

2068 Democracy Squad (and how we promote them): Amendment to the Bye-Laws

Changes to Democratic Procedures to be more present during Union Council meetings and discuss issues in real time

Proposer: Amy Rust (Campaigns and Democracy Officer)

Seconder: Emily Cutler (Economics Society)

Passed 23 February 2017

Union Notes:

- Democratic Procedures Committee was set up in 2015 to scrutinise the Union's democratic structures and support the running of democratic activity
- Until 16th February 2017 the committee had not met quorum in 18 months
- The remit of the committee with discussed at length at Democratic Procedures Committee with the outcome addressed in this motion

Union Believes;

- The current number of meetings allocated means the committee is ineffective at achieving its aims
- The current small membership of the committee relies on a small number to always attend and often gives members responsibility by default
- Other Union's with regular all member meetings have a stronger student-led democratic scrutiny body
- Promotion of the hard work by volunteers in the Union should be extended to democratic representatives

Union Resolves;

1. That Bye 1.29 be changed as follows;

Democratic Procedures Committee

1.29 The Democratic Procedures Committee shall consist of The Campaigns and Democracy Officer, the Chair of Union Council and ~~six~~**eight** individual Members who shall be elected for a one year term by Union Council.

1.29.1 All current members of the Union will be able to stand at the close of nominations save for Full Time Officers and Trustees.

1.30 Democratic Procedures Committee shall:

1.30.1 meet after every Union Council

1.30.1 be responsible for development of and promotion of the Union's democratic procedures, with particular reference to elections and Union Council;

1.30.2 advise on and develop the union's Articles of Association and Bye-Laws;

1.30.3 structure and run Union Council in such a way as to guarantee the accessibility of proceedings for members;

1.30.4 support the Chair and Deputy Chair of Union Council in a voluntarily operational capacity during Union Council

1.30.4 hold open meetings whenever possible;

1.30.5 produce a report on its action to; comment on the organisation, rules and procedure of; and recommend improvements to the running of; Council and other bodies as appropriate;

1.30.6 Support the Chair of Union Council, by advising on matters of process and constitutional interpretation and will be responsible for the receipt and ordering of procedural motions within Union Council.

1.30.7 annually report on endeavours designed to meet its duty to structure and run procedures in such a way as to guarantee the accessibility;

1.30.8 and elect from their own number a chairperson.

2. Members of Democratic Procedures Committee should be visible and accessible throughout Union Council and between meetings in line with other representatives.