

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 20th March,

1pm - 2pm

The Old Theatre, Old Building



AGENDA - 20th March 2014

1. Welcome - What the AGM is

 2. Ratification of the previous AGM

 3. Receive Trustees Report & Strategic Priorities Update

 4. Receive 2012/13 Accounts

 5. Appointments of the Auditors

 6. Review and Approve list of affiliations

 7. Discussion and Debate on the 2013/14 Financial Year

 8. Discussion and Debate on the 2014/15 Financial Year

 9. Open questions to the Trustees by the members
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UGM

1. Motion: LSESU should Support Ukraine and Condemn Putin's Aggression

Proposer - Will Duffield, Hayek Society Vice President

Secunder - Elena Balbekova, President of Ukrainian Society at LSE

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2. Motion: LSESU should Introduce a BME Officer

Proposer - Rayhan Uddin

Secunder - Taofiq Akinpeju

Speaking against - Hari Prabu

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3. Vote online at lesu.com/vote - log in with your School username and password

Please note that this AGM will be recorded through the lecture capture system.

EQUAL ACCESS

LSESU has a zero tolerance policy on harassment or threatening behaviour towards our students. The UGM is a safe space whereby any student can raise issues without having to worry about intimidation, abuse or attacks on their character. If the chair feels that this spirit has been compromised, the meeting will be terminated.

TO DEBATE

- To submit a debate or to get involved in a debate email su.democracy@lse.ac.uk or L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk
- Join the debate on twitter - #lovelse @lsesu

CALL FOR ACCOUNTABILITY

If you would like to question the Sabbatical Officers or any other elected Officers you can call for accountability to the Chair.

HOW TO SUBMIT A MOTION

What is a motion?

A UGM motion is a document proposing a change to the Union's policy. Motion can be submitted on anything ranging from decisions the School or Union has taken, to wider national and even international concerns.

How do I submit a motion?

Motions must be submitted via email (su.democracy@lse.ac.uk) **before Friday at 5pm** to be discussed at the Democracy Committee the next week. If the motion is accepted by the Committee, it will appear on the order paper at the next UGM.

Check out the guide to submitting a motion at llesu.com/yourunion

How do I get a motion passed?

At the UGM the motion will need to be proposed and seconded. You should be ready to take questions from students. The motion will then go to an online vote. Once 250 people have voted, a simple majority is required for the motion to be passed into policy.

Any Questions?

Contact the Democracy Committee on su.democracy@lse.ac.uk or the Engagement Coordinator on L.A.Burley@lse.ac.uk.

AFFILIATIONS

- 3 Cosas
- Abortion Rights
- Advice UK
- British Universities & Colleges Sport
- Defend the Right to Protest Campaign
- Equal Access Campaign
- Love Music Hate Racism
- Meat Free Mondays
- National Union of Students
- Save a Child's Heart
- Student Action for Refugees
- UK Council for International Student Affairs (UKCISA)
- Unite Against Fascism
- Workers' Rights Consortium

Motion to Support Ukraine and Condemn Putin's Aggression

Proposer: Will Duffield, Hayek Society Vice President

Secunder: Elena Balbekova, President of Ukrainian Society at LSE

This Union notes:

- That the EuroMaidan protests led to the legitimate transfer of power from the Yanukovych regime to the newly elected transitional government
- That instead of respecting Ukrainian sovereignty, Putin has responded to this transition by invading and annexing Crimea
- That the Crimean referendum occurred under a foreign military occupation, and did not include an option to remain a territory of Ukraine
- That Crimean tartars and ethnic Ukrainians in Crimea have faced discrimination from Russia in the past, and are likely to face discrimination as a result of Putin's influence in Crimea
- That the United States and the European Union have condemned the Crimean referendum as illegitimate
- That the United States and the European Union have imposed constructive sanctions upon Russia

This Union Believes:

- That the Russian invasion and annexation of Crimea is illegitimate and unjustly violates Ukrainian sovereignty
- That the presence of Russian troops in Crimea threatens broader regional and national stability
- That in order to uphold its commitment to the LSE Ethics code, the LSE should not fund, or benefit from the support of, a regime which callously violates the borders of its neighbors

This Union Resolves:

- To instruct the General Secretary to issue a statement, on behalf of the Student Union, supporting Ukrainian sovereignty and condemning the illegitimate annexation of Crimea
- To instruct the General Secretary to investigate and prepare a report upon LSE investments in, and donations from, pro-Putin organizations and Russian state owned corporations
- For such a report to be brought forth to the school's Court of Governor's meeting no later than July 3rd, 2014

Motion to introduce a BME Officer

Proposer: Rayhan Uddin

Secunder: Taofiq Akinpeju

This union notes:

- LSE has one of the most ethnically diverse student bodies in the country
- LSESU has a proud history of inclusion and liberation for various marginalised groups
- The National Union of Students (NUS), as well as many Student Unions across the country (e.g. UCL and Nottingham), have 4 liberation groups: women, disabled students, LGBT students, and BME (Black and Minority Ethnic) students
- LSESU currently has three liberation groups: women, disabled students and LGBT students
- In the past, some LSESU Anti-Racism Officers have chosen to address some of the issues relating to BME liberation
- The role of the LSESU Anti-Racism Officer is to “eliminate and counter all forms of racism based on race, religion or nationality”
- The Anti-Racism Officer is not constitutionally obligated to deal with issues of underrepresentation, inclusivity and wider engagement
- The role of Anti-Racism Officer is not a liberation position, and students do not need to self define to run or vote for it
- Currently there is no mechanism to ensure a BME representative on the LSESU executive
- Historically, the SU executive has comprised of majority white and Home students, despite a sizeable proportion of students being non-white or International

-A clause in the 2014 LSESU Community Voting motion outlines that were a BME officer to be introduced, they would be elected by community voting

This union believes:

-Issues affecting BME students extend much further than anti-racism alone, for example wider engagement, representation and inclusivity

-Since there is no constitutional safeguard to ensure BME liberation issues are discussed; these concerns have been, and may continue to be, overlooked

-Having a BME Officer will ensure that BME concerns are discussed and are at the heart of Student Union activity

-Having a BME Officer will ensure that a caucus for self-defining BME students exists, and that they can be in control of their liberation

-The research being produced by the *BME at LSE* focus groups confirms a perception of a “cliquey”, “white” and “middle-class” Student Union

-The research confirms the need for BME representation within the SU

This union resolves:

-To amend the Union’s byelaws to establish a part time BME liberation officer, who will become a member of the SU executive

-This officer’s role will be constitutionally defined as being responsible for “dealing with issues of underrepresentation, inclusivity, wider engagement and other issues concerning BME liberation”

-The Democracy Committee be required to call an election for this position no later than the end of Michaelmas Term in 2014. Subsequent elections will be held during Lent Term elections.

-Candidates running for this position must self-define as being BME (Black or Ethnic Minority). This consists of being of "non-white" descent as defined by the Institute of Race Relations. Other groups who feel they are historically oppressed and face institutional barriers in society based on ethnicity, may also self define

-This officer will be elected by community voting

-The roles of Anti-Racism Officer and BME Officer are different, and should therefore both exist in their own right

-The existence of an Anti-Racism Officer should not be used as justification for constraining or dissolving the BME Officer, or vice versa