

Annual General Meeting (AGM) & All Students Meeting Minutes

Date: 16 June 2026

Time: 14:00

Location: Online

Chair: Demi Smith, Democracy Coordinator

1. Attendance

Present: Demi Smith - Chair and Democracy Coordinator

John Valerkou - Chief Executive Officer

Jeena Thomas - Education Officer

Rohan Rajesh - President

Roshan Lal - Welfare & Liberation Officer

Gawdham Melath - International & PGR Officer

Ashmin K Shaju - Peterborough Officer

Apologies:

Ramees Nazar - Activities & Opportunities Officer

Amelia Brewer - Writtle Officer

Nayem Hasan - London Officer

2. Welcome and Introductions

The Chair formally opened the meeting, welcomed attendees to the Annual General Meeting and All Students Meeting for the 2025–26 academic year, and outlined the purpose of the session. Attendees introduced themselves and their roles within the Union.

3. Officer Accountability Reports (Paper SMM/01/26)

President - Rohan Rajesh

The President reported on a year focused on strengthening both the Students' Union and the student voice. Key work included implementing a new organisational strategy, leading structural changes, and managing financial pressures. The President highlighted engagement with national policy, including parliamentary work and representation via the National Union of Students, and confirmed ongoing representation of student interests at Board of Governors level to influence long-term university strategy.

Welfare & Liberation Officer - Roshan Lal

The Officer outlined campaigns focused on student wellbeing, including sexual health awareness campaigns, expansion of the food pantry, mental health events, and development of a welfare resource webpage. Additional initiatives included exam support and engagement activities across campuses.

Education Officer – Jeena Thomas

The Education Officer reported on representation reform proposals, extended library access trials, delivery of the Grade Pathways campaign, and national advocacy work relating to international student placements. The Officer confirmed that proposals are pending institutional approval and will continue into the next academic year.

International PGR Officer – Gawdham Melath

The Officer reported on work to improve engagement, belonging, and inclusion among international postgraduate researchers, including student assemblies, engagement campaigns, and participation in wider national campaigns.

Other Officer Reports

Reports from Activities, Writtle, London, and Peterborough Officers were presented by the Chair where necessary. These covered facility improvements, student engagement initiatives, society growth, academic enhancements, and wellbeing-focused programmes across campuses.

4. Executive Committee Accountability (Paper SMM/02/26)

The minutes of the Executive Committee (Trimester 1) were presented. No questions were raised. The minutes were accepted as read.

5. AGM Business (Papers SMM/03/26 and SMM/04/26)

The Chief Executive Officer presented the audited financial accounts, confirming income, expenditure, and a small surplus, alongside reserves meeting policy requirements. Affiliation details were also presented, including partnerships with NUS and UKCISA. The Chief Executive Officer also confirmed a subscription to WonkHE, a higher education news service. No questions were raised.

6. Open Questions

No questions were submitted in advance or raised during the meeting.

7. Voting

Voting on all reports and documents will take place online following the meeting, with all eligible students able to participate.

8. Closing Remarks

The Chair thanked all officers and staff for their work throughout the academic year and formally closed the meeting.