



# KCLSU Annual General Meeting 2014

6pm Thursday 23 January 2014

Chaired by Sebastiaan Debrouwere, KCLSU President 2013/14

## Agenda

*5.45pm Registration – Don't forget your King's ID card*

### 6pm KCLSU President Opens the AGM

#### 1. For members to approve:

- [Minutes of the AGM held on 19 March 2013](#)
- Matters arising
- [Receive the Trustees Annual Report and Accounts for year ended 31/7/13](#)
- Agreement that Knox Cropper LLP be retained as auditors of the company
- Agreement that the Company's Directors (Trustees) may set the auditors remuneration

#### 2. To Report:

- Student Officer Agenda
- Rant Week Results
- KCLSU Big Plan 2014 - 19

#### 3. Special Resolution to AGM to change the KCLSU Articles of Association –

- Amend the Terms of Office for Student Trustees

#### 4. Welfare & Community Zone

- Motion 1 Make KCL Commit to Affordable Halls of Residence Accommodation
- Motion 2 Decrease Accommodation Deposit to £200
- Motion 3 London Living Wage for Student Staff
- Motion 4 Medical Student Travel Expenses
- Motion 5 Medical students' Maintenance Loans
- Motion 6 Reducing Price of Drinks in the Union
- Motion 7 Cycling
- Motion 8 Shaker Aamer

#### 5. Policy & Governance Zone

- Motion 9 Fix the Accountability of Student Council #sortitout

*Access Break*

#### 6. Education Zone

- Motion 10 Negative Marking on Exam Papers
- Motion 11 KCL Exam Venue
- Motion 12 WiFi Provision

#### 7. Student Groups, Societies & Sports Zone

- Motion 13 Freshers' Publicity
- Motion 14 Societies Newsletter

#### 8. Any other business

Close of AGM

## Motion Debate Process

1. Chair introduces the motion debate
2. Chair confirms the number of rounds of speeches for and against the motion
3. Motion proposer (or a student on their behalf) speaks for motion
4. Open points of information
  - *Any submitted amendment(s) to the Motion introduced by chair (pending submitted amendments)*
  - *Vote on amendment(s) follows immediately (Individual amendments are voted on separately)*
  - *Return to complete motion debate*
5. Speech against Motion
  - *Further rounds for and against the motion at Chair's discretion*
6. Summation speech from Motion proposer (or a student on their behalf)
7. Vote

## Proxy Voting

If you're unable to attend the meeting, you can still have your say by proxy vote on our [AGM page](#). The deadline for submitting a proxy vote is Thursday 23 January at 10am.

Any proxy votes submitted after this time won't be counted. You may only vote once. Should any member attend the AGM in addition to submitting a proxy vote, the proxy vote will not be counted.

## Amendments to Motions

Amendments to the published motions must be submitted to the chair no later than Thursday 23 January at 10am to [representation@kclsu.org](mailto:representation@kclsu.org). Amendments cannot be made to the Special Resolution.

# Special Resolution to change the KCLSU Articles of Association to amend the terms of office for Student Trustees

**Proposed by:** Student Officers

## **This Union Notes:**

1. That Student Trustees are currently elected for twenty four months (or until they cease to be a student of King's College London)
2. That Student Trustees are elected for a maximum of twenty four months.
3. That the twenty four months officially starts on the 1 August following their election
4. That the Student Trustee elections are normally held in the Spring Term.
5. That the Student Trustee term of office is specified in the KCLSU Articles of Association

## **This Union Believes:**

1. That Student Trustees should be elected for twelve month terms
2. That moving to twelve month terms would encourage more postgraduate students and third year students to stand for election to be a trustee
3. That Student Trustees upon successful re-election be allowed to serve a further twelve months up to a limit of twenty four months.
4. That the twelve month term should begin on the day after election
5. That the Student Trustee elections should be held in the Autumn Term of each year to ensure the maximum possible engagement and opportunity for all students of King's College London.

## **This Union Resolves:**

1. To amend the KCLSU Articles of Association to reflect the above believes.
2. To delete Article 53, 57 and 58 of the KCLSU Articles of Association and replace with the following new Articles:  
53. 'Up to four Student Trustees shall be elected by secret ballot by the members of the Students' Union at an election to be held in accordance with the Bye-Laws and shall remain in office for a term of twelve months commencing on 1 December immediately following their election and terminating on 30 November in the next Year.  
54. Student Trustees may be re-elected for a maximum further term of twelve months by the members of the Students' Union at an election to be held in accordance with the Bye-Laws. A Student Trustee's terms of office may be either consecutive or non-consecutive. For the avoidance of doubt, the maximum total term that a Student Trustee may serve is twenty four months.
3. To amend the definition of a 'Student Trustee' within article 1.31 to read;  
"Student Trustee" a Trustee elected in accordance with Article 53 who is a Student and for the avoidance of doubt shall not be deemed to be either a major union office holder or a sabbatical union office holder for the purposes of Section 22 of the Education Act. Each Student Trustee must be a Student at the time of his or her election (and shall continue to be a student for the duration of the his or her term as a Student Trustee)
4. To amend the numbering of specific KCLSU Articles of Association where necessary following these amendments to ensure interdependency and relation of articles is maintained throughout.
5. To amend the KCLSU Bye Laws where necessary to reflect the changes to the Articles of Association

# Make KCL Commit to Affordable Halls of Residence Accommodation

|                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Proposed By:</b>    | Jamie Sweeney            |
| <b>Student Number:</b> | 1111596                  |
| <b>Zone:</b>           | Welfare & Community Zone |
| <b>Policy Lapse:</b>   | N/A                      |

## This Union Notes:

1. The cheapest standard single room KCL currently provides in its residences is £117.18 per week, at Hampstead Residence, followed by £127.00 at Wolfson House, Brian Creamer and The Rectory, followed by £168.49 at Stamford Street and Great Dover Street.
2. The former King's College Hall residence is currently being redeveloped and is scheduled to reopen for students in September 2014 under the name of Champion Hill Residence.
3. King's received a resolution to grant planning consent from the London Borough of Southwark to develop a site for 770 new student rooms on the former location of Mulberry Business Park at Canada Water. The Mayor of London has given final approval to proceed with the plans.
4. King's aims to commence the Canada Water works in 2014, completing in the 2016/17 academic year.
5. The Evening Standard reported that three-and-a-half acres of residential land around Kidderpore Avenue in Hampstead, which is the current site of Hampstead residence, will be sold as part of KCL's five-year redevelopment programme.
6. Brian Creamer and The Rectory will not be available as KCL residences from September 2014.
7. In an entry survey completed by students living in halls of residences in November 2013, 48.2% of students who replied stated that their maximum budget for accommodation fell within £100-150 per week.
8. In the same survey cost came out as the most important factor for students when ranking their residence preferences during the accommodation application process.

## This Union Believes:

1. That cost of accommodation is already expensive for students and as a result a large proportion of the average student's budget is devoted to accommodation.
2. Hampstead Residence will no longer be a KCL residence within five year's time, thus removing 492 places of affordable accommodation.
3. The vast majority of rooms at the new Champion Hill Residence (formerly King's College Hall) will cost more than £150 per week.
4. The vast majority of rooms at the new Canada Water development will cost more than £150 per week.
5. King's College Hall used to provide catered accommodation to 472 students in line with the prices at Hampstead, before its redevelopment.
6. That once Brian Creamer, The Rectory, and Hampstead are no longer KCL residences, it is likely there will only be 274 rooms available to students at a cost of less than £150 per week.
7. As 48.2% of students that completed the recent entry survey stated that their maximum budget for accommodation fell within the price range of £100-150 per week, and assuming that this survey is representative of all students currently living in KCL residences, at least a third of students who currently live in halls would not be able to afford halls accommodation once the five year redevelopment programme is complete.
8. Once the five year redevelopment programme is complete, halls accommodation will out-price those students from low and low-to-middle economic backgrounds, thus becoming the preserve of economically privileged students.
9. Students from low income backgrounds will be deterred from applying to King's because of unaffordable accommodation once the five year redevelopment programme is complete.

10. King's should be committed to ensuring that residences are accessible to all students and not just those from an economically privileged background.

**This Union Resolves:**

1. King's should commit to keeping Hampstead residence, as one of the only affordable halls of residence currently left available to students.
2. King's should ensure that at least a quarter of rooms available at the new Champion Hill residence and at least a quarter of rooms at the Canada Water development should be priced at less than £150 for those students who cannot afford accommodation above this price, or an accommodation bursary should be introduced to ensure that those students who cannot afford prices above £150 are subsidised to below this price per week if they are allocated a place in halls which charges more than £150 per week.
3. King's should commit to keeping Wolfson House as a King's residence for the foreseeable future.
4. That King's require that all students complete a survey before they start at the university, asking students what their maximum budget is for accommodation per week, and that prices should be set to align with the findings of these surveys.
5. Students from low-income backgrounds should be given priority in their allocation of accommodation.

# Decrease Accommodation Deposits to £200

**Proposed By:** Jamie Sweeney  
**Student Number:** 1111596  
**Zone:** Welfare & Community Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** N/A

## **This Union Notes:**

1. Accommodation deposits in KCL residences are currently £300 per student, apart from in some nominated residences and for those renting couple accommodation.
2. All students who have accepted an offer in KCL residences must pay a deposit.
3. Accommodation deposits, aside from nominated residences and those renting couple accommodation, used to be £200 in the academic year 2011/12 and in subsequent years has been increased to £250 and most recently to £300.

## **This Union Believes:**

1. Most students receive close to the full sum of their deposit back at the end of their residency.
2. Students are very rarely charged more than £200 in damage costs.
3. There is no good justification for increasing accommodation deposits from £200 per student.
4. £300 is a lot of money to find for a deposit, particularly for students from low income background families who would benefit from having this money available to them during their studies.
5. Some students struggle to find £300 to put down as a deposit.

## **This Union Resolves:**

1. For King's to reduce accommodation deposits in KCL residences, not including nominated residences and those renting couple accommodation, back to £200.
2. For those students in receipt of the maximum KCL living bursary available, to only have to pay £100 as an accommodation deposit.

# London Living Wage for Student Staff

**Proposed By:** Iain Shaw, Ashleigh Hudson, Niall Byrne, Sebastiaan Debrouwere, Areeb Ullah, Anthony Shaw, Liam Jackson, Segun Olijide, Imogen Reid, Hannah Keen, Molly Hodgeson, Sam Wilkinson, Grace Atkinson, Amna Hussain, Emma Cartwright, Hele Whittimore, Rita Mouta, Anna Clarke, Samir Khan, Shankar Jeyakumar, Shade Tongo, Harriete Parish, Julia Haas, Tyleri Fitzgerald, Bryony McNamara, Danial Daly, Isabella li Kim Wa, Sara Feldman, Artysha Tailor, Tak Wai ho

- **Student Number:** 1021339, 1109919, 1002626, 1202934, 0807606, 1226511, 1115001, 1228912, 100323, 1010834, 1237144, 1203348, 1118753, 0906781, 0804207, 1345698, 0720123, 1108602, 1114990, 1146459, 0902850, 1309933, 1001888, 0906154

**Zone:** Welfare & Community Zone

**Policy Lapse:** 2 years

## This Union Notes:

### A. About the London Living Wage

1. The Living Wage is the minimum hourly rate at which one can live without fear of poverty. The current rate in London is £8.80; outside of London the rate stands at £7.65<sup>1</sup>
2. The Living Wage is defined as the threshold at which people can live without fear of poverty whilst having a sufficient safety net to also provide for a better quality of life. It is calculated according to the basic cost of living in the UK, and employers choose to pay the Living Wage on a voluntary basis.<sup>2</sup>
3. The Living Wage enjoys cross-party support, with public backing from the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition.<sup>3</sup>
4. The tools for calculating the Living Wage are provided by the Minimum Income Standards research project (Loughborough University, Joseph Rowntree Foundation)
5. Due to the increased cost of living, a separate Living Wage is calculated for use in Greater London (London Living Wage). This is calculated annually by the Greater London Authority<sup>4</sup>.
6. An increasing body of research indicates that National Minimum Wage does not cover the cost of living, and that living wage calculations only approximate it more closely. In other words, National Minimum Wage is insufficient for many to survive on<sup>5</sup>.
7. Research from the National Union of Students and others provides evidence of the positive 'externalities' of paying Living Wage<sup>6</sup>. The evidence shows that paying the Living Wage benefits employers by improving the quality of staff in terms of morale, efficiency, reduced absenteeism and retention rates;

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.livingwage.org.uk/blog/new-uk-living-wage-£765-new-london-rate-£880>

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.livingwage.org.uk/what-living-wage>

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.livingwage.org.uk/what-living-wage>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/living-wage-2013.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.resolutionfoundation.org/media/media/downloads/Beyond the Bottom Line - FINAL.pdf](http://www.resolutionfoundation.org/media/media/downloads/Beyond%20the%20Bottom%20Line%20-%20FINAL.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.nusconnect.org.uk/resources/open/soccit/The-Living-Wage-in-the-UK-Higher-Education-Sector-Full-Report/>

**B. Students' Unions and the Living Wage: The national picture**

8. An increasing number of SUs are now paying Living Wage to their student staff. Within the Russell Group and amongst other London Universities, a substantial number of unions have now become Living Wage unions.

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| <i>Union</i> | <i>Living Wage (£7.65) or London Living Wage (£8.80)</i> |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------|
|              | London Living Wage                                       |
|              | London Living Wage                                       |
|              | London Living Wage                                       |
|              | Living Wage                                              |
|              | Living Wage                                              |
|              | Living Wage                                              |
|              | London Living Wage                                       |
|              | London Living Wage                                       |

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9. The University of York pay a “Student Living Wage”. This is an unofficial variation of the Living Wage where the allocation for Council Tax is deducted (difference in York is ca. £1 off LW).
10. At the time of writing, 14 January 2014, KCLSU pays its permanent staff and sub-contractors at least the London Living Wage. This was decided in 2010-’11. Student staff, however, earn significantly less as detailed in the table below:

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| <i>Student Staff Member</i> | <i>Supervisor/team leader</i> | <i>Duty/shift leader</i> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>£6.31</b>                | <b>£6.69</b>                  | <b>£7.42</b>             |
| <b>£2.49</b>                | <b>£2.11</b>                  | <b>£1.38</b>             |

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**C. KCLSU and the need for paying Living Wage at King’s**

11. In a motion overwhelmingly passed (25 in favour, 4 abstentions) by the KCLSU Student Council on 29 October 2013, students have affirmed that “3. It reflects poorly on King’s that we have been left behind by other universities in the implementation of the Living Wage”.
12. This year’s *KCLSU Rant Week* was the “biggest rant week to date”<sup>7</sup> with over 1700 rants collected. During *Rant week* students air their concerns about both the University and the Union. This year’s rant week saw a record turn-out from students, with the most popular rant demanding KCLSU to pay its student staff the London Living Wage.
13. KCLSU is currently undergoing a “Big Plan Exercise” to set its strategy and operational plans for the coming years. As part of the “What’s Next?” consultation for this strategy students were asked to provide their view on whether or not London Living Wage for student staff should be a priority.
14. KCL offers a guide<sup>8</sup> on living expenses to prospective students, which is listed on the university’s website. These estimates are based primarily on basic costs for students, such as accommodation, food, travel, books and other living expenses:

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***Estimated Living Expenses: Home/EU UG***

<sup>7</sup> <http://www.kclsu.org/news/article/8765/Rant-Week-Results/>

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/pg/funding/expenses/index.aspx> and <http://www.kcl.ac.uk/study/ug/funding/living-exp/expenses.aspx>

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| £11,082 | £11,500 | £12,100 | £12,700 |
| £16,986 | £17,500 | £18,100 | £18,700 |

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***Estimated Living Expenses: International UG***

|         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| £12,448 | £13,500 | £14,180 | £14,900 |
| £19,349 | £19,500 | £20,180 | £20,900 |

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|                |                |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>2013-14</b> | <b>2014-15</b> | <b>2015-16</b> | <b>2016-17</b> |
| £11,756        | £13,800        | £14,490        | £15,215        |
| £18,021        | £19,800        | £20,490        | £21,215        |

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|                |                |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>2013-14</b> | <b>2014-15</b> | <b>2015-16</b> | <b>2016-17</b> |
| £13,128        | £15,800        | £16,490        | £17,215        |
| £20,390        | £21,800        | £22,490        | £23,215        |

Detailed below, are three examples of currently employed student staff in a broad range of financial situations, which clearly illustrate that the present rate of pay is grossly insufficient for meeting these estimates of living expenses provided by Kings; This leaves many full-time students needing to work more than half a working week in order to cover their living expenses.

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£11,082  
£7,915  
£3,481  
14.9h per week  
353h per year  
10.7h per week

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£11,082  
£4,630  
£6,452  
913h per year  
27.7h per week  
654.4h per year  
19.8h per week

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£11,756  
£4,976  
£6,780  
972h per year

29.4h per week

687h per year

20.9h per week

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### **This Union Believes:**

1. Providing employment on campus is an important and highly valued aspect of how KCLSU and the University support the welfare and development of students;
2. Democratic charities in the educational sector, such as KCLSU, should be exemplar employers. Our students expect their union to act with fairness and equality towards all their employees, including student staff;
3. With rising costs of living and cuts in many sources of financial support, students are under increasing financial pressure. It wouldn't be right to assume that wages earned on campus are merely a supplement to "core income"- not all students receive grants, loans or family support to cover living costs, particularly taught postgraduates and international students
4. Paying a Living Wage is essential to ensure that jobs on campus are accessible to as many students as possible, not just to those who can 'afford' to be paid NMW rates;
5. It reflects badly on King's to be lagging behind competitor universities on the implementation of the LLW. Similarly, it reflects badly on KCLSU to be lagging behind comparable unions in London and Russell Group institutions on the implementation of LLW.
6. Paying LLW is crucial to KCLSU's identity as an ethical and progressive employer.
7. KCLSU should pay all student staff members a Living Wage.

### **This Union Resolves:**

1. To begin a process of budgeting and planning to deliver the London Living Wage, and incorporate this in the discussions about its 2014-'19 strategy and the discussions with King's over the size of KCLSU's block grant.
2. For the KCLSU Trustee Board to reaffirm the fact that we are a values-led organisation and thus should be paying our staff a fair wage.
3. To share the outcomes of the consultation section of the "What's Next?" survey, in which students were asked to prioritise options including London Living Wage for student staff.
4. That the Board of Trustees should report back to next year's Annual General Meeting with its progress towards delivering the Living Wage, or higher, to all its staff.
5. The Union's members understand that, given the economic and strategic implications resulting from this decision, negotiations may take some time. We will remain productive and cooperative with the union management, providing there is sufficient progress towards the implementation of the LLW.

[See Points of Information](#)

# Medical Students Travel Expenses

**Proposed By:** Ashwin Kalra, Elizabeth Chamberlain  
**Student Number:** 0900531  
**Zone:** Welfare & Community Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** 1 year

## **This Union Notes:**

1. The medical student curriculum in years 3, 4, and 5 of the course are based primarily on clinical placements throughout London and southeast England.
2. That there is a large inequality between compensation for travel to these placements (e.g. students travelling daily to Princess Royal University Hospital, in zone 6, are reimbursed less than students travelling to Queen Elizabeth Hospital Woolwich in zone 4, while travel to University Hospital Lewisham in zone 3 is not compensated at all)
3. That the financial burden on medical students is already more than average due to five years of tuition fees. This is compounded by student loans being cut more than the NHS bursary offered to compensate for it
4. That other courses with clinical placements such as nursing and physiotherapy have more comprehensive travel expense compensation schemes for their students
5. That in clinical years, it is unrealistic for a student to maintain more than a light schedule for paid work due to course demands

## **This Union Believes:**

1. That the burden that students should bear for travel cost to placements should be limited to a reasonable amount for an undergraduate full-time student (e.g. to a zone 1-3 travel cost)
2. That the disparity of travel expense compensation between teaching campuses should be appropriate based on actual travel cost

## **This Union Resolves:**

1. To lobby the King's College London School of Medicine to:
  - Provide appropriate, consistent compensation for travel cost to medical students
  - Provide a streamlined method of applying for travel compensation that is accessible to all students regardless of placement

# Medical Students' Maintenance Loans

**Proposed By:** Robbie Hurst  
**Student Number:** 1217150  
**Zone:** Welfare & Community Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** N/A

## **This Union Notes:**

1. The maintenance loan of medical students living in London declines by 23%, when they enter their fourth year. From £3,263 to £2,498.
2. The maintenance loan of medical students living with their parents declines by 22%, when they enter their fourth year. From £1,744 to £1,324.
3. The maintenance loan of medical students living outside London declines by 24%, when they enter their fourth year. From £2,324 to £1,811.
4. The KCLSU student Council Chair was elected campaigning on this issue.

## **This Union Believes:**

1. The decline in maintenance loan leads to unnecessary pressure and strain being imposed on medical students

## **This Union Resolves:**

1. To campaign against and oppose the reduction in fourth year maintenance loans
2. To co-ordinate with and lead other unions on the issue.
3. To create a working group dedicated to the scrapping the reduction in the maintenance loan.

# Reducing Price of Drinks in the Union

**Proposed By:** Barney Lynock  
**Student Number:** 1208285  
**Zone:** Welfare & Community Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** 22/01/2016

## This Union Notes:

1. Rising living costs and a lack of financial support are preventing disadvantaged students from succeeding at university, according to a report by the National Union of Students.
2. It found that poorer students who cannot rely on parental assistance to help them through their studies must work 33 hours a week, 52 weeks a year, in order to cope with a cash shortfall of £8,122 for students in London (Guardian, 2013)
3. London and KCL students face higher cost than those who study outside the capital.
4. Socialising is a main constituent of student costs 10%, £1,310 (NUS <http://www.nus.org.uk/en/advice/money-and-funding/info-and-advice/average-costs-of-living-and-study/>) and being able to afford to do so allows people to take full advantage of the University experience and socialise with those who can afford to.
5. Venues such as ULU and Walkabout temple are able to charge lower prices for drinks and still remain solvent.
6. The Union as of 2012 had cash at hand of £1,604,954 allowing any shortfall to be subsidised whilst the price elasticity predicted by the government (HMRC, 2010) predicts that any fall in price would lead to a significant rise in demand and therefore revenue for the Union.

## This Union Believes:

1. This decrease would help offset other price rises in rent, fuel and general inflation.
2. Many of KCLSU's initiatives take time to implement and campaign for, whilst this can be done instantly.
3. There are ever increasing cost burdens on London students and this is one area where we can directly and instantly lower financial expenditure for students
4. As well as aiding students this will attract more people to the union facilities creating establishing it as the primary venue in the student community, both improving attendance and creating greater student links with KCLSU which is currently on KCLSU's agenda.
5. By providing one cost price non-alcoholic and alcoholic beverage per night students will be able to have the student experience they want whilst simultaneously easing the financial burden of doing, so enabling them to pay for other important necessities without sacrificing either.
6. This policy has a similar net income effect to the campaign by the VPRC Anthony Shaw of paid internships for students so could be used as a temporary measure until he succeeds in his campaign.
7. Socialising is an integral part of university life in the UK, lowering the cost of which will enable more to do so.

## This Union Resolves

1. To provide at least one cost price non-alcoholic per night
2. To provide at least one cost price alcoholic beverage all night.
3. The price of pints of Snakebite be capped at £1 at all union bars all hours.
4. All three to be implemented at the earliest possible opportunity.

[See Points of Information](#)

# Cycling

**Proposed By:** Juliet Laycock  
**Student Number:** 0802137  
**Zone:** Welfare & Community Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** 2 years

## **This Union Notes:**

1. Cycling is a popular mode of transport for Health Students wishing to save money and to exercise.
2. Health School teaching takes place at various sites across South East London.
3. Facilities for cyclists at these sites are highly variable, and often non-existent.

## **This Union Believes:**

1. Safe cycling should be promoted and facilitated by KCLSU and KCL.
2. Students wishing to cycle to various teaching sites should not be hindered by poor facilities.

## **This Union Resolves:**

1. To lobby KCL to ensure a minimum level of facilities at each teaching site, including:
  - Sufficient cycle parking
  - Lockers for all students
  - Shower facilities
2. To provide students with cycle safety tips and recommended cycle routes.

# Shaker Aamer

**Proposed By:** Juliet Laycock  
**Student Number:** 0802137  
**Zone:** Welfare & Community Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** 2 years

## This Union Notes:

1. Shaker Aamer has been held in Guantánamo Bay since 2002 and imprisoned without trial or charge for the last 11 years.<sup>9</sup>
2. Shaker Aamer is a legal permanent resident of the UK who is married to a British national, with four British children living in London.<sup>10</sup>
3. Shaker Aamer is Britain's last remaining Guantanamo Detainee.<sup>11</sup>
4. The British foreign secretary William Hague has personally written to Shaker Aamer reassuring him all is being done to reunite Aamer with his family.<sup>12</sup>
5. It is British government policy that Shaker be returned to his family in the UK.<sup>13</sup>
6. Shaker Aamer has partaken in hunger strikes opposing poor prison conditions in Guantanamo Bay and demanding that prisoners face trial or be released.
7. Guantanamo detainees participating in hunger strikes opposing poor prison conditions and abuse have been subject to dehumanising force feeding methods.<sup>14</sup>
8. Shaker Aamer has been cleared twice for freedom by the US authorities.<sup>15</sup>

## This Union Believes:

1. Unions across the country and world have a history of showing solidarity to prisoners of conscious, as demonstrated during the years Mandela was in prison.
2. Every Guantanamo detainee must either be fairly tried in a US federal court or released.
3. President Obama should hold true to his commitment to closing down Guantanamo Bay.
4. Shaker Aamer should be reunited with his family in the UK as stated by official British policy.
5. The British government should use the influence inherent in its special relationship with the US to ensure that Shaker Aamer is transferred to the UK immediately.
6. Shaker Aamer is an innocent man and does not deserve to be imprisoned in Guantanamo Bay as demonstrated by his innocence being proven twice through a unanimous decision-making process by six defense and security agencies including the CIA, FBI and US department of defense.<sup>16</sup>

## This Union Resolves:

1. KCLSU to name a room in solidarity with Shaker Aamer, Britain's last remaining Guantanamo detainee the following, as requested by Shaker Aamer himself: "Shaker Aamer Room for Justice".

<sup>9</sup> <http://www.newstatesman.com/2013/12/why-russell-brand-banned-gitmo>

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.reprive.org.uk/cases/shakeraamer/>

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2319550/Guantanamo-Bay-British-inmate-Shaker-Aamer-describes-torture>

<sup>12</sup> <http://www.theguardian.com/world/2013/dec/08/hague-letter-hope-for-shaker-aamer>

<sup>13</sup> <http://www.ekkleisia.co.uk/node/18565>

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.theguardian.com/world/shortcuts/2013/jul/09/yasiin-bey-force-fed-guantanomo-bay-mos-def>

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2312284/Shaker-Aamer-Hes-cleared--devastating-secret-MI6-Iraq-invasion->

<sup>16</sup> [http://media.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/nation/pdf/GTMOtaskforcereport\\_052810.pdf](http://media.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/nation/pdf/GTMOtaskforcereport_052810.pdf)

2. KCLSU to work with student groups , Reprieve and the Save Shaker Aamer campaign in raising awareness about the Shaker Aamer case and Guantanamo Bay.
3. KCLSU write a letter to the US Embassy and UK foreign secretary demanding Shaker Aamer's freedom.

# Fix the Accountability of Student Council #sortitout

**Proposed By:** Sebasatiaan Debrouwere, Robbie Hirst, Durr-e-Maknoon Tariq  
**Student Number:** 0802137  
**Zone:** Policy & Governance Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** N/A

## This Union Notes:

1. The legislature of KCLSU is currently known as the Student Council. Student Council decides on the policy and campaigns of KCLSU and scrutinises Trustees;
2. The Student Council is the student body elected by and from students constituted in accordance with the bye laws of the Students Union. There are currently 45 elected Student Councillors;
3. The principal purpose of the Student Council is to represent the views of members via their elected representatives;
4. All students can attend, speak and put forward motions at council, but only Student Councillors can vote;
5. There have been meetings where the number of students in attendance at council have vastly outnumbered the number of councillors;
6. Student council meets fortnightly during term time;
7. Written resolutions and emergency meetings exist to allow the Union to respond swiftly when necessary;
8. Currently, this position of vice-Chair is not open to the general student body to stand up for or to vote for in the KCLSU Autumn Elections;
9. Student Council vice-Chair is elected from within the Student Council and only voting councillors can vote for this position.

## This Union Believes:

1. Healthy democracy exists in a students' union when members engage in the representative structures of that union;
2. When the number of students attending a meeting vastly outnumbers the number of councillors, all students attending should have full democratic rights i.e. the right to vote;
3. The Union's legislature should be as democratic as possible while maintaining functionality;
4. Despite the work of the 45 Councillors, there is scope for improving awareness amongst the wider student body about Council's work and its function as a main forum for representation ;
5. The way in which the vice-chair is currently elected is less than ideal in democratic terms;
6. The current frequency of meetings prevents the full student voice being heard, because course commitments prevent attendance ;
7. More students would attend and engage with Council if they could vote on the motions under discussion;
8. The name student council makes the legislature appear exclusive rather than inclusive;
9. The name student assembly is inclusive.

## This Union Resolves:

1. To hold a comprehensive review into:
  - The democratic rights of students at legislature meetings;
  - The way in which the vice-chair is elected and their role;

- The regularity of meetings;
  - The name of the legislature;
  - A Charter/Code for Student Councillors;
  - The procedure for lapsing policy.
2. Until that review is completed, to add a “sunset clause” about student participation in Council Meetings (i.e. an amendment that will be put up for democratic consideration and vote again once the review is completed). The intention of this “sunset clause” is to amend the bye-laws in such a way that regular Student Council meetings could become Student General Meetings (at which all students can vote) if a physical quoracy of at least 100 students is reached (including Student Councillors):
3. To achieve “This Union Resolves 2” a new article should be inserted in Bye-Law 2 which would read as follows:

“14. A Student General Meeting may be called by the Chair of the Student Council if more than 100 students are present at a Student Council;

14.1. From there on onwards, the meeting shall be chaired in accordance with the rules governing Student General Meetings;

14.2. The rules for proxy-voting (articles 17-19 below) shall not apply to Special General Meetings called impromptu”

# Negative Marking on Exam Papers

**Proposed By:** Thorrun Govind  
**Student Number:** 1064367  
**Zone:** Education Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** N/A

## **This Union Notes:**

1. Students lose 1/3 of a mark for every incorrect multiple choice answer.  
(Pharmacy department)

## **This Union Believes:**

1. Students should not be fearful of answering questions. All questions should be accessible, the wording of questions (eg Select A if all answers are correct, Select B is answer 2 & 3 are correct ) already tests students.

## **This Union Resolves:**

1. The Union should lobby for negative marking in exams to be abandoned to allow students to realise their full potential instead of fearing answering questions.

## KCL Exam Venue

**Proposed By:** Johann Rajakarunanayake  
**Student Number:** 1114049  
**Zone:** Education Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** N/A

### This Union notes:

1. The 2014 exams will be taking place at the Excel Centre in London.
2. Previous examinations pre 2013 took place in locations situated in Zone 1-2 in the London Underground.
3. Approximately 909 KCL students have liked the page "Get KCL to move the May 2014 exams to a more central location" in the space of three days.
4. Students taking exams at the Excel centre have been subjected to conditions unfit for an examinations environment. For example disturbances from planes in nearby City airport.
5. Last year, students reported instances of pigeons flying into the exam hall and defecating on students exam papers.
6. Last year, and this January, many students were either late or had to miss their exam because only one train station services the Excel centre, and no buses go to ExCel directly from Central London either.
7. Last year, students reported instances where the toilets were locked during the exam.

### This Union Believes:

1. KCL should find an alternative examinations venue situated more centrally and is easily accessible via public transport for summer 2014 exam season.
2. The Excel centre is not a suitable examinations venue as it fails to meet basic standards of an exam environment e.g. lack of silence and presence of pigeons/possibility of pigeons defecating on your exam paper.
3. The lack of sunlight and sheer size of the Excel centre arena exacerbates nerves and anxieties for many already nervous about exams.
4. The several disturbances created at the Excel Centre could potentially cost students that extra mark that determines a 2:1 or a 1st.
5. Students who have worked hard for a long period of time for their exams do not deserve to lose marks because they were distracted by loud aeroplane noises, or because they did not have enough time to finish their papers because the toilets were locked.

### This Union Resolves:

1. KCL should move the May 2014 Examinations venue to a location that is more centrally located and easier to access via public transport.
2. KCLSU to officially support, promote and assist the "Get KCL to move the May 2014 exams to a more central location" campaign.
3. KCLSU to lobby university management to consult students before deciding to move the examinations venue in the near future.
4. That the Vice President of Academic Affairs of KCLSU to raise this issue at this year's student rep conference and ask student reps to discuss this issue within SSLC (Student Staff liaison committee meetings)

## WiFi Provision

**Proposed By:** Juliet Laycock  
**Student Number:** 0802137  
**Zone:** Education Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** 2 years

### **This Union Notes:**

1. KCL Medical students undertake their clinical teaching (years 3-5) in various hospitals across the South-East of England.
2. Students may be required to live at hospital sites outside of London for up to 12 weeks at a time.
3. The provision of wifi at these sites is not standardised.
4. The wifi at many sites is difficult to access, slow, and not available in the student accommodation provided.

### **This Union Believes:**

1. Wifi provision should be standardised across all teaching hospitals and their accommodation.
2. Students placed outside of London should not have their studies hindered by poor wifi access.

### **This Union Resolves:**

1. To lobby KCL to ensure sufficient wifi provision in student accommodation sites at all hospitals outside of London

# Freshers Publicity

**Proposed By:** Andrew Baigey  
**Student Number:** 1108789  
**Zone:** Student Groups, Societies & Sports Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** N/A

## **This Union Notes:**

1. That before the start of each academic year, KCLSU sends out promotional material to students and prospective students advertising upcoming Fresher's events;
2. That up until the 2013-14 academic year, this promotional material included both KCLSU events, and events run by ratified student activity groups;
3. That in the month preceding the 2013-14 academic year, KCLSU promotional material included a calendar which only contained the details of KCLSU and Unlocking London events;
4. That for most ratified student activity groups, the KCLSU promotional material is the only way of letting prospective students know about their Freshers' events before the Freshers' Fairs at the end of the first week of term;
5. That for many ratified student activity groups, their Freshers' events are important sources of financial income which is necessary for their operation over the course of the year;
6. That many prospective students assume that the Freshers' events listed in the mail-out calendar are the only ones available.

## **This Union Believes:**

1. that, for most student activity groups, the Freshers' period is when they recruit the most members and have the best opportunity to raise awareness;
2. that the events hosted by student activity groups play a vital role in the Freshers' Week experience;
3. that KCLSU has a responsibility to support all of its ratified societies;
4. that it would not be difficult for KCLSU to give activity groups the opportunity to have their Freshers' events publicised before the start of the academic year, as was done before;
5. that by doing so, KCL would be a more welcoming community for its new students.

## **This Union Resolves:**

1. to ensure that KCLSU includes Freshers' events run by ratified societies in its promotional material sent out before the start of the academic year;
2. to agree that any future changes to this promotional material should be first discussed with Student Council, instead of being changed without consultation.

# Societies Newsletter

**Proposed By:** Robbie Hirst  
**Student Number:** 1217150  
**Zone:** Student Groups, Societies & Sports Zone  
**Policy Lapse:** N/A

## **This Union Notes:**

1. The KCLSU newsletters reach all students college-wide
2. In July 2012 societies had 7,985 members
3. King's College London had 25,187 students in 2012 (the last headcount)
4. The KCLSU student council chair was elected on this issue

## **This Union Believes:**

1. Societies are an exciting and efficient way of bringing students across all campuses together on areas of common interest
2. Societies need help expanding beyond their core support group
3. By bringing students from different campuses together, KCLSU will have a greater ability to unite the student voice

## **This Union Resolves:**

1. To create a society newsletter, to be sent round to all KCL students focused on promoting key events societies hold each month

## Points of Information

### Motion 3 – Living Wage for Student Staff

#### Note 1 Student staff budget at current pay rates vs Student staff budget at London Living wage

|                                           | Commercial Areas | Grant Funded areas | Total Hours per year                                                        | Total                 |
|-------------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 13/14 Budget                              | £226,588         | £124,779           | <b>Basic Rate:</b><br>37,945 hours<br><b>Supervisor Rate:</b><br>6000 hours | £351,367              |
| 13/14 Equivalent hours London Living Wage | £294,636         | £195,605           | <b>Basic Rate:</b><br>37,945 hours<br><b>Supervisor Rate:</b><br>6000 hours | £490,241              |
| <b>Increase</b>                           | <b>£68,048</b>   | <b>£70,826</b>     |                                                                             | <b>£138,874 (39%)</b> |

Note: for forecasting purposes the same % differentiator between supervisor and basic rate has been assumed. Total cost includes Holiday Pay and national insurance contributions.

#### Note 2 Budget Summary 13/14 current vs London Living Wage example

| Commercial Operations                         | Current Budget  | With LLW         |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Trading Income                                | £1,197,641      | £1,197,641       |
| Direct Costs                                  | £416,175        | £416,175         |
| Running Costs                                 | £730,755        | £798,803         |
| <b>Surplus / (Deficit) before support fee</b> | <b>£50,711</b>  | <b>(£17,337)</b> |
| Grant Funded Operations                       |                 |                  |
| Income                                        | £2,828,074      | £2,828,074       |
| Expenditure                                   | £2,563,153      | £2,633,979       |
| Surplus (deficit) on Grant Funded Operations  | £264,921        | £194,095         |
| <b>Surplus (deficit) ALL KCLSU</b>            | <b>£130,959</b> | <b>(£7,915)</b>  |

#### Note 3

KCLSU Trustee Board agreed to become a London Living Wage (LLW) employer for all salaried and sub-contracted staff in 2010/11.

## Points of Information

### Motion 6 – Reducing Price of Drinks in the Union

#### Note 1. Snake Bite

Currently sold in KCLSU venues at £2.50 per pint with the exceptions of Wednesday when the price falls to £2.20 after 7pm.

Total units is 2.5 and a mix of cider, lager and blackcurrant cordial

#### Note 2. Current minimum price per alcoholic unit

= £1 (source: KCLSU Responsible Retailing of Alcohol Standard Operating Procedures – known as Responsible Drinking Policy)

#### Note 3. KCLSU Pricing Panel Principles

1. All standard prices would be consistent across both venues. Only promotional activity would change this and this would be for certain events with clear time period attached.
2. Panel would come together at the end of each term to review/feedback any issues/agree any prices changes for the coming term
3. Decisions made need to be in line with our responsible drinking policy.

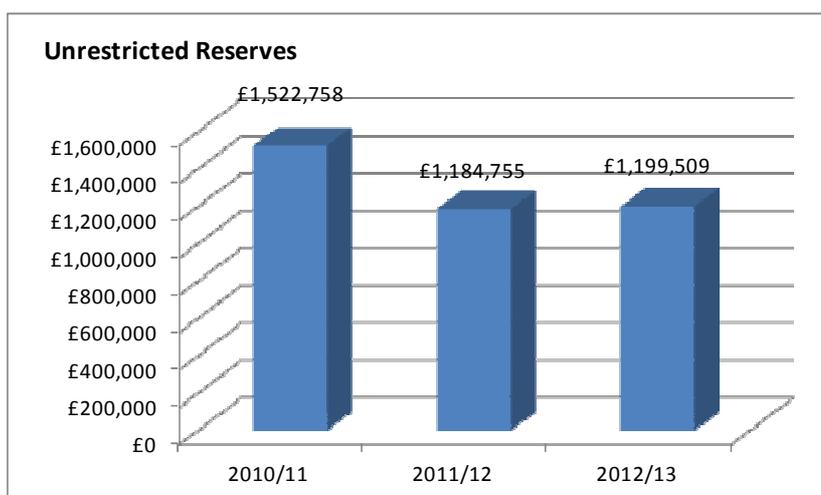
**Pricing Panel Members:** VP Student Activities and Facilities, Commercial Services manager and Venues Managers.

#### Note 4. KCLSU Reserves Policy

Information on charity reserves: <http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/detailed-guidance/money-and-accounts/charities-and-reserves-cc19/#cCLSU> Reserves and Reserves Policy (source KCLSU 2012-13 Annual, Accounts)

Net outflow of funds after all depreciation charges was £32,000 resulting in total assets reducing to £1.42 million.

General reserves which can be used to fund operations increased to £1,129,000 and with the addition of the capital fund of £70,000 total unrestricted reserves total £1,199,000.



#### Reserves Policy

KCLSU reserves policy is that general (unrestricted) reserves should be maintained in the range of three to nine months' operating costs after deducting the College grant at any one time. At this level we believe that we would be able to continue the student facing activities of the organisation in the event of a significant decline in non-College

funding whilst allowing time to re-establish or re-focus income generating activities. As at 31 July 2013 our total unrestricted reserves provided 11 months' cover.

## Changes in reserves

### 17. Funds

|                          | Brought Forward Balance | Increase          | Decrease            | -----Transfers-----              |                  | Balance Carried Forward |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|-------------------------|
|                          |                         |                   |                     | Funding of Fixed Asset Additions | Other Transfers  |                         |
|                          | £                       | £                 | £                   | £                                | £                |                         |
| <b>Restricted</b>        |                         |                   |                     |                                  |                  |                         |
| Student Activity Groups  | 222,613                 | 316,055           | (319,646)           | -                                | -                | 219,022                 |
| Other student Activities | -                       | 15,625            | (15,625)            | -                                | -                | -                       |
| Volunteering Fund        | 43,174                  | -                 | (43,174)            | -                                | -                | -                       |
| <b>Total Restricted</b>  | <b>£265,787</b>         | <b>£331,680</b>   | <b>£(378,445)</b>   | <b>£-</b>                        | <b>£-</b>        | <b>£219,022</b>         |
| <b>Designated</b>        |                         |                   |                     |                                  |                  |                         |
| Capital Fund             | 193,572                 | -                 | (154,415)           | 30,916                           | -                | 70,073                  |
| Development Fund         | 69,113                  | -                 | -                   | -                                | (69,113)         | -                       |
| <b>Total Designated</b>  | <b>£262,685</b>         | <b>£-</b>         | <b>£(154,415)</b>   | <b>£30,916</b>                   | <b>£(69,113)</b> | <b>£70,073</b>          |
| <b>General Reserve</b>   | <b>£922,070</b>         | <b>£4,763,118</b> | <b>£(4,593,949)</b> | <b>£(30,916)</b>                 | <b>£69,113</b>   | <b>£1,129,436</b>       |
| <b>Total Reserves</b>    | <b>£1,450,542</b>       | <b>£5,094,798</b> | <b>£(5,126,809)</b> | <b>£-</b>                        | <b>£-</b>        | <b>£1,418,531</b>       |

## Cash in Hand

### From the Balance Sheet 31 July 2013

|                          | 31 July 2013 | 31 July 2012 |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Cash at Bank and in Hand | 1,382,094    | 1,605,075    |

Cash reduced by £222,891 from 31/7/2012 to 31/7/2013