**MINUTES:**

Union Council Meeting – 03/11/2022

**Attendees**

Sol Gjoines

Foysal Mobarock

Mitesh Mehta

Patricia dos Reis

Faryal Sohail

Rose Reber

Elyse Anderson

**Apologies**  
 Avnika Kuvadiya

Mihaela Pecaku

Tae-Jean Grierson

**Apologies not received**

Amanda Francis

Charlie Neudeck

**In attendance**

Kara Nutley

1. **Introductions**

SG introduced the newest members of Union Council - Rose Reber (Rochester PTO), Elyse Anderson (FE Rochester PTO) and Charlie Neudeck (FE Canterbury PTO). Charlie wasn’t in attendance.

1. **Approval of Minutes from last meeting (5th October)**

SG - presented minutes from last meeting

Approved by all

**3. Sabbatical Officer Reports**

**Report by:** Sol Gjøines, President Kent.

**Committees attended since last Union Council meeting:**

Board of Governors - 20/10

Sexual Violence & Misconduct Working Group - 20/10

Canterbury COG - 03/11

**Update on projects since last Union Council meeting:**

* Cost of Living - working with UCA to introduce initiatives including free breakfasts in the canteen.
* Consent Matters Campaign
* Enhancing Employability with the Creative Careers team

**Annual leave taken since last Union Council meeting:**

0 days

**Report by:** Foysal Mobarock. President Surrey

**Committees attended since last Union Council meeting:**

Academic Quality Committee - 12/10

Epsom COG - 18/10

**Update on projects since last Union Council meeting:**

* Housing crisis in Epsom
* Cost of Living - working with UCA to introduce initiatives including free breakfasts in the canteen.

**Annual leave taken since last Union Council meeting:**

3 days

Both reports approved by all.

**4. Actions from last meeting**

* *ACTION: ALL of Union Council to read Regulation 5 of the bye-laws* [*https://ucasu.com/union/how-were-run/ucasu-by-laws/*](https://ucasu.com/union/how-were-run/ucasu-by-laws/) *- action removed*
* *ACTION: Kara to bring a draft Sustainability Policy to September Union Council for approval. - not complete. to be brought to next meeting.*

**Update: This is still work in progress**

* *ACTION: Kara to contact PTOs about their aims for the year by the next meeting. - complete 10/08 - no PTO’s have completed*

**Update: PTOs were emailed 10th August to add their aims with a deadline of 2nd September. Incomplete.**

**5. Updates**

**Rochester canteen prices**

PDR reported on the high canteen prices in Rochester where a sandwich is close to £4. Would like to see better priced lunches.

* ***ACTION: Foysal to talk to Steve Dickson about meal deals across all campuses***
* ***ACTION: Foysal/Sol/Kara to feedback to the Cost of Living working group that greater quantities of vegetarian options would be welcomed on the Kent campuses.***

**Medway bus pass cost**

RR mentioned that bus passes in Medway are cheaper for other Universities in the area, such as Greenwich, but not for UCA students. SG has tried to speak to both Arriva and Greenwich SU but not had an answer from either.

* ***ACTION: Sol to speak to Scott Keiller in Sustainability***

**General cost of living**

PDR said that surveying UCA students on how cost of living is affecting them would be worthwhile.

* ***ACTION: ALL to send any questions to Kara***
* ***ACTION: Kara to draft a survey***

**Accommodation scams**

FS mentioned that an Epsom student was scammed out of money when viewing a property. There have been multiple accounts of similar scams

* ***ACTION: Housing Guide to be published. Currently been worked on by SU staff.***
* ***ACTION: FM to alert Philip Powell to the above.***
* ***ACTION: SG & FM to send detailed email to Sarah Clark surrounding housing crisis issues.***

**6. Farnham Further Education co-opt**

SG explained the voting procedure for the Farnham PTO co-opt

Farnham applicant received 7 votes of YES and Eleanor Gravestock was elected

***ACTION: KN to contact Eleanor and introduce to UC***

**7. Any other business**

PDR asked if there was funding for a Rochester Fashion Show at the end of the year. SG said she was meeting Head of Campus, Chris Wraith on 04/11 and would ask about funding

* ***ACTION: Sol to ask Chris Wraith about funding for Fashion Show***
* ***ACTION: PDR to send Sol details about the event***

RR raised the point that Maidstone students don’t know about the SU.

* ***ACTION: Kara to contact Rose and Joey Main (Course Rep) to find a suitable date to meet Maidstone students***

**The next meeting is Wednesday 14th December, 2pm, on Teams**