original Idea asked for a change to "President - Union Development Officer", the amendment simply to "President"</p> <p>The submitter agreed to this amendment and we moved to debate of this Idea as amended.</p>
	<p>Questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meeting that passed the last name change was 4 times quorate, how is that not consulting students? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Everyone I spoke to doesn't seem to think so</li> </ul> </li> <li>• "Student body: we prefer a President"...says who? Is this just your claim? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Everyone I spoke to asks me if I'm a President, I mean 'the student body' in general.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Does the UD Officer have any exec powers on behalf of the officers? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Full details in my officer remit, (point c), the name change should be for ease of communications and will not effect powers.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Was it President before? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Yes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Why did it change? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Previous sabbatical officers input into the 2016/17 role review</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	<p>Invitation for additional speakers (For or against)</p>	<p>Points raised against the Idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The title President would cause a hierarchy with other officers</li> <li>• It will take time for students to get used to the new name</li> <li>• First years know the role as UDO</li> <li>• Changing to President would make the role less clear - you're not changing the remit</li> <li>• 'President' implies the need for an 'outgoing' and 'loud' person, and can deter women for standing for the role.</li> <li>• 30-40 SU's don't have a President</li> <li>• Union Development does what it says on the tin</li> <li>• Neither title correctly implies your powers but at least UD implies your remit</li> </ul> <p>Points raised in favour of the Idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People would understand more under President than UD</li> <li>• It is still commonly referred to as President and it would be clearer to just change it back</li> <li>• There has always been a President</li> <li>• The President is the spokesperson and in societies, presidents are the public face of the society.</li> <li>• The title of UDO is confusing</li> <li>• As a woman I would apply for the role of President but not UDO</li> <li>• For many involved in SU politics no one knows what the UDO does, but if you say President, they know straight away.</li> <li>• The term President isn't sexist; people are getting wrapped up in the semantics</li> </ul>
	Vote	PASSES
4	<b>Make the gym 24 hours (Jebbs Bowers)</b>	Submitter not present – Idea not discussed
5	<b>You've heard of Elf on a Shelf, but have you heard of Zones are small, so let's open them to all! (Bruce Wight)</b>	



	<p>Questions:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who can go? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Martin Dodd (Staff) clarification: limited membership for each zone includes committees, officers and representatives.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• What do you do in zones? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Raise issues and discussions with officers and other students</li> </ul> </li> <li>• How would you cater to more? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ We will monitor attendance and move the venue accordingly</li> </ul> </li> <li>• We already have a feedback mechanisms how would this change? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Allows more students to attend and have spaces for discussions</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>Invitation for additional speakers (For or against)</p>	<p>Points raised against the Idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This should be more specific to each zone</li> <li>• Committees should really be there for Sports and Societies Zone</li> <li>• People who didn't go didn't know what it was, so you should do more to publicise and give it time to monitor attendance</li> </ul> <p>Points raised in favour of the Idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As far as zones go, whilst agenda led they are not binding in anyway. There's no harm in opening it up when a FTO can rightfully not act upon it</li> <li>• Everyone on campus should be able to go to whatever they're interested in.</li> <li>• Opportunity for anyone to develop ideas for council</li> <li>• Zones would be useful for officers to tell more students about their work and events</li> </ul>
	<p>Vote</p>	<p>PASSES</p>
<p><b>6</b></p>	<p><b>TEFinitely Not (Emma Beenham)</b></p>	
	<p>Questions:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are you trying to pass? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Our job as students is to make sure the University is not writing rubbish to try and get a higher level of award</li> </ul> </li> <li>• If it does not pass what would happen? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ It would show students aren't bothered on being consulted</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Does the University actually consult students already? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Yes, in some ways</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



	Invitation for additional speakers (For or against)	<p>Points raised against the Idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An action to inaction, the University will act on its own regardless of this vote</li> </ul> <p>Points raised in favour of the Idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The University and Union work well together and this will continue to build on the relationship.</li> <li>• This makes our viewpoint stronger in academic board.</li> <li>• We want to ensure the quality of assessment, and not leave it up to the discretion of Staff</li> <li>• Even if there is only a small group formed because of passing this Idea then it is better than nothing.</li> </ul>
	Vote	PASSED
<b>7</b>	<b>Shine Bright like a Diamond (Emma Beenham)</b>	
	Questions:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Does this apply to UK or international students?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Unsure at this time</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Will anyone be negatively effected?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ No</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Universities are struggling financially, where does this money come from?             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Government</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	Invitation for additional speakers (For or against)	<p>Points made against the Idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I don't think that any of us are equipped to deal with the magnitude of the situation</li> <li>• Doubt this will change anything, not enough information to go off.</li> </ul> <p>Points made in favour of the Idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Academic Affairs officer understands the situation and needs Council to pass the Idea in order to be able to work on it on behalf of students.</li> </ul>
	Vote	PASSES
<b>8</b>	<b>Online Connected Campus (Bruce Wight)</b>	



	<p>Questions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Only on campus? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ To start with, town can follow</li> </ul> </li> <li>• What are the costs? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Had a meeting with Tim Davies (Director of I.S.) and this nearly happened 4 years ago. Costs are relatively cheap at about £1k</li> </ul> </li> <li>• My internet fails all the time in my halls, is this just a push for better WiFi? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Yes</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Llanbadarn Campus too? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Eventually</li> </ul> </li> <li>• We have a head start on campus, but how much would it cost to provide WiFi across Aber as a whole? Is it going to cause more WiFi problems due to increased usage in town? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Not sure on either, we would work with I.S. and the local council</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Some people can have negative effect from having access 24/7; have you thought of this? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Students have access to mobile data anyway; this is just about improving Wi-Fi. We will consider it and include in Wellbeing projects.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	<p>Invitation for additional speakers (For or against)</p>	<p>Points made in favour of the Idea:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This whole building tends to be a dead zone</li> <li>• We would work on Wellbeing as well, but as officers we need to stay up to date and make sure we have access everywhere</li> <li>• Phones will be used everywhere anyway</li> <li>• More money for food if not spending on data</li> <li>• Technology is moving that way anyway; this worked really well in my town, where the university worked with the council to provide free WiFi for everyone.</li> </ul>
	<p>Vote</p>	<p>PASSED</p>
<p><b>5. Any Other Business</b></p>	<p>The chance for anyone present to raise an issue not already covered or simply update people on anything big happening that week was offered.</p>	
<p><b>6. Save the Date!</b></p>	<p>Next Council Meeting: AGM 4th December; Idea deadline 20th November</p>	