

039 Goodbye my lover...Goodbye my inactive committee member (Amendment to the Bye-Laws)

Proposer: Evie Drennan, (Activities and Opportunities Officer)

Second: Serene Shibli Sexton (Campaigns and Democracy Officer)

Summary

I would like this motion to achieve a change in by-laws to allow removing inactive student group committee members easier for all. Also, to introduce and apply this process to student executives.

Union Notes

1. Inactive committee members/student executives take up a lot of time and resource of the remaining committee members trying to track them down and this is extremely frustrating for all involved.
2. There are no current ways to remove committee members rather than holding a general meeting.
3. Many clubs and societies have members that are inactive and disengaged from the student group and so will not attend a general meeting. This makes getting quoracy difficult and removals harder.
4. Student groups have no control over who buys their membership. This can again lead to making quoracy difficult.
5. There are no current ways to remove inactive student executives.

Union Believes

1. Therefore, council believes there should be a change to the by-laws to allow the removal of committee members from student groups for inactivity, for a fair and reasonable amount of time without prior contact.
2. By adding these changes to the by-laws, a lot of time and resource will be saved, which benefits all committee members and student group members.

Union Resolves

1. Add to Bye-Law 9.22 and relabel subsequent bye-laws accordingly, with:

9.22 b) attend the meetings relevant for the running of their student group(s)
2. Add Bye-law 9.33-9.35 and renumber subsequent bye-laws accordingly:

Removal of Students from Elected Committee Positions:

9.33 Students elected to the committees of student groups who are absent from two consecutive committee meetings of their student group, organised in accordance with bye-law (9.23) without having sent apologies for non-attendance, may be removed from their elected positions at the second meeting of non-attendance by a vote of no confidence, meeting quoracy, by the rest of the committee.

9.34 An apology for absence shall be considered valid if is submitted in writing to:

9.34.1 The President;

9.34.2 The Secretary; or

9.34.3 The committee member responsible for calling the meeting

9.35 This vote will only come into effect once ratified by the Activities and Opportunities Officer.

9.36 This, as with all committee decisions, this can be overturned by a general meeting of the relevant student group.

3. Edit Bye-law 9.23 with: A committee meeting shall comply with the following regulations:

a) The meeting must be advertised 5 working days in advance with invitations and agenda sent out to all required members.

b) It is the responsibility of the meeting organiser to ensure all required attendees are made aware of the meeting.

c) The meeting must have minutes taken, a record of those in attendance and apologies sent must be recorded to be considered an official committee meeting.

4. Edit bye-law 14 and renumber subsequent bye-laws accordingly to include:

14.6 Elected members of Subsidiary Committees of Union Council

14.6.1 Any elected member of a subsidiary committee of Union Council, including a Student Officer, who is absent, without sending apologies in advance, for two consecutive meeting of their relevant committee may be removed by a vote of no confidence, meeting quoracy, by the relevant committee.

14.6.2 An apology for absence shall be considered valid if is submitted in writing to any of the following:

14.6.2.1 The primary elected officer;

14.6.2.2 Emailed to the relevant Union Department; or

14.6.2.3 The Chair of the relevant Committee.

14.6.7 Additionally if an elected member of a subsidiary committee is absent for more than 60% of meetings in a term, given no evidence of extenuating circumstance, the elected member may be subject to a vote of no confidence at the next available meeting, at quoracy, of the relevant committee.

14.6.7 The result of this vote may be appealed at Union Council.