MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE UELSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2013 IN THE EB.1.39 AT THE UNIVERSITY OF EAST LONDON

1. Present: Sabuj Mohammad (Chair), Lee Rogers, Ray Wilkinson, Denise Iwuoha, Friday Obodo, Hani Assi, Imran Hossain and Sarah Adams

In attendance: Yousuf Joondan, Beverly Crawford, Mark Grayling (Clerk to the Board).

1. Apologies for absence: Ali Akgunes, Stacy Hall, James Walker.
2. Declarations of interest

Members present DECLARED no pecuniary interests or conflicts of interest in relation to any of the agenda items.

1. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 November 2012 were APPROVED and signed as a true and correct record.

1. Matters Arising from the Minutes

13/9:7 It was NOTED that the Associated Membership scheme would be rolled out from the start of Semester B starting with UEL staff and one of the UEL partner colleges.

20/12:10(c) The Board urged the Full Time Officers to continue to prioritise the issue of the UEL attendance policy and to lead the campaign for change.

20/12:10(f) It was NOTED that serious consideration would be given to NUS Digital and MSL as the best options as website providers for the Union.

20/12:10(g) It was NOTED that the AGM had not reached a quorum on 28 November and that it would be reconvened in February.

1. Committees of the Board
2. The notes from Leadership Team meetings held on 13 December 2012 and 10 January 2013 were RECEIVED.
3. The Minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on 18 December 2012 were RECEIVED. The approach to compare the Union Block Grant to those awarded at Goldsmiths College, Southbank University and Brunel University was ENDORSED. It was AGREED to raise matters following the break-in, on 18 December, with the new Head of Security at UEL, and that the Full Time Officers should approach the elected Ward Members on Newham Borough Council, and Stephen Timms MP, with concerns about open access to the University campus at Docklands.
4. The Minutes of the Appointments & Remunerations Committee held on 18 December 2012 were RECEIVED. Clarification was requested about the Union staff pay-scales in relation to the London Living Wage was requested. It was AGREED to refer the issue of quoracy of Committees of the Board to a future meeting.
5. Chief Executive Officer’s report

The CEO’s report was RECEIVED and Board Members were encouraged to sign the Trustees Declaration form for the Charity Commission and requested to send the basic biographical information for inclusion on the Charity Commission website.

1. A report on the Union by the NUS Strategic Support Unit

The précis report, prepared by the CEO was RECEIVED albeit that there was expression that the Full Time Officer team should have taken the opportunity to consider the paper in advance of the Board meeting. The outline plan to develop a strategy in parallel to the UEL three-year plans was AGREED. For the purposes of this exercise, it was AGREED to consult the wider membership in-house rather than employ an external market-research agency. It was FURTHER AGREED to organise a Board Development day during the week of 8 April.

1. The next regular meeting on 21 February 2013 was CONFIRMED. Ray Wilkinson and Sarah Adams gave their apologies for absence from the meeting.

Signed as a true and correct record……………………………………………………….

Date…………………………………………………………………………………………….

MG/BoT/mg

28 January 2012