

GC.11.09.08f

GUILD COUNCIL

19/11/09

Author/contact:	Siobhan Dunne – GEES James Williams – Business Sam Harrow (Biosciences) Michaela Bowles (FocSoc) Charlotte Ward (FocSoc)
Executive Summary:	This motion calls for a change in the Bye laws to allow a vote of no confidence against a Guild Officer which will instigate disciplinary procedures
GOG Recommendation:	Reject

Motion: "They try to make me leave my position; and I say no, no, no"

Guild Council Notes:

1. Guild Council currently has no process in place to remove a Guild Officer.
2. It may be necessary for Guild Council to remove an officer from their position.
3. The current Bye-Laws do not make any provision for this currently or outline what occurs when an Officer receives a total of three votes of censure.
4. The old Bye-Laws did make these provisions but Guild Council has not been informed of their omission in the most recent Bye-Laws passed in July 2008.

Guild Council Believes:

1. There should be a clear process in place which stipulates how an Officer can be disciplined by Guild Council, including if necessary, removal from office.
2. It should be clear what happens when an Officer receives a total of three censures.

Guild Council Resolves:

1. To add the below clause to the Bye-Laws and become Bye Law 7 point 2.3:

"If an Officer receives three votes of censure, there should immediately be an automatic Vote of No Confidence to remove that Officer from their position. This Vote of No Confidence will require an absolute majority of two-thirds and if successful will result in the Officer being referred to an investigation by the Officer Disciplinary Panel, as described in Bye-Law 7 point 2.4."

2. To add the below clause to the Bye-Laws and become Bye Law 7 point 2.4:

"The Officer Disciplinary Panel will be chaired by a representative from the Committee of Independent Chairs and will also be comprised of a member of The Senior Management Team, a representative of the Guild Officer Group and two student members of Guild Council who have already been elected to sit on the Disciplinary Panel. This committee will then meet within 48 hours or at the earliest opportunity to discuss what immediate action, if any should be taken. If the Panel decides that a case against the Officer does exist, it will make rulings to resolve the matter and communicate the action it has taken to Guild Council."

3. To add the below clause to the Bye-Laws and become Bye Law 7 point 2.5:

"Under scrutiny a Vote of No Confidence may be called against an Officer and should it be passed by an absolute two-thirds majority, then it will be referred to the Officer Disciplinary Panel as per Bye-Law 7 point 2.3."

Guild Council Mandates:

1. The President to add these measures into the Bye-Laws pending approval from the University.

Proposed: Siobhan Dunne (GEES Postgraduate)
Seconded: James Williams (Business Ordinary)
Michaela Bowles (FocSoc)
Sam Harrow (Biosciences Ordinary)
Charlotte Ward (FocSoc)