

guildofstudents

Minutes of Guild Council – 6.15pm Thursday 13th May 2008

Will Stevens (Chair), Fabian Neuner (Chair's Aide) Hannah Lazell (Steering)

The Committee of Independent Chairpersons - indchairs@guild.bham.ac.uk

List of Attendees of Guild Council

Ashley Chambers (Aitken Wing)	Alex Starling (Aitken Wing)	Sophie Bailey (Elgar Court)	James Hayward (FOCSOC)
Charlotte Ward (FOCSOC)	Jon Kirby (Hunter Court)	Andrew Jhono Johnstone (Maple Bank)	Claire Lister (Opal One)
Frank Wilcox (Pritchatts Park)	Timothy Stillwell (Tennis Courts)	Matthew Baker (The Beeches)	Peter Haagensen (IQ5)
Samuel Harrow (Biosciences Ord)	Simon Menashy (Business PG)	Hayden Cohen (Education Ord)	Kim Copitch (Education First)
Robert Hosking (Engineering Ord)	Philippa Calver (GEES First)	Chris Blewitt (GEES Ord)	Chris Nash (GEES First)
Rob Hunter (Historical Studies First)	Joanne Grainger (Historical Studies Ord)	Dora Meredith (Historical Studies Ord)	Anna Robin (Historical Studies Ord)
Suzy Raily (Historical Studies First)	Alan Johnson (Historical Studies Ord)	Tom Marley (Historical Studies Ord)	Ed Sparkes (Historical Studies Ord)
Paul McMaster (Historical Studies Ord)	Jo McIver (Medicine Ord)	Brigid Jones (Physics and Astronomy Ord)	Steven Johnson (Physics and Astronomy Ord)
Bryn Gough (Psychology Ord)	Peter Mason (Social Sciences Ord)	Matt Reeves (Social Sciences Ord)	Tom Guise (Labour)
James Williams (Social Sciences Ordinary)	Aron Lewis (Social Sciences Ord)	Anna Loosley (Social Sciences Ord)	James Long (Social Sciences Ord)
Preena Mistry (Social Sciences Ord)	Rebecca Cox (Anglican Society)	Ola Y. Doudin (Arab Society)	Rachael Swanston (ArtSoc)
Emily Stanley (Article 19)	David Bunker (Back to Schools)	Robert Osborne (Ballroom)	Thomas Haelley (BatSoc)
Arun K. Mishra (Bharat Parivar)	David Heath (Bridge Society)	Clare Tampin (BrumSki)	Hailey Smith (Burn FM)
Simon Howel (Bust Ur War)	Stephanie Roberts (Carnival)	Cath Taylor (Carnival)	Natasha Steele (Capaeira)
Andy Chan (Chinese Society)	Jennifer Watt (CivSoc)	Emma Galliano (COGS)	Julia Haslett (Conservation Volunteers)

Heather Minto (Dance Society)	Tom Whittaker (Debating)	Francesca Clark (Debating)	Steve Streatfield (DofE)
Fiona Greville- Heygate (Friends of MSF)	Claire Venables (Fusion)	Hannah Ward (GTV)	Luke Nicholson (German)
Damien Jade Duff (Green Soc)	Rima Patel (Hindu Soc)	Siobhan Dunne (Home Students)	Katy Wilson (Home Students)
Marcella Eyre (Intervol)	Stuart Russell (KIDS Adventure)	Ruben Dario Peralta (Latin American)	Elaine Bagshaw (LibDem)
Jack Lewis (Links)	Sarah Blackaby (LocSoc)	Sarah Jennings (Methodist)	Abel Garcia Najera (Mexican)
Alana Tooze (Niteline)	Fran Norris (Niteline)	Miriam Wesslen Dechicha (Nordic)	Byron Melly (Paintball)
James Ogden (Redbrick)	Alex Smith (Roleplay)	Richard Charlton (Sci-Fi)	Mary Burgess (Scout and Guide)
Jonathon Castell (Skydiving)	Simon Howard (Socialist)	Stuart Brown (Spoons)	Jennifer Watson (Stop Aids)
Neda Ivanovic (Student Advice)	Oliver Hassell (Student Advice)	Natalie Thrall (Talking Hands)	Shona Choudhury (Ten Pin Bowling)
Emma McDowell (3Bugs Fringe)	Helen Seidenberg (1210 DJ)	Zosia Swidlicka (1210 DJ)	Sissi Pentila (United Nations)
Steven Ogborne (Wargames)	Nicholas Oram (Wayfarers)	Edward Roberts- Harry (Welsh)	Domeneque Di Ciacca (Womens)
Gary Hughes Non Voting	Kunal D. Soni Non Voting	Saket Ambarkhane Non Voting	Elizabeth Hardman Non Voting
Emily Rose Dutson Non Voting	Luis V Hesnandez Munoz Non Voting	Sindy Duong Non Voting	Josh Bloom Non Voting
Rich Walker Non Voting	Jennifer Larbie Non Voting	Hollie Jones Non Voting	Jessica Minh Ahn Non Voting
Libby Hooper Non Voting	Rhea Keehn Non Voting	Simon Fairbanks Non Voting	Laura Sadler Non Voting
Will Bastin Non Voting	Lizzy Ralph Non Voting	Sarah Bolt Non Voting	Naush Khan Non Voting

Apologies

Richard Charlton –Psychology Ordinary (attended as Sci Fi), Tim Stillwell – Business Ordinary (attended as Tennis Courts), African and Caribbean Society, Islamic Society, Julian Pritchard (Ethical and Environmental Officer), Navigators Society, Marrow, Sean Rath (Community Action Officer), Paul McMaster (Bridge Society), Jarratt Hall RAs, Amnesty International, EconSoc, Diving Club, BUSCR (Change Ringers) CVG Alex Wright (LGBTQ Officer), Hellenic Society, Lifesaving Club, Film Society, Peter Lewis (Computer Science Postgraduate), Equisoc, Watch This!,

Matt Reeves (Social Science Ordinary), FECX, SMPS, Talking Hands, Sundeep Johal (Social Science First Year), Catholic Society, Astrosoc

Introduction from Will Stevens (Chair)

- Welcome to the first Joint Meeting of Guild Council, and welcome to new Guild Councillors elected in May.
- Staff Protocol read out
- Introduction to Independent chairs explained
- Voting cards explained

- **Count of quorum** – 84 voting Guild Councillors in the room – Meeting opened.

1. Starring of the Agenda and approval of the Executive's Recommendations

Items starred – 1, 2, 3, 4a 1 and 6, 4b, 4c, 6A, 6B

Vote to approve all unstarred items on agenda including all ratifications and Motions. **Vote Passed**
(For – 85%, Against – 5%, Abstain – 10%)

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of Guild Council held on Thursday 17th January 2008

Corrections to previous minutes;

- Sam Harrow (Tennis Courts) present but not in minutes
- Scout society – spelling
- Neda Ivanovic (Student Advice) present but not in the minutes

Vote to accept minutes – 79% For, 7% Against, 14% Abstain - Approved

3. Elections

a). Independent Chairs (3 Full Member positions)

Nominations:

- Fabian Neuner (Independent Chair)
- Steven Johnson (Physics and Astronomy Ordinary)

Speeches

Steve Johnson (Physics and Astronomy Ordinary) – It worries me if people can't be included. Have seen 10 different chairs and seen what works and what doesn't. Need to be able to think on spot and adapt. Understand the constitution and have been involved in the changes that are being made. Independent chair one of few places to see the work students do.

Fabian Neuner (Independent Chair)– Disappointed that only two candidates. Guild Council last year in comparison to this year has been very different. Stood on manifesto last time to make Guild Council more accessible and engaging. Easier and more fluid now. As Independent Chair you can make a change as to how things run as proven this year. Involved since first year and had a great time.

Questions

Ed Sparkes (Historical Studies Ordinary) - what would you say to Guild Councillors who have not been here, are not here and will not be here?

Fabian Neuner – Would ask why they are Guild Councillors as they are stealing the opportunity from others. I would ask them to stand down

Steven Johnson (Physics and Astronomy Ordinary) – I would show them what Guild Council actually does as is a very good opportunity.

Richard Charlton (Sci Fi) - both have a lot of work to do, and Independent chair takes up a lot of time how will you prioritise?

Steven Johnson (Physics and Astronomy Ordinary) – I am a 1st year phd student so I have three years to do work so can manage the time

Fabian Neuner – I will manage both roles well

Candidates

Fabian Neuner
Steven Johnson
RON

The Chair explained the process of the vote

Frank Wilcox (Pritchatts Park) – asked if RON beats a candidate are they disqualified?

The Chair stated it would depend how the votes are redistributed, RON may not automatically remove a candidate

The Chair closed the election

b) Appointments Panel (2 Guild Councillor Positions)

Nominations

- Tom Guise
- Peter Mason
- Sam Harrow
- Claire Lister
- Cath Taylor

Speeches

Tom Guise (Labour) – I am a 2nd year Sociology and Politics student. I have fulfilled my Guild Councillor role with integrity. I want to make sure Trustee Board is a good Trustee Board and can operate to take the Guild forward. I have sat on Resources Committee as observer.

Sam Harrow (Biosciences Ordinary) – I am a 1st year natural sciences student, RA and new Guild Councillor. I have been involved since I stood for election. I think selecting Trustees involves being a judge of character. I am here to fight for the rights of students.

Claire Lister (Opal 1) – I am a RA for Opal 1. I want to help represent the Guild and I really enjoy the Guild. I am willing to learn and gain new experiences.

Cath Taylor (Carnival) – I am currently Carnival secretary. I am not afraid to put hard work into things, for example Carnival deal with thousands of pounds of money. I am a responsible person, and a final year Law student. I am not afraid to ask difficult questions.

Peter Mason (Social Science Ordinary) – There is history in this building, and I want this to continue. I have been a trustee of the Guild and the University, plus 2 local schools. I have an understanding of what trustees are and what skill sets are needed.

Questions

If had to choose qualities trustee should have (3 words) what would they be?

Claire Lister (Opal 1) – honest, reliable, interesting

Sam Harrow (Biosciences Ordinary) - Trustworthy, understanding, fair

Cath Taylor (Carnival) - Just, sensible, dedicated

Tom Guise (Labour) - Impartial, judgement, integrity

Peter Mason (Social Science Ordinary) - Very student friendly

Could you please outline any previous experience of recruitment?

Peter Mason (Social Science Ordinary) – experience of recruiting members of staff at the Guild, but I recognise that selecting for trustees is different.

Tom Guise (Labour) – I have worked for member of parliament, I dealt with lots of internship applications and had a say in who to accept onto program.

Claire Lister (Opal 1) – I was a deputy manager of Tammy store, so spent lots of time hiring and training staff.

Sam Harrow (Biosciences Ordinary) – I was a member of student staff at College, helped staff with recruiting successors. I also think that I had some experience of recruitment during the Executive elections, as you had to decide who would be best for the Guild.

Claire Lister (Opal 1) – I do not have as much experience as I am a 1st year student, but I think I am good at being able to see good qualities in people.

What do you think the role of trustee is?

Sam Harrow (Biosciences Ordinary) – I think it is a mixture of independent people and people interested in the Guild.

Cath Taylor (Carnival) – A trustee holds responsibility for situation or body but not benefiting from it themselves.

Tom Guise (Labour) – I believe it is bad practice to recruit from a job description and choose people who tick the boxes. I will be looking for two qualities – their motivation and what they think the Guild should be, and want them to be able to be impartial.

Claire Lister (Opal 1) – I want someone who can make more informed decisions than us and someone who will help to move the Guild forward.

Peter Mason (Social Science Ordinary) – I think they should hold the organisation in their trust, but also be legally responsible for the organisation. Trustees are not there to be political officers, they should be impartial.

What does the Guild mean to you?

Tom Guise (Labour) – Having fun and meeting new people.

Sam Harrow (Biosciences Ordinary) – Democracy, representation and Fun. The people, the democracy and the fun.

Peter Mason (Social Science Ordinary) – I think its objectives really say what its about. Fundamentally its about representing students to the University. Making sure students are protected against every threat. The Guild is here to defend member's rights. The Guild brings us together and helps develop us as individuals.

Cath Taylor (Carnival) –For me the Guild is everything at Univeristy. It is friendship, and allows me to grow up as a person. The Guild is a supporting network, representing members.

Claire Lister (Opal 1) – The Guild for me is belonging, somewhere to have fun but also to get support. It allows us to have opportunities and new experiences.

Candidates

- Tom Guise
- Peter Mason
- Sam Harrow
- Claire Lister
- Cath Taylor
- RON

The Chair explained the voting procedure and closed the election.

4. Reports, questions, communications, and suggestions

a) Reports:

Executive Officers

All Officer Reports where received with the exception of the Disabled Students' Officer, Black and Minority Ethnic Officer and International Students' Officer.

The Chair stated that the reports will be taken in two parts – approval of reports submitted on time, and the vote for automatic censure for officers who did not submit reports.

Questions:

To VPDR– Social Sciences was the only contested Guild Council election. How are you going to ensure that the other elections contested in future?

VPDR – we have had more elections this year than ever before, especially when you include the referendum. In future we will prepare further in advance. We tried moving this election to another semester to see if saw an increase in voter turnout, actually there was a higher turnout than in previous years.

Tom Guise (Labour Students) to VPDR – you said in your report that you have had meetings with the Security working group, can you expand on this?

VPDR – we discussed CCTV, room closing, and lanyards. At the last meeting a Resources paper was actioned which got new CCTV installed.

Tom Guise (Labour Students) to VPW – you say that all jobs in the Job Zone should have no age limit on minimum wage – is this something you would like to see as a wider campaign?

VPW – I received mixed feedback on this from other job shops, but I am following it up.

Frank Wilcox (Pritchatts Park) to VPHC – Are there are problems with the Mason development with doors not closing properly?

VPHC – we did get to see a show flat, but a little late to make changes. The University have said they will look into the storage space though.

To VPW – We want to congratulate you for the work on Tax rates for PhD students. When will it start?

VPW – I am talking to the Council tax office, but we want to get this soon.

Sam Harrow (Biosciences ordinary) to VPDR – the big Guild BBQ is a good idea, but how are you expecting to talk about byelaws there?

VPDR – we will produce a pamphlet about the byelaws which students can read whilst they get food. There will also be display boards.

Tom Whittaker, (Debating) to President – Could you make the Guild of Students website better?

President – we are working with the Marketing and Communications department who are meeting with potential website providers next week. The current website provider has pulled out, so we will have a new website soon

Tom Marley (History ordinary) to VPDR – Would it be more possible to work more closely with University for e-voting?

VPDR – I met with the University last week to see if we could do e-voting through their portal. They said that they could build something from scratch for us but it would be expensive. The most reasonable way to do it is use another website provider, but use mybham login details.

*Vote to approve all reports except DSO, ISO and BME0 reports, **Passed 86%.**
Therefore the Reports were accepted (For: 86%, Abstain: 11%, Against: 3%).*

Move to automatic censure of DSO, ISO BME0 for late report.

Procedural motion to take remaining three reports in parts (by officer)

Speech in favour of Procedural Motion:

Vice President (Education and Access) – it is important to hear why each of the reports wasn't submitted.

Speech against Procedural Motion – formally

Vote on Procedural Motion – For – 79% against- 21%

Disabled Students' Officer Censure:

Speech in favour:

Frances Norris (Niteline) – we have had no support from this officer, they never come to Guild Council so should be censured.

Speech against – formally

For – 94% Against – 6%

Black and Minority Ethnic Officer Censure

Speech in favour:

Hayden Cohen (Education Ordinary) – a report only requires one word. When an officer doesn't submit report it shows complete disregard of role. I can't see any excuse for not submitting report.

Speech against:

Vice President (Education and Access) – Hayden spoke about disrespect, but this comes about from actions. The Black and Minority Ethnic Officer has done a lot of work and is a great credit to the Guild. We are currently working with them regarding the amount of time they require for exams.

For – 42% Against – 58%

International Students' Officer Censure

Speech in favour:

Hayden Cohen (Education Ordinary) I am reiterating what I said before, but would like to add that it is irrelevant what a person does for the rest of time because they are here to be held to account by Guild Councillors. I don't know what they have done, so can not judge this.

Speech against:

President – the International Students' Officer has been an exceptional officer since they were elected. They recently attended the International Students' Officers student conference and got elected to sit on NUS committee. Their students know what they are doing and she is doing it well.

For – 46% Against – 54%

Report on Resolutions Extant

Delivered by the President

The Great Bursary Embarrassment:

- The National Bursary Scheme was voted on at NUS conference.

- The Vice President (Education and Access) discussed the bursary procedure with the Pro Vice Chancellor, Academic Quality and Access.
- The President discussed this with the Vice Chancellor.

BMEA Name Change

- This has been done

Representation Scheme

- The Representation structure in new colleges has been passed and agreed by Senate
- Will be Student Representation in Colleges

NUS Governance

- Conference delegates voted for change, but it fell overall.

b) Communications:

1. President read a statement regarding the No platform policy which states that "some of you may have seen the article in the Birmingham Post recently; regarding the Guild's no platform policy and the Hizb-ut-Tahrir. Racism is a topic that this Guild has a tradition of fighting. It was this Guild of Students that was one of the first to pass a no-platform policy, to no-platform Hizb-ut-Tahrir and we pushed for the NUS to have a no platform policy too. Let me be clear, our no platform policy means that we will not give a voice to any racist or discriminatory groups or people, in order to protect our members. The Guild will always defend our students' rights in the face of anti-Semitic, homophobic or racist attacks on our campus and community. We do not, and have never, condoned the Hizb-ut-Tahrir. We do not associate with them and they are not welcome on our campus. We have a no platform policy that states we will not give them a platform to voice their views. The Guild is the representational body for all 28,000 students and their views and values are deeply important to us. All Guild members are bound by our constitution, bye-laws and policies. Any possible breach of these is taken seriously, and may be subject to Guild Discipline procedure."
2. The Independent Chairs read a statement regarding an investigation which is currently being conducted. This stated that "an investigation is underway as a result of a situation which has arisen surrounding the Guild's no platform policy. As such we are unable to discuss anything relating to this. The outcome of this investigation will be presented at the first possible Guild Council after the conclusion of the investigation".
3. Congratulations from Vice President (Welfare) to LGBTQ for Campaign of the year.
4. Nightbus will be launching again at end of term.

5. Vale Festival is on 10th June. Lots of people are needed for stewarding. Incentives such as money back off tickets are offered. Please see the stewards Facebook group for more info.
6. Guild Councillor Training will be on 9th June.
7. SUEI – need students to take part in interviews. The deadline for applications tomorrow, however, you cannot do it if you are a Guild Councillor.
8. Honorary Life Membership – Forms are now downloadable from the website.
9. A number of Awards have been received by the Guild – The Guild was awarded 'Best Bar None' which says we are one of the best bars in the country. We also received a bronze Sound Impact Award; this is another accreditation award which looks at environmental impact.
10. There is a Pro-choice rally next Tuesday , free transport available
11. Please let constituents know that Niteline doing drop ins in library during the exam period.
12. Pritchatts Music Festival is on 7th June and is free.

c) Opportunity for Questions, and Suggestions

Ed Sparkes (historical Studies Ordinary) asked the VPEA – I often email my constituents but some receptionists in some departments don't like it. Do I have any rights in this area?

VPEA – no but if you would like me to talk to them I will.

Tom Guise asked the VPEA – could you provide an update on the motion regarding reading packs on line?

VPEA – I am doing an investigation into it. I am looking at other departments as to how they do it, and the work we have done on hidden course costs to strengthen the argument.

Tom Guise asked VPEA – I got email today about Facebook, and that departments have the right to use Facebook against students. Can you explain this?

VPEA – this guidance was written a long time ago, but it got sent out today. I would be interested to know if there is a Facebook group relating to your department, which has resulted in this. These guidelines came about in a much stricter form, so we worked together with the University to develop a friendlier message. The Regulations are there to help support students as well. Basically the University is not saying anything that isn't law already.

Hayden Cohen (Education Ordinary) to the Executive Committee – what is being done to help Non-Sabbatical Officers feel more involved?

Home Students' Officer – as a Non-Sabbatical Officer I have had so much support. We all have a “Sabb buddy” which is really useful. We also have a staff mentor to talk to. Having the support of the Sabbatical Officers has meant that I have been able to do a lot more that I would have been able to do without their help.

Suzy Raily (Historical Studies First Year) to the Executive Committee – will you be having vegetarian options at the Bylaws BBQ?

Vice President (Democracy and Resources) – We have agreed a Halal menu and vegetarian options will be available. The BBQ is next Thursday.

The Executive Officers gave a presentation on the new byelaws.

If anyone had questioned they were advised to contact the officers via email, or email democracy@guild.bham.ac.uk.

6. Motions

All Motions below where approved by Guild Council:

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
a)	Accommodation Prices	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

1. That the VPHC and the VPEA lobby the university to take university hall prices as a serious barrier to participation, for those from less privileged background.
2. That in future developments of university halls (i.e. Chamberlain Hall) the university consult the guild and students, to look at providing for affordable accommodation.

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
c)	Housing of Multiple Occupancy	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

1. To lobby local councils and governments to reduce the restrictions on HMO licensing to cover a greater amount of student houses for students at the University of Birmingham.
2. To write to local MP's about the HMO campaign.
3. Lobby the government to increase the minimum standards that a HMO must meet to be granted a licence, particularly that such standards include a valid gas certificate and proper electrical wiring.
4. Actively lobby members of parliament to resist any changes in legislation that seeks to discriminate against student's place of occupation.
5. That this works alongside the current Accreditation Scheme

Guild Council Mandates:

1. For the VPHC to enact the resolves.

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
d)	Save Darfur: Action on Genocide	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

6. To support the efforts of the Aegis Trust, Aegis Students, the NUS Society and Citizenship Campaign and local action to draw the attention of the UK Government to our demands that Darfur's human rights abuses are treated as a priority
7. To support the Anti-Racism, Anti-Fascism Officer financially and politically in organising our students in local and national action, like the Day for Darfur.

Guild Council Mandates:

1. the Anti-Racism, Anti-Fascism Officer to speak very nicely to the Editor of Redbrick and see whether we can use our major communication link with students to continually draw attention to the opportunities to campaign for Darfur.
2. the Vice President (Student Activities and Development) and the Anti-Racism, Anti-Fascism Officer to make it a priority to engage students in our campaigning work by organising elections and campaigns for the Anti-Racism, Anti-Fascism Committee.

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
e)	Domestic Violence And Abuse	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

1. Write a letter to the Education Minister for Children, Schools and Families, currently Ed Balls; Harriet Harman, Minister for Women; and Communities and Local Government Secretary, Hazel Blears, emphasising that there is no

- excuse for violence against women and that the current education system should be incorporating 'lessons for life' regarding violence against women.
2. To lobby WMAMUS to campaign for local schools and colleges in Birmingham to incorporate a mandatory session on violence against women once/twice a year.
 3. Campaign for VAW services in Birmingham
 4. Campaign for a Rape Crisis Centre in Birmingham.
 5. Campaign for increased funding to Rape Crisis Centres.
 6. To review the checks and measures for elections and disclosures for candidates standing in all elections that the Guild holds.

Guild Council Mandates:

1. For the VPW and WO to enact the resolutions above.
2. To submit this motion to WMANUS.

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
f)	Support for Sport	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

1. Support the need for new, larger and better quality sports facilities on campus.
2. That if considerable progress has not been made on the development of new facilities by September 2008, a call for more decisive action will be taken.

Guild Council Mandates:

1. The Executive (led by the VPS) to work with the Director of Sport in promoting the student need for significant investment into new sports facilities to the university.

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
g)	Abortion Rights	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

1. For the Guild of Students to support a women's right to choose.
2. To work with Abortion Rights, Family Planning Association and other Pro Choice organisations (where necessary) to oppose anti choice amendments to the Human Embryology and Fertilisation Bill and to support improvements to the law to increase a women's right to choose. Amendments such as mandatory counselling period, restrictions in time limit should be opposed.
3. For representatives of the Guild to attend lobbies of Parliament.

4. To Lobby local MP's to attend the reading and debates regarding abortion and related topics and ensure that they vote against anti choice amendments and motions.
5. Attend public initiatives, including meetings, rallies, lobbies of Parliament, writing to and meeting MP's as the Guild of Students sees fit to support the Pro Choice Movement.
6. To campaign for comprehensive sex and relationship education to be compulsory in schools and colleges.
7. To support the campaign and lobbying for more funds towards free contraception, sexual health clinics and sexual health awareness in the Birmingham area
8. Hold a Pro Choice Campaign– with leaflets, petitions (postcards and letters to MP's) and writing into local papers for students at the University of Birmingham.
9. To campaign for all women to have equal access in the UK.

Guild Council Mandates:

1. The Women's Officer and Vice President of Welfare to support the campaign for Pro Choice.
2. The Women's Officer and Women's Network Association to work together to create and organise a campaign supporting the Pro Choice movement.
3. The VPEA and VPW to lobby local and national governments and local council to increase/create compulsory comprehensive sex and relationship education in schools and colleges.
4. The Guild representatives to write to local MP's to gain support for the Pro Choice movement and to attend readings and debates in Parliament.

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
h)	Equal Pay	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

1. To work with trade unions to support the campaign for women's pension rights.
2. To lobby the Minister for Women and the Government to take seriously women's unequal pay and push the government commitment on this issue.
3. To campaign for the implementation of Mandatory Pay Audits.
4. To campaign for a National Minimum Wage for all ages.
5. To campaign against the ELQ cuts.
6. To sign and promote the Petition at www.petitions.pm.gov.uk/ELQFunding and the Early Day Motion 317.

7. To provide campaign material highlighting that when women have children the pay gap widens even more, as a prominent part of the Equal Pay Campaign.
8. To continue its work on equal pay and lobby the University for pay audits.
9. Ensure that the Job zone audits its employers to ensure students are protected against unequal pay in the workplace.
10. [To only accept Jobs in the Job Zone that offer same wage for all students regardless of their age.]

Guild Council Mandates:

1. For the VPW and the VPSAD to enact the list of resolutions.

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
i)	Mature Students Rights	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

1. To make meetings, Guild Council and activities that the Guild of Students provide inclusive to ALL students.
2. To campaign for more financial support for mature students.
3. To campaign and lobby for a Government package for childcare allowance for students.
4. To actively encourage the University of Birmingham to create bursaries for mature students and those with childcare responsibilities.
5. To carry out research to see how many mature students, what they'd like to see, what problems they face, the amount of mature students that leave because of these problems at the University of Birmingham.
6. To research the impact of being a mature student with regards to National Insurance contributions and in particular part time students.
7. Work with the Job zone to campaign on this issue.
8. To lobby the Government regarding students who lose out on NI contributions because they undertake education/training at the expense of some of their working hours.

Guild Council Mandates:

1. For the VPW and the PMSO to enact the list of resolutions.

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
j)	Childcare	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

1. To lobby the University to prioritise students with children as a priority for planning timetables for students.
2. To research into the potential of a crèche in the Guild of Students for 3-5 years for children 3 months and over.
3. To campaign for the crèche to be open the same hours as the library.
4. To have highchairs in every food dispenser, restaurant on University campus and bar.
5. Lobby for realistic grants to be awarded to student parents and carers to cover their childcare costs while studying, or volunteering for the union.
6. To lobby the University to collect and analyse statistics and data on the number of student parents at the University of Birmingham.
7. Campaign for student parents to be allowed to claim job seekers allowance.
8. Conduct research into having a students' with caring responsibilities committee.
9. To campaign against the cuts to ELQ funding.

Guild Council Mandates:

1. For the VPW and PMSO to enact this list of resolutions.

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
k)	Tenancy Deposit Scheme	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

1. To campaign to change the annual rental income figure to £52,425.

Guild Council Mandates:

1. For the VPHC to enact the resolution.

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
l)	That fares not Fair	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

1. To end once and for all any dispute on Falcon prices.
2. To prevent students being abused when in a vulnerable position.

Guild Council Mandates:

1. The President and VPW to contact Falcon and warn them of the reported abuses.
2. The President and VPW to if necessary re-evaluate the contract with Falcon.

3. The President and VPW, to liaise with Falcon or any other supported firm to produce an up-to-date, more detailed, more concrete pricing list *that drivers' will adhere to* **and make this widely available to the student population.**

	<u>Motion Name</u>	<u>Exec Recommendation</u>	<u>Vote Needed</u>
m)	Safe Taxis in Birmingham	Approval	Simple Majority

Guild Council Resolves:

1. To support the Hail Rape campaign by lobbying Birmingham City Council Licensing Authority and local MP's, liaising with local networks in the West Midlands.

Guild Council Mandates:

1. For the President and VPW to work to enact this resolution
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3. Election Results:

Independent Chairs:

Fabian Neuner (Independent Chair) and Steven Johnson (Physics and Astronomy Ordinary) were duly elected to the Position of Independent Chair for the Year 2008 / 2009. The third Independent Chair Position will be elected at the June Guild Council.

Appointments Panel:

Peter Mason (Social Sciences Ordinary) and Cath Taylor (Carnival) were duly elected to the Trustee Board Appointments Panel.

Meeting closed 20:49