

## BYE LAW 5 UNION COUNCIL

<p><b>Purpose and Powers of Union Council</b></p>	<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, holding elected officers to account and elections. 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>
<p><b>Composition of Union Council</b></p>	<p>2. The composition of Union Council shall be</p> <p>2.1 Union Council Chair (elected by cross campus ballot)</p> <p>2.2 1 rep from each Liberation Group (elected within each liberation group)</p> <p>2.3 2 reps from each Standing Committee (elected within each standing committee)</p> <p>2.4 3 reps from each Faculty, one of which must be a postgraduate student (elected within student reps from each faculty)</p> <p>2.5 the Assembly Chair (elected by cross campus ballot)</p> <p>2.6 2 elected Assembly Reps (elected by cross campus ballot)</p> <p>2.7 Members of the Officer Committee (elected by cross campus ballot)</p> <p>3. Union Council representatives shall;</p> <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 between the dates which coincide with the Financial Year following the year of election (if elected in the spring term of the University) or from the date of election to the end of the academic year if elected in the autumn term;</p> <p>3.3 alone or with others, as appropriate, discharge all duties and responsibilities established in accordance with the Articles of Governance</p> <p>3.4 alone or with others, discharge any further duties and responsibilities which may be requested or delegated by Union Council; and</p> <p>3.5 be accountable to Union Council.</p> <p>3.6 must abide by meeting protocol as set out in these Articles of Governance, Bye-laws and Guidance and Strategy documents</p>
<p><b>Convening meetings of Union Council</b></p>	<p>4. There shall be not less that six meetings of Union Council during each Academic Year, but a greater number of meetings may be convened and held.</p> <p>5. The date, time and place for the first meeting of Union Council of any Academic Year shall be decided by the Officer Committee. Thereafter (except where a meeting is requisitioned) the date of the meeting of Union Council shall be set at the previous meeting of Union Council.</p> <p>6. The following may requisition a meeting of Union Council;</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 Committee Committee.</p> <p>6.3 not less than 10 members.</p> <p>7. Where requisitioned by the Officer Committee it shall be signed by the President or the Finance and Services Executive.</p>

	<p>8. Where requisitioned by Union Council it shall be signed by the requisitionists.</p> <p>9. The requisition shall state the business purpose to be discussed at the requisitioned meeting and shall be 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 requisitioned meeting as an Extraordinary Meeting of Union Council so as to be held as soon as reasonably possible.</p>
<p><b>Notice of Meetings of Union Council</b></p>	<p>11. Notices of meetings of the Union Council shall be given by the Chair of the Union Council or the President.</p> <p>12. For ordinary meetings of the Union Council not less than 5 working days' notice shall be given.</p> <p>13. In the case of an extraordinary meeting of the 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>
<p><b>Quorum of Meetings of Union Council</b></p>	<p>15. The quorum of meetings of Union Council shall be the greater of:-</p> <p>15.1 the whole number next above the number equal to one half of the members for the time being of Union Council; or</p> <p>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>

<p><b>Chair, Deputy Chair and Secretary of Union Council</b></p>	<p>18. The chair of Union Council shall be elected by a cross-campus ballot.</p> <p>19. The Deputy Chair shall be elected by a resolution of the 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 then 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 the Union Council shall be the Finance and Services Executive who may delegate this responsibility.</p>
<p><b>Rights to Attend, Speak and Vote at Union Council</b></p>	<p>21. Members of Union Council shall be entitled to attend, speak and vote at Union Council.</p> <p>21.1 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.</p>