

BYE LAW 6 UNION COUNCIL

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| Purpose and Powers of Union Council | <p>1. Within the representative part of the Union, Union Council is the highest decision making body, with responsibility for, but not restricted to, policy making, campaigning and holding elected officers to account. It represents all students at the highest level and ensures all decisions are made in the best interests of the student body. Union Council shall have the powers stated in Articles 81 - 86 of the Articles of Governance</p> |
| Composition of Union Council | <p>2. The composition of Union Council shall be:</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2.1 Union Council Chair (elected by cross campus ballot)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2.2 one rep from each Liberation Group (elected from within each liberation group)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2.3 two reps from each Standing Committee (elected from within each standing committee)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2.4 three reps from each Faculty, one of which must be a postgraduate student (elected from student reps from each faculty)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2.5 the Assembly Chair (elected by cross campus ballot)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2.6 two Assembly Reps (elected by cross campus ballot)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2.7 Members of the Officer Committee (elected by cross campus ballot)</p> <p style="margin-left: 20px;">2.8 Union Representatives (elected by cross campus ballot)</p> <p>3. Union Council representatives shall;</p> |

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| | <p>3.1 maintain their status as Full Members of the Union throughout the period during which they hold office;</p> <p>3.2 serve the interests of the Union and its Members throughout their term of office</p> <p>3.3 individually and collectively discharge all duties and responsibilities in accordance with the Articles of Governance</p> <p>3.4 individually and collectively discharge any further duties and responsibilities requested or delegated by Union Council</p> <p>3.5 be accountable to Union Council.</p> <p>3.6 abide by the codes of conduct set out in these Articles of Governance, Bye-laws and Guidance and Strategy documents</p> |
| <p>Convening meetings of Union Council</p> | <p>4. There shall be not less than six meetings of Union Council during each Academic Year, but a greater number of meetings may be convened and held.</p> <p>5. The first meeting of Union Council each Academic Year will be held within a month of the start of each Academic Year. The Annual Schedule of Union Council meetings will be agreed at the first meeting of Union Council</p> <p>6. Additional Union Council meetings may be called by;</p> <p>6.1 the Officer Committee</p> <p>6.2 not less than 25% of the members of Union Council other than those who are members of the Officer Committee</p> <p>6.3 not less than 10 Full Members.</p> <p>7. A request for an additional meeting called by the Officer Committee shall be signed by the President or the Democracy and Communications Officer</p> |

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| | <p>8. A request for an additional meeting from Union Council members shall be signed by those members calling for the meeting</p> <p>9. The request shall state the business to be discussed and addressed to the Chair of Union Council at the main offices of the Union with a copy addressed to the President.</p> <p>10. The President shall convene the additional meeting as an Extraordinary Meeting of Union Council to be held as soon as reasonably possible</p> |
| Notice of Meetings of Union Council | <p>11. Notices of meetings of Union Council shall be given by the Chair of Union Council or the President.</p> <p>12. For ordinary meetings of Union Council not less than 5 working days' notice shall be given.</p> <p>13. In the case of an extraordinary meeting of Union Council a reasonable amount of notice shall be given.</p> <p>14. Copies of the agenda and all supporting reports and papers shall be made available to members of Union Council at the main offices of the Union at least twenty four hours before the meeting is to be held.</p> |
| Quorum of Meetings of Union Council | <p>15. The quorum of meetings of Union Council shall be the greater of:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">15.1 the next whole number above the number equal to one half of the members of Union Council; or</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">15.2 the number equal to the number of members of the Officer Committee in office on the date of the meeting plus one.</p> <p>16. Those members of the Officer Committee who are present at a meeting of Union Council shall not count towards establishing whether a quorum is present.</p> <p>17. The proceedings of meetings of Union Council shall not be invalidated by any vacancy among their number, or by any defect in the election or qualifications of any member of Union Council.</p> |
| Chair, Deputy Chair and Secretary of | <p>18. The Chair of Union Council shall be elected by a cross-campus ballot.</p> |

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| <p>Union Council</p> | <p>19. The Deputy Chair shall be elected by a resolution of Union Council passed by a Simple Majority Vote at the first meeting of Union Council of the Academic Year. The Deputy Chair shall remain in office for the remainder of the current Academic Year and shall preside at meetings of the Union Council on the following occasions:-</p> <p>19.1 when the Chair wishes to speak from the floor of the meeting.</p> <p>19.2 when an issue is raised which directly involves the Chair.</p> <p>19.3 when the Chair is unable to attend a meeting.</p> <p>20. The Secretary to Union Council shall be the Democracy and Communications Officer who may delegate this responsibility.</p> |
| <p>Rights to Attend, Speak and Vote at Union Council</p> | <p>21. Members of Union Council shall be entitled to attend, speak and vote at Union Council, but the Chair of Union Council shall only be permitted to vote when a casting vote is required.</p> <p>22. Full Members, Associate Members, Life Members, and Opted Out Students shall;</p> <p>22.1 be entitled to attend Union Council;</p> <p>22.2 not be entitled to speak at Union Council (unless expressly authorised by a resolution of the Members of Union Council present at the meeting by a Simple Majority Vote).</p> <p>22.3 not be entitled to vote at Union Council.</p> <p>22.4 External Trustees and Student Trustees may, by exception, be invited to Union Council to discuss specific policy issues but will not be entitled to vote.</p> <p>23. The CEO is entitled to attend and speak at Union Council but shall not be entitled to vote. The CEO may send a nominated deputy to Union Council.</p> |