THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

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PRIVATE COMPANY LIMITED BY

GUARANTEE

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ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

of

DURHAM STUDENTS' UNION

(the "Company")

Adopted by resolution dated 16 January 2015

and amended by special resolution dated [INSERT DATE]

DURHAM STUDENTS' UNION

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION

**Preamble**

1. Durham Students'The Union is devoted to the educational interests and welfare of its Student Members. These Articles of Association have been structured to give the Trusteesreasonable responsibility and authority to manage the affairs of the Union in a professional manner to ensure that the Union complies with charity law, company law and other relevant legal and regulatory requirements. Student Members enjoy the right to elect the majority of the Trustees and to dismiss all the Trustees. The Assembly is responsible for the political and campaigning side of the Union's activities subject to the powers of the Trustees as set out in Article 54.57 and subject to the law around political campaigning by charities. The Board of Trustees will give the utmost consideration to the views of Student Members.
2. When acting to further its powers and in accordance with its objects, the Union shall not

discriminate on the grounds of age, gender, race, (which includes colour, nationality, ethnic origins and national origins), parental status, marriage and civil partnership, class, religion orbelief, ethnic or national origins, creed, sexuality, nationality belief, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, size, socioeconomic

background, trade union membership, disability or medical condition, except that positive

action may be taken to aid any disadvantaged section of society and in particular to help ensure the diversity of the Board of Trustees.

1. The Union shall not affiliate to any political party or religious organisation.

**Definitions and Interpretation**

1. If any dispute arises in relation to the interpretation of these articlesArticles or any of the Standing

Orders it shall be resolved by the Board of Trustees. Where there is a conflict between any term of the Articles and the Standing Orders, the Articles shall prevail in relation to that conflict.

1. In these Articles the following terms shall have the following meanings:

Term Meaning

5.1 “Academic Year” the period between 1 August in one Year to 31 July in the next Year

determined by the Union as the period during which Students are

required to be registered with Durham University. Each Academic

Year is for the time being divided into three terms;

5.2 "Appeal Body" is as defined in Article 94;

5.3 “Articles” these Articles of Association of the Union;

5.35.4 “Assembly” the Student body elected by and from Students constituted in

accordance with these Articles and the Standing Orders of the Union;

5.45.5 “Assembly Chair” the Chairchair of the Assembly elected in accordance with these Articles

and the Standing Orders of the Union;

5.5 5.6 “Board of Trustees” the board of the Trusteestrustees of the Union, from time to time, who shall also be its company law directors;

5.7 "By-Election" a by-election held in circumstances provided for in these Articles, and conducted in a manner set out in the Standing Orders;

5.65.8 “Chief Executive” the Chief Executivechief executive from time to time of the Union;

5.75.9 “Circulation Date” in relation to a written resolution has the meaning given to it in the

Companies Act;Acts;

5.85.10 “clear days” in relation to a period of notice, the period excluding the day when

the notice is given and the day for which it is given or on which it is to

take effect;

5.95.11 “Code of Practice” the Code of Practice relating to the obligations of Durham University

under section 22 of the Education Act 1994;

5.10 5.12 “Common Room” MiddleMCR or Junior Common RoomJCR or equivalent – in each of Durham University's Colleges;

5.13 "Company Law a meeting of the Company Law Members held in accordance with the Meeting" relevant provisions of the Companies Acts;

5.115.14 “Company Law members of the Union for the purposes of the Companies Acts,

Member” as defined in Article 19;

5.125.15 “Companies Acts” means the Companies Acts (as defined in Section 2 of the

Companies Act 2006), insofar as they apply to the Union;

5.13 “Co-opted Trustee” a Trustee appointed in accordance with Articles 51-52 who for

the avoidance of doubt shall not be deemed to be either a major

union office holder or a sabbatical union office holder for the

purposes of section 22 of the Education Act 1994;

5.145.16 “DSO Framework” Thethe Durham Student Organisation Framework as approved by the

University Council from time to time;

5.17 "DUCK" the fundraising committee established by the Board in accordance with these Articles, and which operates in accordance with terms of reference adopted by the Board from time to time, whose full name is Durham University Charities Kommittee;

5.18 "DUCK Committee" the governing body of DUCK, responsible for the governance and oversight of DUCK and its work, acting with delegated authority under DUCK's terms of reference from time to time;

5.19 "DUCK Executive" those persons elected in accordance with [the Standing Orders][DUCK's terms of reference from time to time] with responsibility for the executive management of DUCK;

5.155.20 “Durham University" Durham University incorporated by Royal Charter;

5.165.21 “Education Act” the Education Act 1994;

5.175.22 “Electronic Form” have the meanings respectively given to them in the Companies

and “Electronic Acts;

Means”

5.23 "Eligible Trustees" all Trustees who would be entitled to vote on a resolution at a meeting of the Board of Trustees.

5.24 "Ex Officio Trustee" the Trustee appointed in accordance with Article 40.4;

5.25 "Honorary Life Member" a person elected and removed by the Assembly in accordance with the terms of the Standing Orders, and whose rights and privileges in relation to their membership of the Union, and their relationship with the Union, are also set out in the Standing Orders;

5.185.25 “Hard Copy Form” has the meaning given in the Companies Acts;

5.195.26 “in writing” means written, printed or transmitted writing including by electronic

communication;

5.205.27 “JCR” Thethe Junior Common Room, or equivalent, in each of Durham

University's colleges recognised as being the main undergraduate

student representative body within the relevant college;

5.21 "Licensed Halls of as defined in the Statutes of the University of Durham;

Residence”

5.28 “Lay Trustee” a Trustee appointed in accordance with Articles 54 to 56 who for

the avoidance of doubt shall not be deemed to be either a major

union office holder or a sabbatical union office holder for the

purposes of section 22 of the Education Act 1994;

5.225.29 “Members" the Student Members and the Company Law Members;

5.30 "MCR" the Middle Common Room, or equivalent, in each of Durham University's colleges recognised as being the main postgraduate student representative body within the relevant college;

5.31 "Minor Amendment" shall include an amendment to:

bring the Articles in line with relevant legislation; and/or

correct any inaccuracies, typographical or grammatical errors or update out of date references.

5.32 "Necessary Amendment" an amendment which the Board of Trustees, acting reasonably and after having sought professional advice, considers to be necessary to:

i. ensure the sustainability of the Union or its continued charitable status; and/or

ii. address significant risks (actual or potentially imminent) to the Union's property, assets, beneficiaries, reputation or charitable status.

5.235.33 “Office” the central office of the Union at Dunelm House, New Elvet, Durham

DH1 3AN;

5.24 5.34 “Policy” Politicalpolitical policy set by Referenda or Assembly in accordance with

Articles 100 and 94.Article 103.2. Political policy is only subject to the authority of

the Board of Trustees on the grounds of financial considerations,

charity or education law or other legal requirements (including ultra

vires) or reputation of the Union;

5.25 5.35 “President”  the Sabbatical President of the Union, elected in accordance with these Articles and the Standing Orders;

5.26 “Recognised Colleges” as defined in the Statutes of the University of Durham;

5.275.36 “Referenda” a vote held outside of a Student Members’ meeting that all Student

Members are entitled to cast;

5.285.37 “Returning Officer” the person appointed by the Assembly to be responsible for the good conduct and

administration of all elections of elected Trustees;

5.295.38 “Sabbatical Trustee” a Trustee appointed in accordance with Article 4142;

5.305.39 “Secure Petition” fixed in a pre-arranged place or held securely online;

5.40 "Societies Committee" the body referenced in the Standing Orders and established to represent the Student Groups and to provide operational oversight for, and support to, those Student Groups.

5.315.41 “Standing Orders” the standing orders made from time to time in accordance with

Article 57;these Articles;

5.325.42 “Student” any individual who is formally registered on an approved Durham

University programme;

5.335.43 “Student Group” clubs, societies and associations ratified by the Unionadmitted in accordance with the Standing Orders and required to comply with the terms of the Student Group Agreement;

5.44 "Student Group the agreement between the Union and the Student Groups (as

Agreement" may be updated or replaced from time to time) setting out each parties' respective obligations, and which each Student Group is required to enter into with the Union when registering and re-registering as a Student Group;

5.345.45 “Student Members” student members of the Union as defined in Article 15;

5.355.46 “Student Members’ a meeting called in accordance with these Articles and the

Meeting” Standing Orders to be open to all Student Members;

5.365.47 “Student Trustee” a Trustee appointed in accordance with Articles 48 and 4950 to 52 who is a

Student and for the avoidance of doubt shall not be deemed to be

either a major union office holder or a sabbatical union office holder

for the purposes of Section 22 of the Education Act;

5.375.48 “Trustee” and the Sabbatical Trustees, the Student Trustees and, the Co-OptedLay

“Trustees” Trustees and the Ex Officio Trustee;

5.38 5.49 “Trustee Chair”  the chair of the Trustees, being one co-opteda member of the Trusteeboard, as and elected by the whole Board of Trustees, in accordance withthese ArticlesArticle 73;

5.395.50 “University Council” the Council of Durham University;

5.405.51 “the Union” Durham Students' Union;

5.415.52 “Year” a calendar year.

6. Words importing the singular shall include the plural and vice versa and words importing themasculine shall include the feminine and vice versa.. Any words following the terms including, include, particularly or any similar expression shall be construed as illustrative and shall not limit the sense of the words description, definition, phrase or term preceding those terms.

7. References to legislation shall (except where the context otherwise requires) be read as

referring to such legislation as amended and in force from time to time and to any legislation

which (either with or without modification) re-enacts, consolidates or enacts in rewritten form

any such legislation.

**The Union**

8. There shall be a Students' Union in the name of Durham Students' Union (herein after called

“the Union”). The registered office of the Union is situated in England and Wales.

**Charitable Objects**

9. The Union's charitable objects are the advancement of education of Students at Durham

University for the public benefit by:

9.1 providing opportunities for the expression of Student opinion and actively representing the

interest of Students;

9.2 acting as a channel of communication in dealing with Durham University and other external

bodies;

9.3 promoting the interests and welfare of Students at Durham University during their course of

study, and representation, supporting and advising Students;

9.4 facilitating the social, recreational and educational interests of its Members, through

providing services and support for its Members;

9.5 supporting the development of and cooperation between the Common Rooms;

9.6 working with other Students' Unions and affiliated bodies; and

9.7 raising funds for such purposes as are charitable according to the laws of England and Wales and to make grants and donations of such funds to other exclusively charitable bodies or to apply such funds directly for such charitable purposes.

**Powers**

10. To further its objects, but not otherwise, the Union may:

10.1 provide services and facilities (including licensed facilities) for Student Members;

10.2 establish, support, promote and operate a network of student activities for Student Members;

10.3 alone or with other organisations:

10.3.1 carry out campaigning activities in relation to the development and implementation of

appropriate policies;

10.3.2 seek to influence public opinion; and

10.3.3 make representations to and seek to influence governmental and other bodies and

institutions; provided that all such activities are conducted on the basis of well-founded,

reasoned argument and shall be confined to those which an English charity may properly

undertake and provided that the Union complies with the Education Act and any guidance

published by the Charity Commission;

10.4 write, make, commission, print, publish or distribute materials, or assist in these activities;

10.5 promote, initiate, develop and carry out education and training and arrange provide or assist

with exhibitions, lectures, meetings, seminars, displays or classes;

10.6 promote, encourage, carry out or commission research, surveys, studies or other work and

publish the useful results;

10.7 provide or appoint others to provide guidance, representation and advocacy;

10.8 purchase, lease, hire or receive property including land, buildings and equipment and equip

it for use;

10.9 sell, manage, lease, mortgage, exchange dispose of or deal with all or any of its property

(subject to any consent required by law);

10.10 borrow and raise money on such terms and security as the Union may think suitable (subject

to any consent required by law);

10.11 raise funds and invite and receive contributions from any person(s) provided that the Union

shall not undertake any taxable trading activities in raising funds;

10.12 trade in the course of carrying out any of its objects;

10.13 incorporate wholly owned subsidiary companies to carry on any taxable trade;

10.14 subject to Article 11 employ and pay employees and professionals or other advisors;

10.15 grant pensions and retirement benefits to employees of the Union and to their dependants

and subscribe to funds or schemes for providing pensions and retirement benefits for

employees of the Union and their dependants;

10.16 set up charity(ies) with identical or similar objects and/or promote, support, aid, amalgamate

or co-operate with, become a member of, affiliate or associate of, and act as or appoint

trustees, agents, nominees or delegates to control and manage charity(ies) and subscribe,

lend or guarantee money to such charity(ies);

10.17 undertake and execute any charitable trusts which may lawfully be undertaken by it;

10.18 invest and deal with the Union's money not immediately required for its objects in or upon

any investments, securities, or property;

10.19 delegate the management of investments to an appropriately experienced and qualified

financial expert provided that:

10.19.1 the investment policy is set down in writing for the financial expert by the Trustees;

10.19.2 every transaction is reported promptly to the Trustees;

10.19.3 the performance of the investment is reviewed regularly by the Trustees;

10.19.4 the Trustees are entitled to cancel the delegation at any time;

10.19.5 the investment policy and the delegation arrangements are reviewed at least once a year;

10.19.6 all payments due to the financial expert are on a scale or at a level which is agreed in

advance and are notified promptly to the Trustees on receipt; and

10.19.7 the financial expert may not do anything outside the powers of the Trustees;

10.20 arrange for investments or other property of the Union to be held in the name of a nominee

(being a company or a limited liability partnership registered or having an established place

of business in England and Wales) under the control of the Trustees or a financial expert

acting under their instructions and to pay any reasonable fee required;

10.21 lend money and give credit to, take security for such loans or credit and guarantee or give

security for the performance of contracts by any person or company;

10.22 open and operate banking accounts and other facilities for banking and draw, accept,

endorse, negotiate, discount, issue or execute negotiable instruments such as promissory

notes or bills of exchange;

10.23 purchase or acquire all or any of the property, assets, liabilities and engagements of any

charities with objects similar to the Union's objects;

10.24 subject to the prior approval of University Council, convert to and transfer all its assets and

liabilities to a charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) and to pay any costs associated

with doing so;

10.25 pay out of the funds of the Union the cost of any premium in respect of any indemnity

insurance to cover the liability of the Trustees (or any of them) which by virtue of any rule of

law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default, breach of trust or

breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Union provided that no such

insurance shall extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the Trustees (or

any of them) knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the

Trustees (or any of them) in reckless disregard of whether it was a breach of trust or breach

of duty or not provided also that such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any

unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the Trustees in their capacity

as directors of the Union;

10.26 co-operate with other bodies;

10.27 set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure;

10.28 insure the property of the Union against any foreseeable risk and take out other insurance

policies to protect the Union when required;

10.29 enter into contracts to provide services to or on behalf of other bodies; and

10.30 do all such other lawful things as shall further the Union's objects.

**Application of Income and Property**

11. The income and property of the Union shall be applied solely towards the promotion of its

charitable objects. No part shall be paid or transferred directly or indirectly to Members or

Trustees of the Union except for payment in good faith of:

11.1 any payment made to any beneficiary of the Union (including a Member);

11.2 reasonable and proper remuneration to any person other than a Trustee for any services

given to the Union and of reasonable travelling and other out of pocket expenses necessarily

incurred in carrying out the duties of any Member, officer or employee of the Union;

11.3 interest on money lent to the Union at a reasonable and proper rate;

11.4 any reasonable and proper rent for premises let to the Union;

11.5 fees, remuneration or other benefits in money or money's worth to any company of which a

Trustee or a Member of his or hertheir immediate family holds not more than one per cent of the capital;

11.6 reasonable and proper out-of-pocket expenses of Trustees;

11.7 reasonable and proper premiums in respect of indemnity insurance in accordance with

Article 10.25 of these Articles;

11.8 the usual professional charges for business done by any Trustee who is a solicitor,

accountant or other professional, or by any partner of his or herstheirs, when instructed by the

Union to act in a professional capacity on its behalf; except that at no time shall a majority of

the Student Members of the Union or of the Trustees benefit under this provision and

provided that any such Student Member or Trustee shall withdraw from any meeting at

which his or hertheir appointment or payment or that of his or hertheir partner is under discussion; and

11.9 reasonable and proper payment to any Sabbatical Trustee to be remunerated by the Union

from time to time but:

11.9.1 only if the relevant procedure described in Article 93102 of these Articles is followed in relation to the Sabbatical Trustees; and

11.9.2 provided that this provision may not apply to more than five Sabbatical Trustees in any

financial year at any one time; and

11.9.3 subject always to the provisions of section 22 of the Education Act (as amended, revoked,

consolidated or re-enacted in any form).

**Transfer to CIO and Winding Up**

12. The following applies to the transfer of the Union's undertaking to a CIO.

12.1 The Trustees pursuant to Article 10.24 with the prior approval of the Assembly and

University Council can convert the Union to a CIO where the constitution is as similar as

possible to these Articles allowing for variations necessitated by the different legal structure.

12.2 If any property remains after the Union has been wound up or dissolved and all debts and

liabilities have been satisfied, it shall not be paid to or distributed among Members of the

Union. It shall instead be given or transferred to Durham University or if Durham University

has ceased to exist some other charitable institution(s) having similar objects to those of the

Union and which prohibits the distribution of its or their income and property among its or

their Members to an extent at least as great as these Articles impose upon the Union. The

institution or institutions which are to benefit if Durham University has ceased to exist shall

be chosen by the Company Law Members of the Union at or before the time of winding up or

dissolution.

**Liability of Company Law Members**

13. The liability of each Company Law Member is limited to £1, being the amount that each

Company Law Member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Union in the event of its

being wound up while he or she isthey are a Company Law Member or within one year after he orshe ceasesthey cease to be a Company Law Member, for:

13.1 payment of the Union's debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceasesthey cease to be a

Company Law Member;

13.2 payment of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and

13.3 adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

**Membership**

14. The Members of the Union shall be as follows:

14.1 Student Members; and

14.2 Company Law Members.

**Student Members**

15. The Student Members of the Union shall be as follows:

15.1 each and every Student who has not opted out by notifying Durham University of his or hertheir

wish not to be a Student Member of the Union;

15.2 the Sabbatical Trustees of the Union;

15.3 those students of the Recognised Colleges and Licensed Halls of Residence who are not

registered for courses taught within the University, but who make written application for

Student Membership;15.4 all elected student officers holding office under the constitution of any Common Room;as notified by Durham University and approved by the Board of Trustees; and

15.5 all elected officers of those organisations which are opted into the DSO Framework; and

15.615.4 all sabbatical officers employed by the Union and Student Members shall be entitled to the benefits set out in the Code of Practice.

16. A Student Member shall automatically cease to be a Student Member of the Union when heor she ceasesthey cease to be a Student or opts out of Membership by giving written notice to Durham University in accordance with the Standing Orders and/or when he or she ceasesthey cease to be a Sabbatical Trustee, an elected officer under Articles 15.3 or 15.4 or 15.5 above or a sabbatical officer under Article 15.6.15.5.

17. In the case of Student Members other than the Sabbatical Trustees and the Student

Trustees, a Student Member shall cease to be a Student Member of the Union if a resolution

is passed at a meeting of the Trustees at which at least half of the Trustees are present

resolving that the Student Member be expelled on the ground that his or hertheir continued

membership is harmful to or is likely to become harmful to the interests of the Union. Such a

resolution shall not be passed unless the Student Member has been given at least 14 clear

days' notice that the resolution is to be proposed, specifying the circumstances alleged to

justify expulsion, and has been afforded a reasonable opportunity of being heard by or of

making written representation to the Trustees.17.1 Any Student Member removed by the Trustees under this Article 17 shall have the right of appeal as for a Trustee laid out under Articles 86-89.94 to 97.

18. Student Members’ details shall be entered in the Register of Student Members. Student

Membership shall not be transferable and shall cease on death. The contents of the Register

shall be confidential to the officers and staff of the Union, except where a particular Student

Member has given written permission for his/hertheir information to be made public, or transmitted to another person or organisation, in which case the Registraruniversity secretary and Secretary andthe Data Protection Officerdata protection officer both of Durham University shall receive a copy of the written permission concerned and the information concerned.

**Trustees as Company Law Members**

19. The Trustees from time to time shall be the only Company Law Members of the Union.

20. A Trustee shall become a Company Law Member on becoming a Trustee.

21. The names of the Company Law Members of the Union shall be entered in the register of

Company Law Members.

**Termination of Company Law Membership**

22. A Company Law Member shall cease to be a Company Law Member if he or she ceasesthey cease to be a Trustee.

23. Company Law Membership is not transferable and shall cease on death.

**Honorary Life Members**

24. In accordance with the Standing Orders the Assembly may elect and remove Honorary Life

Members of the Union. These shall be such persons as the Assembly considers fit.

25. An Application for Honorary Life Membership shall be made in the form to be determined by

the Assembly from time to time and Honorary Life Membership shall be subject to such

rights and obligations as the Assembly consider appropriate.

26. Such Honorary Life Members shall not be Members for the purposes of these Articles or the

Companies Acts and shall not be entitled to vote on any matter.

**Student Members’ Meetings**

27. The Union shall hold an annual Student Members’ meeting once in each Academic Year

which shall be called and held in accordance with the Standing Orders. The annual Student

Members’ meeting shall be held at such time and place as the Trustees shall think suitable

to allow the maximum number of Student Members to attend.

**Contents of Notice**

28. Every notice calling an annual Student Members’ meeting shall specify the place, day and

time of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be dealt with. This business

shall include:

28.1 Ratification of minutes of the previous annual Student Members’ meeting;

28.2 Receiving the report of the Trustees on the Union’s activities since the previous annual

Student Members’ meeting;

28.3 Receiving the accounts of the Union for the previous financial year;

28.4 Approving the list of affiliations of the Union;

28.5 Open questions to the Trustees by the Student Members; and

28.6 Discussing and dealing with any other business put before the Student Members by the

Trustees.

29. The Union may hold other Student Members’ meetings in addition to the annual Student

Members’ meeting. Such meetings shall be called and held in accordance with the Standing

Orders.

30. For the avoidance of doubt, any Student Members’ meeting held under Articles 27 to 29

shall not be a Company Law Meeting of the Union for the purposes of the Companies Acts.

31. The Assembly Chair shall chair annual Student Members’ meetings.

32. If the Assembly Chair is unable or unwilling to do so, some other Student Member elected by

those Student Members present and entitled to vote shall chair the meeting.

**Company Law Meetings**

33. The Trustees may call a Company Law Meeting at any time.

34. Such meetings must be held in accordance with the provisions regarding such meetings in

the Companies Acts.

35. A Company Law Meeting will only be required where the Union wishes to pass a company

law resolution (other than by way of written resolution) in accordance with these Articles

and/or the Companies Acts.

**Written Resolutions**

36. In relation to written resolutions:

36.1 Subject to this Article 36,Articles 36.2 and 36.3, a written resolution agreed by:

36.1.1 Company Law Members representing a simple majority; or

36.1.2 (in the case of a special resolution) Company Law Members representing not less than 75%;

of the total voting rights of eligible Company Law Members shall be effective as if it were passed in a Company Law meeting.

36.2 On a written resolution each Company Law Member shall have one vote.

36.3 A written resolution is not a special resolution unless it stated that it was proposed as aspecial resolution.

**Circulation**

36.4 A copy of the proposed written resolution must be sent to every eligible Company Law

Member together with a statement informing the Company Law Member how to signify his orhertheir agreement and the date by which the resolution must be passed if it is not to lapse.

36.5 In relation to a resolution proposed as a written resolution of the Union the eligible CompanyLaw Members are the Company Law Members who would have been entitled to vote on theresolution on the Circulation Date of the resolution.

36.6 The required majority of eligible Company Law Members must signify their agreement to the

written resolution within the period of 28 days beginning with the Circulation Date.

36.7 Communications in relation to written resolutions must be sent to the Union’s auditors in

accordance with the Companies Acts.

**Signifying agreement**

36.8 A Company Law Member signifies his or hertheir agreement to a proposed written resolution

when the Union receives from him or herthem (or from someone acting on his or hertheir behalf) an authenticated document:

36.8.1 identifying the resolution to which it relates; and

36.8.2 indicating the Company Law Member’s agreement to the resolution.

36.9 For the purposes of Article 36.8:

36.9.1 a document sent or supplied in Hard Copy Form is sufficiently authenticated if it is signed bythe person sending or supplying it; and

36.9.2 a document sent or supplied in Electronic Form is sufficiently authenticated if:

1. the identity of the sender is confirmed in a manner specified by the Union; or

(b) where no such manner has been specified by the Union, if the communication

contains or is accompanied by a statement of the identity of the sender and the Union

has no reason to doubt the truth of that statement.

36.10 If the Union gives an electronic address in any document containing or accompanying awritten resolution, it will be deemed to have agreed that any document or information relatingto that resolution may be sent by Electronic Means to that address (subject to any conditionsor limitations specified in the document).

**Amendments to the Articles**

37. The Trustees and Durham University shall review the Articles at intervals of not more than

five5 years.

38. AnySubject to Article 39, any Minor Amendment to the Articles shall require a special resolution of the Company Law Members, and any other amendment to the Articles shall require the following:

38.1 Thethe circulation by the Board of Trustees of a proposal to amend the Articles to all the

Student MembersAssembly (the “Proposal”);

38.2 Aa period of time (as set out in the Standing Orders) during which any amendments to the

Proposal may be submitted by the Assembly to the Board of Trustees or the Assembly may confirm its agreement to the Proposal (and for the avoidance of doubt, if no amendments are proposed within the prescribed timeframe, the Assembly will be deemed to have accepted the Proposal);

38.3 The circulation by the Board of Trustees to all the Student Members of a resolution towhere amendments are submitted by the Assembly in accordance with Article 38.2, if:

approve either the Proposal or a revised Proposal incorporating those amendments

submitted in accordance with Article 38.2 which the Board of Trustees in their absolute

discretion have accepted;

38.3.1 the Board of Trustees accept those amendments, the Board of Trustees must circulate the revised Proposal to the Assembly incorporating those amendments;

38.3.2 those amendments are rejected (in their entirety or in part) by the Board of Trustees, the Board of Trustees and the Assembly must promptly and in good faith discuss the proposed amendments and seek to agree the Proposal or a revised Proposal (following discussion) and, if agreement cannot be reached, the Board of Trustees and Assembly will refer the issue to the dispute resolution procedure as per the Standing Orders;

38.4 A resolution approved by two-thirds majority of the Student Members voting by Referendum the approval of the University Council; and

to approve the Proposal or the revised Proposal (as the case may be) provided that at least

5% of the total Student Membership entitled to vote upon the resolution vote in the

Referendum;

38.5 A special resolution of the Company Law Members making the amendments to the Articlesthat have been approved by resolution of the Student Memberspass a special resolution approving the Proposal or the revised Proposal agreed between the Assembly and the Board of Trustees in accordance with ArticleArticles 38.2 or 38.3.

38.4; and

38.6 the approval of the University Council.

39. For the avoidance of doubt, :

39.1 these Articles may not be altered and/or amended by the Unionwithout the written approval of the University Council (such approval not to be unreasonablywithheld or delayed) and no such alterations shall be valid until such approval has beenobtained.; and

39.2 where the Proposal comprises a Necessary Amendment, the Board of Trustees may, acting reasonably and in the best interests of the Union, refer the matter directly to the University Council, and then to the Company Law Members for approval by special resolution, and the provisions of 38.3 shall not apply.

**Trustees**

**Appointment of Trustees**

39.1 not more than five Sabbatical Trustees appointed in accordance with Articles 41-46;

39.2 not more than four Student Trustees appointed in accordance with Articles 48 and 49;

39.3 not more than five Co-opted Trustees appointed in accordance with Articles 51 and 52.

40. The Board of Trustees shall comprise of:

40.1 not more than 5 Sabbatical Trustees appointed in accordance with Articles 42 to 48;

40.2 not more than 4 Student Trustees appointed in accordance with Articles 50 to 52;

40.3 not more than 5 Lay Trustees appointed in accordance with Articles 54 to 56.

40.4 the chair of the DUCK Executive from time to time ex officio, elected in accordance with the relevant procedure as set out in the Standing Orders from time to time.

41. Prior to his or hertheir appointment, each Trustee must sign a declaration confirming that he orshe understandsthey understand the duties imposed on charity trustees and isare able, willing and eligible to act as a trustee of the Union.

**Sabbatical Trustees**

41.42. Not more than five5 Sabbatical Trustees shall be elected by secret ballot by the Student

Members of the Union at an election held in accordance with the Standing Orders and. Candidates must be able and willing to act as charity trustees and be eligible for election as such.

43. Subject to Articles 87 and 88, each Sabbatical Trustee shall remain in office for a term of usually twelve12 months, as specified in the Standing Orders. The term of office may be shorter or longer on a transitional basis to coincide with the alteration of the year-start or year-end. At the same time as commencing the term of office as trusteeTrustee the Sabbatical Trustee will enter into a contract of employment with the Union for a term to be determined by these Articles.

42.44. The Sabbatical Trustees shall be elected to such full-time posts as are specified in the

Standing Orders of the Union from time to time.

43.45. Subject to the transitional changes in the term of office as set out in Article 41:-43, and also Articles 87 and 88:

43.145.1 Sabbatical Trustees may be re-elected for a maximum further term of twelve12 months by the

Student Members of the Union at an election to be held in accordance with the Standing

Orders; and

43.245.2 the maximum period that a Sabbatical Trustee may serve is twenty four24 months, and for the

avoidance of doubt no person shall hold a sabbatical or other paid elected union office of

any kind, for a period of more than two2 years in total.

44.46. Each Sabbatical Trustee must be a Student Member of the Union at the time of his or hertheir

election.

45. 47.  The Sabbatical Trustees shall be deemed to be “major union office holders” for the purposes

of section 22 of the Education Act.

46.48. A Sabbatical Trustee shall become a Student Member of the Union for a term of 12 monthson the commencement of his or her appointment or re-appointment as long as they continue to be a Sabbatical Trustee.

47. 49.  The duties and payment of each Sabbatical Trustee shall be as set out in the Standing

Orders (as amended from time to time).

**Student Trustees**

48.50. Four4 Student Trustees shall be elected by secret ballot by the Student Members of the

Union at an election to be held in accordance with the Standing Orders and. Candidates must be able and willing to act as charity trustees and be eligible for election as such.

51. Each Student Trustee shall remain in office for a term of usually twelve12 months as specified in the Standing Orders. The term of office may be shorter or longer on a transitional basis to coincide with the alteration of the year-start or year-end.

49.52. Student Trustees may be re-elected for a further non-renewable term of usually one year.12 months. The term of office may be shorter or longer on a transitional basis to coincide with the

alteration of the year-start or year-end. The maximum period that a Student Trustee may

serve is twenty four24 months.

50.53. Each Student Trustee must be a Student Member at the time of his or her election (and shall continue to be a Student Member for the duration of his or her term as a Student Trustee).

**Appointment of** **Co-opted****Lay** **Trustees**

51. Subject to Article 53, the54. The Trustees shall co-optappoint by a simple majority of those present and voting up to five5 such persons as they consider suitable to be charity trustees (having regard to their skills, knowledge and experience) as Co-opted Trustees subject to ratification by the Assembly, and the general diversity of the Board) as Lay Trustees.

55. Unless their appointment is terminated in accordance with Article 83, Co-optedArticles 87 or 90, Lay Trustees shall remain in office for terms of up to three3 years calculated from the date of appointment.52. Subject to Article 53, at At the end of their term of office Co-optedLay Trustees shall be eligible for reappointment by a simple majority of those trustees present and voting for a further term of up to three years, but shall not be eligible for reappointment once they have served six6 years in aggregate.

53. The Board may, at their discretion, permit any Co-opted Trustee who is in office at the date

these Articles are adopted by special resolution to:

53.1 remain in office for a term of up to four years calculated from the date of appointment; and

53.2 serve a maximum of seven years in aggregate.

56. Notwithstanding Article 55, in exceptional circumstances and where the best interests of the Union require, the term of office of a Lay Trustee may be extended after they have served 6 years in aggregate in office, but on a rolling one year basis and only with the agreement of all Trustees (excluding the Lay Trustee concerned).

**Powers and Duties of the Board of Trustees**

54.57. The Board of Trustees shall be responsible for overseeing the management and administration of the Union and (subject to the Education Act, these Articles and the

Standing Orders) may exercise all the powers of the Union. No alteration of these Articles or

the Standing Orders shall invalidate any prior act of the Trustees which would have been

valid if that alteration had not been made. A meeting of the Trustees at which a quorum is

present may exercise all powers exercisable by the Trustees.

55.58. The Board of Trustee's powers under Article 5457 shall include but not be limited to ultimate

responsibility for:

55.158.1 the governance of the Union;

55.258.2 the budget of the Union; and

55.358.3 setting the strategy and direction of the Union.

56.59. The Board of Trustees shall provide the Assembly with a regular update of its meetings and

decisions (and at least four such updates a year) either orally or in writing.

**Standing Orders**

60. The Standing Orders shall be divided into two parts:

57. The Trustees and the Assembly shall have the power from time to time to jointly make,

repeal or amend60.1 Part A – the Standing Orders as toin this part cover matters that are considered so fundamental to the responsibility for the management of the Union and its working practices and may therefore only be made, repealed, replaced and/or amended by the Board of Trustees acting alone (given that the Board of Trustees has legal responsibility for the management and administration of the Union).

practices provided that such Standing Orders shall not be inconsistent with these Articles.

60.2 Part B – Standing Orders in this part cover matters that are considered so fundamental to Students and their activities that they may only be made, repealed, replaced and/or amended by the Assembly and the Board of Trustees acting jointly.

61. [not used]

62. If there is an inconsistency or conflict between the Standing Orders and these Articles, the Articles shall prevail in relation to that conflict.

**Guidance and Strategy Documents**

58.63. The Trustees shall have the power, from time to time to make, repeal or alter guidance and

strategy documents provided that such guidance and strategy documents shall not be

inconsistent with these Articles.

**Delegation of Trustees' Powers**

64. Notwithstanding any general powers of the Union to raise funds, the Trustees may delegate their power to raise funds for charitable purposes, and to make grants and donations of those funds raised, to DUCK being a committee of the Board. DUCK will conduct its proceedings in accordance with its terms of reference established by the Board from time to time.

59.65. The Trustees may delegate any of their other powers or the implementation of any of their

resolutions to any committee or committees.

66. Any delegation by the Trustees shall be made in accordance with the following conditions:

59.166.1 the resolution making that delegation shallthe delegation or the terms of reference establishing the scope of the delegation pursuant to Article 65 shall at the least specify those who shall serve or be asked to serve on such committee (though the resolution may allow the committee to make cooptionsco-options up to a specified number); and

59.266.2 the composition of any such committee established pursuant to Article 65 shall be entirely in the discretion of the Trustees and may comprise such of their number (if any) as the resolution may specify; and

59.366.3 the committee shall report regularly to the Trustees and any resolution passed or decision

taken by any such committee shall be reported as soon as possible to the Trustees and for

that purpose every committee shall appoint a secretary; and

59.4 66.4 subject to the other terms of these Articles, all delegations shall be revocable at any time; and

59.566.5 the Trustees may make such regulations, terms of reference and impose such terms and conditions and give such mandates (and from time to time vary or revoke the same) to any such committee or committees as they may from time to time think fit.

60.67. The meetings and proceedings of any committee shall be governed by the provisions of the

Articles and the Standing Orders regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Trustees

(so far as the same are applicable and are not inconsistent with any regulations or terms of reference made by the Trustees).

61.68. The Trustees may by a resolution invite any person to attend and speak (but not vote) at

meetings of any committee.

62.69. The Trustees may by a resolution appoint any person willing to so act as an external advisor

to any committee. External advisors may attend and speak (but not vote) at meetings of any

such committee.

63. Subject to Article 63.1.2, the70. The Trustees may delegate all financial matters to any committee, including:

63.1.170.1.1 all matters relating to the remuneration of employees of the Union; and

63.1.2 70.1.2 the operation of any bank account according to such mandate as it shall think fit whether or

not requiring a signature of any Trustee,

provided always that no committee shall incur expenditure on behalf of the Union except in accordance with a budget which has been approved by the Trustees.

64.71. In the case of delegation of the day-today management of the Union to the Chief Executive:

64.171.1 the delegated power shall be to manage the Union by implementing the policy and strategy

adopted by and within a budget approved by the Trustees and if applicable to advise the

Trustees in relation to such policy, strategy and budget;

64.271.2 the Trustees shall provide the Chief Executive with a description of his or hertheir role and the

extent of his or hertheir authority;

64.371.3 the Chief Executive shall report regularly to the Trustees on the activities undertaken in

managing the Union and provide them regularly with management accounts sufficient to

explain the financial position of the Union; and

64.471.4 the Trustees shall provide the Chief Executive with a performance management structure to

aid his or hertheir work plan and development.

**Expenses of Trustees**

65.72. The Trustees may be paid all reasonable travelling, hotel and other expenses properly

incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meetings of Trustees or committees

of Trustees or general meetings of the Union or otherwise in connection with the discharge

of their duties.

**Chair and Honorary Officers**

66.73. The Trustee ChairTrustees shall be a Co-opted Trustee, as elected byelect one of their number as the Trustee BoardChair. Trustees may at any time remove the Trustee Chair from the office of Trustee Chair.

67.74. The Trustees may appoint a Vice-Chair of the Trustees and other Honorary Officers from

amongst the Trustees and may at any time remove them from such offices.

**Proceedings of Trustees**

68.75. Subject to the provisions of these Articles and the Standing Orders of the Union, the

Trustees may regulate their proceedings as they think fit.

69.76. Three Trustees may, and the Chief Executive at the request of three Trustees shall, call a

meeting of the Trustees. Notice of every meeting of the Trustees stating the general

particulars of all business to be considered at such meeting shall be sent by post or by

electronic communication to each Trustee at least seven clear days before such meeting

unless urgent circumstances require shorter notice, but the proceedings of any meeting shall

not be deemed invalid due to any irregularity in respect of such notice or by reason of any

business being considered which is not specified in such general particulars.

70.77. Questions arising at a meeting shall be decided by a majority of votes. In the case of an

equality of votes, the Trustee Chair shall have a second or casting vote.

71.78. No business may be dealt with at a meeting of the Trustees unless at least five5 Trustees are

present comprising of, so far as is practicable, having regard to any vacancies on the Board

of Trustees, a majority of Sabbatical Trustees and Student Trustees over the number of CooptedLay Trustees and at least one Co-opted Trustee.but must include at least one Lay Trustee. Where the Sabbatical Trustees and/or the Student Trustees (or any of them) are conflicted on any matter under discussion and, therefore, unable to form part of the quorum for the meeting, then the Eligible Trustees present shall be deemed to form a quorum for the purposes of authorising the relevant matter under discussion provided that:

78.1 the Eligible Trustees are satisfied that the conflicted Trustee(s) present will not receive any direct or indirect benefit other than one permitted by these Articles;

78.2 the total number of Trustees at the meeting is equal to or higher than the usual quorum for the Board meeting;

78.3 the conflicted Trustee(s) present are absent from the Board meeting for the relevant matter unless expressly invited to remain in order to provide information;

78.4 the conflicted Trustee(s) present are absent during any vote on the relevant matter and have no vote on that matter.

72.79. The Trustees or a sole Trustee may continue to act despite any vacancies in their number

but, if and so long as the number of Trustees is less than the number fixed as a quorum,5, theTrustees may act for the purpose of increasing the number of Trustees to that number or ofarranging an election but for no other purpose.

73.80. Unless he or she isthey are unwilling to do so, the Trustee Chair shall preside at every meeting of Trustees at which he or shethey is present. If there is no Trustee holding that office, or if the Trustee holding it is unwilling to preside or is not present within five minutes after the time appointed for the meeting, the Trustees present may appoint another Trustee to chair the meeting.

74.81. All acts done by a meeting of Trustees, or of a committee of Trustees, or by a person acting

as a Trustee shall, even if afterwards discovered that there was a defect in the appointment

of any Trustee (apart from the selection or election procedure) or that any of them were

disqualified from holding office, or had vacated office, or were not entitled to vote, be as valid

as if every such person had been duly appointed and was qualified and had continued to be

a Trustee and had been entitled to vote.

75.82. A meeting of the Trustees may be held either in person or by teleconference or by other

suitable electronic means agreed between the Trustees in which all participants may

communicate simultaneously with all other participants.

76.83. The Trustees shall invite the Chief Executive of the Union to attend and speak at meetings

of the Board of Trustees. The Chief Executive shall not be entitled to vote or count in the

quorum upon any business dealt with at such meetings.

77.84. The Trustees shall hold a minimum of four4 meetings in any Academic Year.

**Decision making without a meeting**

78.85. A written resolution signed by allat least 75% of the total number of Trustees in office from time to time is as valid as a resolution passed at a meeting.For this purpose the resolution may be contained in more than one document and will betreated as passed on the date of the last signature.

79. A86. In addition to Article 85, a written resolution of the Trustees which is approved in whole by email or in part in writing and by email shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Trustees, provided the following conditions are complied with:

79.186.1 such a resolution must be approved by email by allat least 75% of the total number of Trustees in office from time to time, except for any Trustee whohas signed a resolution in writing in like form or who would not have been entitled to voteupon the resolution if it had been proposed at a meeting at which he or she wasthey were present (whether as a result of a conflict of interest or otherwise);

79.286.2 notice of all proposed resolutions must be given to all Trustees;

79.386.3 approval from each Trustee entitled to give his or hertheir approval must be received by such

person as the entire Board of Trustees shall have nominated in advance for that purpose

(“the Recipient”), which person shall, for the avoidance of doubt, be one of the members of

the Board of Trustees;

79.486.4 approval from a Trustee must be sent from an email address previously notified by that

Trustee in person to the Trustee Chair as intended for use by that Trustee for the purpose of

sending such email confirmations;

79.586.5 following receipt of a response on any resolution from each Trustee entitled to give his or hertheir approval, the Recipient shall circulate a further email to all Trustees confirming whether the resolution has been formally approved by the Board of Trustees in accordance with the

terms of this Article 7986; and

79.686.6 the date of a resolution shall be the date of the email from the Recipient confirming formal

approval.

**Disqualification and Removal of Trustees**

80.87. The office of a Trustee shall be vacated if:

80.1 he or she ceases87.1 they cease to be a Trustee by virtue of any provision of the Companies Act 2006 or is prohibited from being a company director by law;

80.2 he or she becomes87.2 they become prohibited by law from being a charity trustee;

80.3 he or she becomes87.3 they become bankrupt or makes any arrangement or composition with his or hertheir creditors generally;

80.487.4 the Trustees reasonably believe he or shethey is suffering from mental or physical disorder and is incapable of acting as a trustee and they resolve that he or shethey be removed from office;

80.5 he or she resigns his or her87.5 they resign from their office by notice to the Union (but only if at least two Trustees will remain in office when the notice of resignation is to take effect);

80.6 he or she is87.6 they are absent from two consecutive meetings of the trustees without good cause; and

80.7 he or she is87.7 they are removed from office under Articles 81-84.88 to 92; and

87.8 they are removed in accordance with the Union's code of conduct applicable to Trustees and in force from time to time.

**Removal of Sabbatical Trustees**

81. The88. In addition to Article 87, the office of a Sabbatical Trustee shall be vacated if:

81.188.1 a secure petition for a motion of no confidence in the Sabbatical Trustee is signed by at least

35% of the Student Members of the Union; and the motion of no confidence is passed by

Referendum in accordance with the Standing Orders and Article 100.2109.1; or

81.2 he or she is88.2 they are removed by a resolution by simple majority of those Sabbatical Trustees and

Student Trustees present and voting for failing to act in the best interests of the Union

whether as a Trustee or as an elected officer, in accordance with the Standing Orders. For

the avoidance of doubt, Co-optedLay Trustees and the Trustee concerned shall not vote on this resolution. The quorum shall be four4 made up of Sabbatical and Student Trustees and the quorum in Article 7178 shall be adjusted accordingly. In the event of an equality of votes, the Trustee Chair shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he or shethey may have, provided that the Trustee Chair was entitled to a first vote on the matter.

82.89. Subject to Articles 85-89,93 to 97, a Trustee removed under Article 81.1 or 81.288 shall be removed both from his or hertheir remunerated sabbatical position within the Union and as a Sabbatical Trustee of the Union.

**Removal of** **Co-opted****Lay** **Trustees**

83. The90. In addition to Article 87, the office of Co-optedLay Trustee shall be vacated if:

83.190.1 a secure petition for a motion of no confidence in the Co-optedLay Trustee is signed by at least3 5% of the Student Members of the Union and the motion of no confidence is passed by Referendum in accordance with the Standing Orders and Article 100.3109.2; or

83.2 he or she is90.2 they are removed by a resolution of those Trustees present and voting for failing to act in the best interests of the Union in accordance with the Standing Orders. Such a resolution will be passed by a simple majority of the Trustees. The Co-optedLay Trustee concerned shall not vote on this resolution. In the event of an equality of votes, the Trustee Chair shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he or shethey may have.

**Removal of Student Trustees**

84. The91. In addition to Article 87, the office of a Student Trustee shall be vacated if:

84.191.1 a secure petition for a motion of no confidence in the Student Trustee is signed by at least

35% of the Student Members of the Union and the motion of no confidence is passed by a

Referendum in accordance with the Standing Orders and Article 100.4109.3; or

84.2 he or she is91.2 they are removed by a resolution by simple majority of those Sabbatical Trustees and Student Trustees present and voting for failing to act in the best interests of the Union

whether as a Trustee or as an elected officer, in accordance with the Standing Orders. For

the avoidance of doubt, Co-optedLay Trustees and the Trustee concerned shall not vote on this resolution. The quorum shall be four4 made up of Sabbatical and Student Trustees and the quorum in Article 7178 shall be adjusted accordingly. In the event of an equality of votes, the Trustee Chair shall be entitled to a casting vote in addition to any other vote he or shethey may have.

**Removal of Ex Officio Trustee**

92. In addition to Article 87, the office of Ex Officio Trustee shall be vacated if they cease to hold the role of chair on the DUCK Executive.

**Rights of Removed Trustee**

85.93. A resolution to remove a Trustee in accordance with Articles 81.2, 83.1, or 84.188, 90 and 91 shall not be passed unless the Trustee concerned has been given at least 14 clear days' notice in writing that the resolution is to be proposed, specifying the circumstances alleged to justify removal from office, and has been forwarded a reasonable opportunity of being heard by or making written representations to the other Trustees.

86. 94. A Trustee removed from office in accordance with Articles 81.2, 83.1 or 84.188, 90 and 91 only shall be entitled to appeal the decision to remove him or her to an Appeal Bodythem within 14 days of the resolution. The Appeal Body shall beappeal must be made to a panel made up of the following persons:

86.1 94.1 one member of the University Council;

86.294.2 the Assembly Chair; and

86.394.3 one external member. appointed by the Trustees (excluding the Trustee in question);

Provided(together the "Appeal Body") provided that, in the event that the Assembly Chair has a conflict of interest in the matter in question, the Assembly Chair shall not act as a member of the Appeal Body in relation to that matter, and shall be replaced by such other member of the Assembly as is chosen by the Assembly. "External" for the purposes of this Article means the member in question is not a trustee, officer, employee of the Union or a Connected Person and shall not be a Student.

the Assembly.

87.95. The members of the Appeal Body must not have been involved in the original decision to

remove and its procedures will be as set out in the Standing Orders.

88.96. A resolution of the Appeal Body approving or not approving the removal shall be made in

accordance with the procedure set out in the Standing Orders.

89.97. If such a resolution is passed it shall take effect as a removal of that Trustee from office with

effect from the date the Trustee was removed by the Board of Trustees. If such resolution is

not passed, that Trustee shall continue to be a Trustee and be subject to the requirements of

these Articles as if no resolution to remove the Trustee had been passed.

**Replacement of Trustees**

90.98. If a Sabbatical Trustee or a Student Trustee retires, is disqualified or is removed from office

at any time prior to the commencement of the Academic Year, the Union will hold a By-

Election to appoint a replacement in accordance with the provisions of these Articles and the

Standing Orders of the Union.

91.99. If a Student Trustee retires, is disqualified or is removed from office at any time following the

commencement of the Academic Year, the Union will hold a By-Election to appoint a

replacement in accordance with the provisions of these Articles and the Standing Orders of

the Union.

92.100. If a Sabbatical Trustee retires, is disqualified or is removed from office at any time following

the commencement of the Academic Year, the Union will hold a By-Election to appoint a

replacement in accordance with the provisions of these Articles and the Standing Orders of

the Union. For the avoidance of doubt, any individual so appointed shall be appointed as a

Trustee of the Union only. He or sheThey shall not take on the wider role of Sabbatical Officer of the Union undertaken by the former Sabbatical Trustee and shall not be paid. A Trustee

appointed in accordance with this Article shall remain in office until the next elections are

held and the newly appointed Sabbatical Trustee takes office. If that person is not elected as

a Trustee, he or shethey will automatically cease to be a Trustee when the newly-appointed

Sabbatical Trustee takes office.

93.101. If a Co-optedLay Trustee retires, is disqualified or is removed from office at any time, the Trustees may co-optappoint a replacement Trustee pursuant to the provisions of Article 51.54.

102. If the Ex Officio Trustee retires, is disqualified or is removed from office at any time, the members of the DUCK Executive (excluding the Ex Officio Trustee) may co-opt a replacement Trustee from their number to fill the Ex Officio Trustee vacancy until another person is appointed to the role of chair on the DUCK Executive and thereby assumes the role of Ex Officio Trustee of the Union.

**Conflicts of Interest**

93.1 Unless Article 93.2 applies, a102.1 A Trustee must declare the nature and extent of:

93.1.1 102.1.1 any direct or indirect interest which he or she hasthey have in a proposed transaction or arrangement with the Union; and

93.1.2 102.1.2 any duty or any direct or indirect interest which he or she hasthey have which conflicts or may conflict with the interests of the Union or his or hertheir duties to Union,

93.2 There is no need to declare any interest or duty of which the other Trustees are, or oughtreasonably to be, already aware.

**Participation in decision-making**

93.3102.2 If a Trustee’s interest or duty cannot reasonably be regarded as likely to give rise to a

conflict of interest or a conflict of duties with or in respect of the Union, he or she isthey are entitled to participate in the decision-making process, to be counted in the quorum and to vote in relation to the matter. Any uncertainty about whether a Trustee’s interest or duty is likely to

give rise to a conflict shall be determined by a majority decision of the other Trustees taking

part in the decision-making process.

93.4102.3 If a Trustee’s interest or duty gives rise (or could reasonably be regarded as likely to give

rise) to a conflict of interest or a conflict of duties with or in respect of the Union, he or shethey

may participate in the decision-making process and may be counted in the quorum and vote

unless:

93.4.1 102.3.1 the decision could result in the Trustee or any person who is Connected with him or herthem receiving a benefit other than:

(a) any benefit received in his, her or itstheir capacity as a beneficiary of the Union (as permitted under Article 11) and which is available generally to the beneficiaries of the Union;

1. the payment of premiums in respect of indemnity insurance effected in accordance with

Article 10.25;

1. payment under the indemnity set out at Article 117126; and
2. reimbursement of expenses in accordance with Article 11; or

93.4.2102.3.2 a majority of the other Trustees participating in the decision-making process decide to the

contrary;

93.4.3 102.3.3 in which case he or shethey must comply with Article 93.5.102.4.

93.5 102.4 If a Trustee with a conflict of interest or conflict of duties is required to comply with this

Article 93.5, he or she102.4, they must:

93.5.1 102.4.1 take part in the decision-making processdiscussion only to such extent as in the view of the other Trustees is necessary to inform the debate;

93.5.2 102.4.2 not be counted in the quorum for that part of the process ; and

93.5.3 102.4.3 withdraw during the vote and have no vote on the matter.

**Continuing duties to the Union**

93.6 102.5 Where a Trustee has a conflict of interest or conflict of duties and the Trustee has complied

with his or hertheir obligations under these Articles, in respect of that conflict:

93.6.1 102.5.1 the Trustee shall not be in breach of his or hertheir duties to the Union by withholding confidential information from the Union if to disclose it would result in a breach of any other duty or obligation of confidence owed by him or herthem; and

93.6.2 102.5.2 the Trustee shall not be accountable to the Union for any benefit expressly permitted under

these Articles which he or shethey or any person Connected with him or shethem derives from any matter or from any office, employment or position.

**Assembly**

94.103. The Assembly shall have the authority to:

94.1 103.1 represent the voice of the Students;

94.2 subject to Article 100.5, set the Policy of the Union and refer Policy to Referenda of the

Student Members (in accordance with the Standing Orders) and enforce this policy as

agreed by any such referenda (provided that this does not conflict with the Board of

Trustees' powers under Article 54);

94.3 103.2 make, repeal, replace and/or  amend the Standing Orders jointly with the Trustees in accordance with Article 60;

Article 57;

94.4 receive a quarterly report from the Trustees;

94.5 receive reports from sub-committees of the Assembly;

94.6 appoint student representatives, other than ex officio representatives, to University

committees as and when required;

94.7 hold the Sabbatical Trustees to account for their representational work;

103.3 approve amendments (other than Minor Amendments and Necessary Amendments) to the Articles in accordance with Article 38.

94.8 103.4 request or recommend that the Societies Committee de-ratify the affiliation of Student Groups within and to the Union.

95.104. The composition and proceedings of the Assembly shall be set out in the Standing Orders.

No Student Member may hold more than one seat on the Assembly at any one time.

96.105. Removal of any member of the Assembly shall be in accordance with the Articles and

Standing Orders.

97.106. The Assembly shall meet in accordance with the Standing Orders as amended from time to

time.

98.107. The Assembly shall provide the Board of Trustees with an update of its meetings and

decisions at least four times in any Academic Year either orally or in writing.

**Referenda**

99.108. All Student Members of the Union shall be entitled to vote in Referendum called in

accordance with Articles 38.4, 81.1, 83.1, 84.188.1, 90.1, 91.1 and 94.2103.2 and Standing Orders, guidance and strategy.

100. 109. Referenda may be called to determine the following:

100.1 109.1 in accordance with Article 38, to approve proposed amendments to the Articles, a quorum of

5% of Student Members will be required to validate the Referendum and a majority of two

thirds will be required for the changes to be approved;100.2 in accordance with Article 81.1,88.1, to pass a motion of no confidence in a Sabbatical Trustee, a quorum of 5% of Student Members will be required to validate the call for the Referendum and a simple majority will be required for the motion to be approved;

100.3 109.2 in accordance with Article 83.190.1 to pass a motion of no confidence in a Co-OptedLay Trustee, a quorum of 5% of Student Members will be required to validate the call for the Referendum and a simple majority will be required for the motion to be approved;

100.4 109.3 in accordance with Article 84.1,91.1, to pass a motion of no confidence in a Student Trustee, a quorum of 5% of Student Members will be required to validate the call for the Referendum and a simple majority will be required for the motion to be approved;

100.5 109.4 in accordance with Article 5457 and Article 94.2103.2 to agree political and campaign policy referred to referendum by the Board of Trustees, Assembly or Student Members’ Meeting, a quorum of 5% of Student Members will be required to validate the call for the Referendum and a simple majority will be required for the motion to be approved;

100.6 109.5 in accordance with the Standing Orders, to call a Referendum on affiliations, a quorum of

5% of Student Members will be required to validate the call for the Referendum and a simple majority will be required for the motion to be approved.

101. 110. A Referendum can be called on any other issue (not covered by Article 109) by the following:

101.1 110.1 a simple majority of the Board of Trustees;

101.2 110.2 a two thirds majority of the Assembly;

101.3 110.3 a simple majority of Student Members present and voting in a Student Members’ Meeting

with a quorum of one percent of the total Student Membership entitled to vote;

101.4 110.4 any Student Member via a secure petition signed by one5 percent of the total Student

Membership entitled to vote.

**General**

**Minutes**

102.111. The Trustees shall keep minutes of all proceedings at general meetings of the Union and

meetings of the Trustees and of committees of Trustees, including the names of the

Trustees present at each such meeting. The chair of the meeting or the chair of the next

succeeding meeting, shall, sign the minutes, and any minutes which purport to be so signed

will be sufficient evidence of the proceedings. The minutes of these meetings will be

available to Members.

103.112. Student Members have the right to ask the Trustees questions in writing about the contents

of any documents referred to in Article 102,111, and may expect a response within 21 days.

Accounts and Reports

104.113. The Union may in any general meeting impose reasonable restrictions as to the time at

which and the manner in which the books and accounting records of the Union may be

inspected by the Members but subject to which the books and accounting records shall be

open to inspection by the Members during usual business hours.

105. 114.  The Trustees shall comply with the requirements of the Education Act, the Companies Acts

(or any statutory re-enactment or modification of those Acts) and any requirements of charity

law as to keeping financial records and the audit or examinations of accounts, maintaining a

Company Law Members’ register and the preparation and transmission to the Registrar of

Companies and the Charity Commission of annual reports, annual returns and annual

statements of account.

**Notices**

**Communications by and to the Union**

106.115. Subject to these Articles and the Companies Acts, any document or information (including

any notice, report or accounts) sent or supplied by the Union under this Constitution or the

Companies Acts may be sent or supplied in any way in which the Companies Act 2006

provides for documents or information which are authorised or required by any provision of

that Act to be sent or supplied by the Union, including without limitation:

106.1 115.1 in Hard Copy Form;

106.2 115.2 in Electronic Form; or

106.3 115.3 by making it available on a website.

107.116. Where a document or information which is required or authorised to be sent or supplied by

the Union under the Companies Acts is sent or supplied in Electronic Form or by making it

available on a website, the recipient must have agreed that it may be sent or supplied in that

form or manner or be deemed to have so agreed under the Companies Acts (and not

revoked that agreement). Where any other document or information is sent or supplied in

Electronic Form or made available on a website the Trustees may decide what agreement (if

any) is required from the recipient.

108.117. Subject to these Articles, any notice or document to be sent or supplied to a Trustee in

connection with the taking of decisions by Trustees may also be sent or supplied by the

means which that Trustee has asked to be sent or supplied with such notices or documents

for the time being.

**Deemed delivery**

109. 118.  A Member present in person or by proxy at a meeting of the Union shall be deemed to have

received notice of the meeting and the purposes for which it was called.

110.119. Where any document or information is sent or supplied by the Union to the Members:

110.1 119.1 where it is sent by post it is deemed to have been received 48 hours (including Saturdays,

Sundays, and Public Holidays) after it was posted;

110.2 119.2 where it is sent or supplied by Electronic Means, it is deemed to have been received on the

same day that it was sent;

110.3 119.3 where it is sent or supplied by means of a website, it is deemed to have been received:

110.4 119.4 when the material was first made available on the website; or

110.5 119.5 if later, when the recipient received (or is deemed to have received) notice of the fact that

the material was available on the website.

111.119. Subject to the Companies Acts, a Trustee or any other person (other than in their capacity

as a Company Law Member) may agree with the Union that notices or documents sent to

that person in a particular way are deemed to have been received within a specified time,

and for the specified time to be less than 48 hours.

**Exceptions**

112.120. Copies of the Union’s annual accounts and reports need not be sent to a person for whom

the Union does not have a current address.

113.121. Notices of Company Law Meetings need not be sent to a Member who does not register an

address with the Union, or who registers only a postal address outside the United Kingdom,

or to a Company Law Member for whom the Union does not have a current address.

**Voting and abstentions**

122. In relation to any decision-making process under these Articles, any persons abstaining shall be counted towards the quorum but the vote itself will not be counted.

**Disciplinary Procedure**

114. 123.  The Trustees shall prepare and implement a disciplinary procedure, details of which shall be

contained in the Standing Orders.

115. 124. All Members of the Union shall be subject to the disciplinary procedure, particularly when on

premises administered or events organised by the Union.

116.125. The disciplinary procedure may include sanctions, including the indefinite suspension of any

or all of the privileges of Membership of the Union.

**Indemnity**

117.126. Subject to the provisions of the Companies Acts 1985 to 2006, but without prejudice to any

indemnity to which a Trustee may otherwise be entitled, every Trustee or other officer or

auditor of the Union shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Union against any liability

incurred by him or herthem in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which

judgment is given in his or hertheir favour or in which he or she isthey are acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him or herthem by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Union, and against all costs, charges, losses, expenses or liabilities incurred by him or herthem in the execution and discharge of his or hertheir duties or in relation thereto.

**Exclusion of Model Articles**

118. 127. The relevant model articles for a company limited by guarantee are hereby expressly

excluded.

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