



## AGM

### Minutes

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#### London Metropolitan Students' Union (LIMITED)

#### MINUTES OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of London Metropolitan Students' Union

held at 1666 -220 Holloway Road, in the Henry Thomas Room on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015 at 5.00pm.

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**PRESENT:** Obie Opara, Nicole Mitchell, Amanda Mariellier, Marco Brunone, Anna Tesarczyk, Joanne White, Funmbi Adeagbo, Piya Matiyal, Georgette Annobi, William Didimako, Jenny Nash, Alexantra Moyo-zawadari, Helen Wolstencroft, Georgia Robinson, Ali Raza, Mark Newak, Tayab Raza, Jadesola Fakoya, Edem Barbara Ntummy, Mina Maaref Doost, Katherine Igidbashian, Khalid Elkhazmi, Sarang Kharche, Alan Borgars, Vincent Henry Mwesigwa-kisa, Forhad Ahmed

**PROXIES:** 99 proxy votes received (1 attending Proxy removed)

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Yolanda Jose	Hamed Hamed	Demichah Toussaint	Lauren Andrews
Gautam Datta	Maymuna Noor	Shuaib Khalid	Ilja Nikiforous
Filippo Bandiera	Qamarul Islam	Abdimajid Mohamed	Luke Renouf
Leila Naiga	Soukaina Grain	Channon Powell	Hayam Amin
Oluwakemi Oloruntimilehin	Feriha Senkaip	Chanal Melhado	Sumeya Amin
Jascent Mpola	Victor Penda	Janine Rochelle Campbell	Hazal Tekin
Vincent Okpara	Hannah Gborie	Milly Osei	Mohamed Abdiaziz
Andrew Bellah	Shanika La'shay Watson	Amina Khanom	Hannah Bennett
Teresa Sarpong	Kehinde Adesiren Sonusi	Sabah Aljabri	Zulekha Reema
Gabriela Kwaku Yeboah	Amaal Ibrahim	Khadija Elahi	Abhiroop Bhattacharya
Odair Almeida	Andreson Deceita	Mohima Begum	Dupont Alicia
Tajudeen Salau	Christian Codoma	Layla Abdalla	Peggy Janita Quinn
Nadia Ropars	Lise Marie Ake-danho	Sabreen Hussein	Lee Evans
Ijeoma Agbonye	Durga Gurung	Helen Kate Lawrence	Xhulja Simoni
Sharon Umukoro	Asrar Al-enazi	Violeta Sandu	Laura Applegate
Momina Afzal	Hasina Rahman	Evangeline Mary Hawes	Helen Wolstencroft
Maude Paillard-coyette	Alhassane Diallo	Dan Haycock	Milda Stasityte
Suzannah Lyle	Paul Prescod	Kimberly Hang	Sabrina Jackson
Savanna-sofia Fernandes Batalha	Mohammed Ali	Ngoc Diep	Hana Deria
Thomas Baker	Shupanhar Shivalingam	Charlotte Richards	Duchess Nkundo
Joel Amoako-gyapong	Chika Ukwuoma	Alison Baptiste	Joseph Mensah
Sunda Mancia	Rahat Sanaullah	Sylvia F Daramy	Jatta Hakkinen
Rebecca Senior	Ahmir Hussain	Atikah Abdul Aziz	Melania Marosi
Daniel Debesay	Charles Michaels	Alexander Greco	Cryton Sijaona
Stefan Belfon	Aaron Kudi	Maees Hadi	Austen Komon

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**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mark Crowhurst (General Manager), Eddie Rowley (Student Voice Coordinator), Elizabeth Jandakova (student graduate intern)

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## Chair and Quorum

1. Mr Kehinde Olaleye took the Chair. The Chairman confirmed that a quorum was present with 26 members present and 100 proxy votes received totalling 126. Chair rules late arriving proxy votes forms has been accepted and will be checked in due course.

## Purpose of the Meeting

2. Minutes and Matters Arising
3. Approval of Audited Accounts, Budgets and Reports / Approval of Auditors
4. Approval of Affiliation - NUS
5. Adoptions of resolutions / motions

## Business

6. Minutes and Matters Arising  
No matters arising  
**Approved**, 15 yes, 0 no, 6 abstentions
7. Approving affiliations of the Union, To affiliate to NUS  
**Approved**, 21 yes, 0 no, abstain 1 (84 proxy votes in favour)  
Mark Crowhurst (MC) summarises accounts – income, expenditure and notes surplus. MC notes Trustees approved accounts and auditors have found no issues.
8. Approval of Audited Accounts , Budgets and Reports  
**Approved**, 20 yes, 0 no, abstain 3 with 83 proxy votes also in favour  
Chair calls Sabbatical Officers to the front

Obie Opara, President introduces Trustees Report and his Sabbatical colleagues and invites questions and comments from the floor.

Q – Floor question

C- Floor comment

OO – Obie Opara

MB - Marco Brunone

NM – Nicole Mitchell

AM – Amanda Mariellier

Q Why did President support one Campus without consultation of (CASS) students

C Surveys used to justify move had loaded questions, later survey showed significant opposition to move in Cass

Q Why was survey not properly publicised

C SU officers should work for student not Vice-Chancellor

O I understand the sense of frustration and the ties CASS has to the Aldgate area. I am only one member of a 28 person board of governors. The financial situation has been exacerbated by the UKBA crisis. I consulted the survey and did what I could.

Q On what basis did Obie state in the press that 65% of students were in favour of the move?

O This figure was from the survey. I stand by it but my words were taken out of context by the press.

Q Why have ambassadors not been told not to discuss the CASS move at open days?

O.O Will raise this as not an SU responsibility

C – The Arts Campus has decisively rejected the proposed move. The survey should only have been given to non-Holloway students

OO – I was elected to represent all student, not just Cass ones. They (Holloway) student will be more affected than any other by this move I believe.

Q Regarding societies, number of them might have doubled but less student are taking part?

MB Engagement is always an issue. Need a correlation between the two. Been developing societies forum too, I value your input.

Q Everything is based at Holloway, what about engagement of city students. Little election publicity at City.

MB This is challenge and it isn't easy. Two years ago there was no SU presence in Moorgate, now there is. We are trying to grow SU in Moorgate and Calcutta House. We are human, officers work at all campuses.

Q Why was O.O told not to tell CASS students about the move – this s a disgrace.

OO As a governor certain items are confidential no discoing was made until the day before the announcement

Q Student notes Vice Chancellor has avoided her emails and referred her to his deputy while the Deputy has not responded. Who has made these decisions?

OO Decision were collective, He will raise this issue

Q When consultants provided reports, did anyone do a marketing reports as CASS location is its unique selling point (USP) . Moving it could spell disaster.

C 89 % against the move

OO Research has been done by consultant as did survey and held forums. We are doing everything we can, We need to be a critical friend of the University.

C You are suppose to be our representative. We don't agree with the premise of these questions (in the survey).

C There will not be enough room at Holloway. This is why they are closing courses at CASS now.

OO – The financial situation made it that it is either one campus or no university

C The reason I applied for CASS was the location. Faculties are very important to arts students. It is about correct facilities.

Chair advises meeting need to move on with agenda. There is one motion to be considered. There will be time for more discussion later on.

## 9. **Motions**

### **One campus, one community - reduce students, sell buildings, cut courses and cut staff**

Proposer: Edem Barbara Ntummy (EBN)

Seconder: Amanda Marillier

This Council Notes:

1. London Met has suffered immensely under the increasing of tuition fee and marketisation of higher education
2. Under the "One Campus, One Community" plans we are set to lose over 2000 students, lots of courses and jobs cuts as a university.
3. The Vice Chancellor has held student forums, so students can hear about the plans
4. Central House Building, where the Cass is based is on the market – for sale
5. Our Student Union President was quoted in the Times Higher Education on October 12 saying, "welcome this decision and the long-term benefits it will bring".

This Council believes:

1. Education is a right and not a privilege.
2. The proposed level of cuts is reckless and will likely have a negative impact on the student experience for current students and prospective students alike.
3. There has been no real meaningful engagement with student and staff about campus closures and course cuts
4. There has been no transparency and honesty from elected representatives.

The Council resolves:

1. That London Metropolitan University Student Union should reaffirm its support and commitment to Free Education.
2. The Student Union and Council Members should oppose these plans until the Board of Governors, Vice Chancellor and Management work with students and staff to develop a realistic forward-looking plan for a "two-campus" estate.
3. The Student Union should hold lunchtime and evening forums, to give all students an opportunity to voice their concerns about the plans.
4. The Student Union should support all forms of action taken by students against the university.
5. While maintaining our own position we will work with both UCU and Unison to oppose the course cuts and job cuts that have been proposed.

EBN introduces herself and her motion and speaks in favour.

Mark Crowhurst advises chair that 99 proxy motions have supported the motion so therefore it passes.

C The issue is about Students' Union information provision by the SU and University. University management is chaos. Students have not been given enough information to be able to make informed decisions about these issues.

AM speaks in favour of motion

C Decision made without consultation, feel let down by SU. Need a public statement from the SU

OO notes decision was made unanimously.

C Do you support CASS student or management?

OO I took decision based on survey

C now another survey has been completed what is your position now?

OO I speak for CASS students

EBN notes she is not contesting loss of Moorgate, is realistic. The building is only leased.

Q could the £21 million from losing Moorgate be used to plug the financial gap?

EBN note probable not, there are wider problems in marketization of education.

EBN notes every year I have been here there have been cut after cut. Course closure and sack staff. LMU has unique selling points they do not market e.g. partnerships with US colleges.

Q can we say multi-campus rather than two campuses?

EBN states her preference is two campuses.

Q Please can Obie visit CASS for a day or so. We know Amanda but we don't know who you are?

OO I have been there

Chair invites EBN to sum up motion

C Floor request secret ballot

Proxy votes:

For 99

Floor votes:

For 24

Against 0

Abstain 5

Combined vote:

For 123

Against 0

Abstain 5

**Meeting closed.**