

meeting of: National Executive Council (fourth meeting)

---

place: University of London Union

---

date and time: 8<sup>th</sup> February 2009 11am – 5pm

---

**Present:**

**Members:** Name

**President & Chair** Wes Streeting

**Zones** Shane Chowen & Toni Pearce (Further Education);  
Aaron Porter & Charlie Leyland (Higher Education);  
Susan Nash & Samantha Kennedy (Society & Citizenship);  
Richard Budden (Union Development);  
Ben Whittaker (Welfare)

**Liberation** Bellavia Ribeiro-Addy & Naa-Anyima Quaye (Black Students)  
Daf Adley & Lucy Brookes (LGBT);  
Olivia Bailey & Estelle Hart (Women's);

**Student Sections** Trevor Dallimore-Wright (Mature Students);  
Saima Yousaf and Madalena Ngongola (International Students);

**Nations** Katie Dalton & Llew Williams (NUS Wales)  
Ciarnan Helferty and Shane Brogan (NUS-USI)

**Block** John Peart, Fraser Nesbitt, Usman Ali, James Haywood, Yemi Makinde, Ed Marsh, Tobin Webb, Liz Williams; Christina Yan Zang, Jak Codd, Natalie Tremlett

**In attendance:**

**Staff** Matt Hyde (CEO); Jim Dickinson (Director Campaigns & Strategy); Graeme Wise, Emma Cox, Nick Smith, Vic Langer, Simon Rayner

**Apologies:**

**Zones** Carly Aslett, Beth Woodthorpe-Evans

**Liberation** Adam Hyland and Karena Younson

**Student Sections & Nations** Tom Spencer, Chris Jenkinson, Joy Elliot

**Block** Alice Bouquet, John Cox,



# minutes

## 1. Introduction & Administration:

1.1 - 1.2 Wes Streeting opened the meeting and welcomed the National Executive Council (NEC) to the fourth meeting. Apologies for absence were noted.

1.3 The following declarations of interest were raised; that Richard Budden is a member of Democratic Procedures Committee (DPC) and that Yemi Makinde and Liz Williams are members of students' union staff.

1.4 & 1.5 The Minutes of the last meeting were approved as a true and accurate record. The following matters arising were noted.

- To report back on involvement with Mature and Part time students  
Ongoing from Ben Whittaker.
- To co-opt an FE member to Welfare Zone Committee  
Ben Whittaker had approached an FE student.
- To contact Adam Hyland to co-ordinate on Mental health work  
Ben Whittaker had done this
- To prioritise work on the key contacts database  
This had been done over the winter break
- To circulate the previous paper on corporate governance and collaborations and the Equality Impact Assessment  
These had both been done

1.6 There had been no presidential appointments

## 2. Reports and Accountability

2.1 Wes Streeting reported on his work. There were no questions and the report was approved.

2.2 The Zone Convenors presented their reports and invited questions.

- **Aaron Porter** answered questions on the zone's work on course closures and preparing students' unions to see the signs in meetings and paperwork
- **Susan Nash** replied to queries on engaging unions with the vote for students website
- **Richard Budden** answered questions on the officer development programme and referenda
- **Ben Whittaker** gave an update on the recent HMO work and discussed work with the students' loan company
- **Shane Chowen** discussed his work on course closures.

The reports were all approved.

2.3 Usman Ali gave a verbal update on the Communications Strategy Group that was approved.

2.4 Olivia Bailey presented the report from the Equality and Diversity committee and it was reported that NUS would embark on a new Equality Impact Assessment for the 2007 Governance Reforms immediately with Equality Works.



# minutes

Bell Ribeiro-Addy reported that the Anti-racism, Anti-fascism campaign had not met yet but hoped to do so tomorrow. Students' unions had responded positively on the work for holocaust memorial day.

2.5 The Liberation, Nations and Sections gave their reports which the Council noted.

2.6 Wes Streeting gave a verbal update on the Trustee Boards that had taken place and the minutes would be circulated to the NEC.

2.7 Richard Budden took questions on the Learning and Development Report. Some concerns were raised about the feedback and design process. It was explained that the courses had been evaluated then went to the Officer Development Programme Board and their plans to Convenors who had approved the plans. It was confirmed that FE officers could attend the events.

The timing of the paper was questioned and it was resolved to bring the paper earlier in the Council's cycle of business for next year and also an update at the March meeting.

**Action: Nick Smith**

2.8 The Council noted the Key Performance Indicators. It was noted that the funding policy launch was no longer to take place as political parties had already written their manifestos for the election and instead we were concentrating on votesforstudents.co.uk.

[Over lunch James Haywood left the meeting.]

## 3. Motions and Proposals

3.1 Simon Rayner presented the paper on NUS Extra. The Trustee Board had responded to the NEC's request to investigate increased income to NUS and the proposal was to increase NUS Extra by £1 and ISIC to £2. Responding to questions, Simon explained that the product had a very high satisfaction rating (83% of users gave it 7/10 or higher) and 93% of students would buy it again. 1000 students had been surveyed and it was noted that the price of the card was never considered an issue by those questioned. The £1 price was a balance between risk and increased income but would also be accompanied by an increased offer. Shane Chowen was co-opted onto the Extra project board to help develop the FE strategy. The increase was in conjunction with increased incentives.

### Recorded Vote

For the Proposal	Tobin Webb, Estelle Hart, Jak Codd, Olivia Bailey, Lucy Brookes, Usman Ali, Ed Marsh, Liz Williams, Katie Dalton, Ben Whittaker, Toni Pearce, Shane Chowen, Richard Budden, Aaron Porter, Charlie Leyland, Christina Yan Zang, John Peart, Llew Williams, Samantha Kennedy, Susan Nash, Shane Brogan, Ciarnan Helfarty, Trevor Dallimore-Wright
Against the Proposal	Natalie Tremlett, Fraser Nesbitt, Yemi Makinde
Abstain	Naa-Anyima Quaye, Daf Adley, Madalena Ngongola, Saima Yousaf

The proposal was approved.



# minutes

Simon Rayner presented the proposal for doing a Graduate Card trial with final year University NUS card users.

The NEC approved the proposal.

3.2 The paper on '7 million voices' was presented by Simon Rayner. Charlie Leyland was concerned that it would over-ride the autonomy of students' unions from NUS but was reassured that the database would be an opt-in from students' unions and then their individual students. It was noted that the database should be able to deal with roll on roll off learners and should not overburden individuals with emails.

| The proposal was approved.

3.3 Jim Dickinson presented a paper on Organisations in Association. The NEC will approve the applications and it will appear in the cycle of business.

**Action: Nick Smith**

The paper was approved.

3.4 Wes Streeting presented the Council with the estimates to National Conference. It was noted that the £40,000 recession fund was not necessarily to be used as cash to unions as this would not be an effective use of it – instead it could be used to provide consultancy. It was noted that an FAQ should accompany the documents to help people understand them, though the commentary did do this also. The 'affinity' income on page 20 was from Endsleigh and should be clarified. Daf Adley asked about the nature of the estimates and what they meant should be explained to National Conference.

The estimates were approved.

3.5 The European Students' Union Vision Task Force paper was presented formally by Aaron Porter and NEC agreed to email him with questions and suggestions.

**Action: All**

3.6 The Equality and Diversity draft was presented by Emma Cox. It was noted that a final copy of the Equality and Diversity plan would be brought to the next meeting.

**Action: Emma Cox**

Wes noted the importance of monitoring involvement at National Conference, noting that although genders were approximately balanced on conference floor, it was mainly men that took speeches.

[Wes Streeting left the meeting and Susan Nash took the chair.]

Emma asked NEC to email comments on the Membership Development Update. Ben Whittaker noted the need for a clear way forward following this paper. Emma reassured NEC that regional staff would remain at the forefront of the NUS' work but there need to be more clarity about their role.

3.7 The bye-law update would be agreed by email

**Action: Nick Smith and Clerks**



# minutes

## 3.8 Motions and Amendments

### Motion 1: Student Sections

Aaron Porter presented the motion on Student Sections promoting a united structure for the standing orders for all 3 students sections.

### Amendment 1: Defending the Democracy and Affairs of the International Students Campaign

Saima Yousaf spoke for the amendment. Trevor-Dallimore Wright withdrew his support for the amendment.

Daf Adley and Bell Ribeiro-Addy spoke for the importance of the International Students' Officer to be in charge of the student section. The first council resolved of the amendment, "To ensure that work presented to NUS on International Students Issues is given to the International Students Officer", was accepted into the motion without objection.

Richard Budden explained that standing orders were there to ensure the smooth running of the conference processes, and Bell Ribeiro-Addy noted that this did not include the election processes but that standing orders did outline who committee members were. It was noted that the section conferences were back to back to save costs.

Aaron Porter argued that the reason for the proposals was to increase and open up the conferences. Madalena Ngongola said that greater participation did not necessarily mean greater representation.

### Recorded Vote

For the Amendment	Usman Ali, Bell Ribeiro-Addy, Naa-Anyima Quaye, Daf Adley, Madalena Ngongola, Saima Yousaf
Against the Amendment	Natalie Tremlett, Tobin Webb, Estelle Hart, Jak Codd, Olivia Bailey, Liz Williams, Katie Dalton, Ben Whittaker, Shane Chowen, Richard Budden, Aaron Porter, Charlie Leyland, Llew Williams, Samantha Kennedy, Shane Brogan, Ciarnan Helfarty
Abstain	Fraser Nesbitt, Lucy Brookes, Ed Marsh, Toni Pearce, Christina Yan Zang, John Peart, Yemi Makinde, Trevor Dallimore-Wright

The motion fell.

The NEC voted for the motion as a whole.

### Recorded Vote

For the Motion	Natalie Tremlett, Tobin Webb, Estelle Hart, Jak Codd, Olivia Bailey, Liz Williams, Katie Dalton, Ben Whittaker, Toni Pearce, Shane Chowen, Richard Budden, Aaron Porter, Llew Williams, Samantha Kennedy, Shane Brogan, Ciarnan Helfarty, Trevor Dallimore-Wright
Against the Motion	Lucy Brookes, Usman Ali, Charlie Leyland, Bell Ribeiro-Addy, Naa-Anyima Quaye, Daf Adley, Yemi Makinde, Madalena Ngongola, Saima Yousaf
Abstain	Fraser Nesbitt, Ed Marsh, Christina Yan Zang, John Peart

The Motion passed



# minutes

Motion 2: Add Amendment to NUS Conference Motion 922 (welfare pg 93)

Richard Budden spoke for and the motion passed uncontested.

## **Any Other Business**

Susan Nash presented on vote for students and asked for block of fifteen members to help with spreading publicity about it to constituent members.

### **Action: Block of fifteen**

Tobin Webb spoke calling for greater political involvement and leadership from the NEC rather than focusing on administrative matters.

**The meeting closed at 5pm. The next NEC meeting will be on 8<sup>th</sup> March.**

