



# MEETING RECORD

DUUNA/2024/SV/1

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## Executive Committee Meeting: Preparation for the 2024/25 Academic Year

Meeting Date: 23 July, 2024

### Section I: Opening Remarks

#### Constitutional Provisions

Under Section 7 of the Constitution of the Durham University United Nations Association (DUUNA), this meeting is considered an informal meeting by the Students' Union. This is because it lacks attendance by the SU Board of Trustees and the Student Groups Committee. The decisions made at this meeting will nonetheless be considered as valid "provided that such decisions are recorded by the Student Group Secretary and that all members of the Committee have the opportunity to participate in the decision-making process", in accordance with Article 7.9.

#### Protocol

Are more than three Executive Committee ("Exec") members present at this meeting?

Does the Agenda have the approval of more than half the attendees present?

### Section II: Scope

Please refer to Appendix 1.

### Section III: Minutes

Taken by the MUN Conference Officer on behalf of the Secretary (with the Secretary's consent).

Members Present:

- **Cholatich Supawattanapong** – President
- **Sasha Morgan Rosca** – Treasurer
- **Tsz Yeung Anthony Law** – MUN Conference Officer

Members Absent:

- **Adithi Avadhani** – Secretary

(Quorum met. **Tsz Yeung Anthony Law** nominated with consent from Secretary to fulfil her role temporarily until the end of this meeting.)

**Point 1:** To abolish unfilled Executive positions.

- It is noted by all members present that five Executive positions were created upon last election term; Careers and Opportunities Officer, MUN Conference Officer, Events and Logistics Officer, Academic Officer, MUN Training Officer.
- It is noted by all members present that in spite of this, during the last election cycle (Easter term 2024), only one was filled – MUN Conference Officer. In addition to this, the role of Marketing and Public Relations Officer remains unfilled as well.
- It is noted by all members present that the current Exec thus has four unfilled roles whose responsibilities remain unfulfilled.

**In light of the above;**

Motion 1a: To merge the positions of MUN Conference and MUN Training Officer temporarily until Michaelmas Elections.

Submitted by: **Tsz Yeung Anthony Law**

- All members present unanimously voted in favour.
- Result: **Tsz Yeung Anthony Law** becomes "Interim MUN Officer" until the end of Michaelmas Election Cycle.

Motion 1b: To put the position of Careers and Opportunities Officer on hold until Epiphany term.

Submitted by: **Sasha Morgan Rosca**

- All members present unanimously voted in favour.
- Result: Careers and Opportunities Officer will cease all functions as an executive role, effective until the next election cycle in Epiphany term.

Motion 1c: To rename the position of Events and Logistics Officer to "Advocacy Officer".

Submitted by: **Cholatich Supawattanapong**

- All members present unanimously voted in favour.
- Result: The position of "Events and Logistics Officer" is renamed to "Advocacy Officer", whose role(s) will consist of overseeing and executing all matters regarding Advocacy.

Motion 1d: To nominate **Tsz Yeung Anthony Law** to fill the role of Academic Officer *pro tempore* until elections occur at the beginning of Michaelmas term.

Submitted by: **Cholatich Supawattanapong**

- All members present unanimously voted in favour.
- Result: **Tsz Yeung Anthony Law** resumes activity as "Academic Officer" *pro tempore* until the end of Michaelmas Election Cycle.

Motion 1e: To nominate **Cholatich Supawattanapong** to fill the role of Marketing and Public Relations Officer *pro tempore* until elections occur at the beginning of Michaelmas term.

Submitted by: **Cholatich Supawattanapong**

- All members present unanimously voted in favour.
- Result: **Cholatich Supawattanapong** fills the role of "Marketing and Public Relations Officer" *pro tempore* until the end of Michaelmas Election Cycle.

**Point 2:** To hold another election cycle at the start of 2024-25 Michaelmas Term.

- It is once again noted by all members present that the current exec thus still has unfilled roles, of whose responsibilities as exec roles remain unfilled as well.

**In light of the above;**

Motion 2: To hold another election cycle in order to fill currently unfilled Exec. Positions. This election cycle will begin on the week of the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024.

Submitted by: **Tsz Yeung Anthony Law**

Positions to be filled in Michaelmas elections:

- Academic Officer
  - Marketing and Public Relations Officer
  - MUN Training Officer
  - Advocacy Officer
- All members present unanimously voted in favour.
  - Result: Another general election will be held on the week of the 21<sup>st</sup> October 2024, Michaelmas Term, to be overseen by the President.

**Point 3:** To map out themes for each academic term.

- It is noted by all members present that DUUNA currently lacks a clear and concrete direction regarding their events and function as a society in the upcoming Michaelmas Term.
- It is noted by all members present that a general theme should be decided upon to dictate the nature and thematical approach of all events and operations of DUUNA this upcoming Michaelmas Term.
- The members present also note that of the UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for all, 2024 is the last year of the 2014-2024 roadmap.

**In light of the above;**

Motion 3: To declare the DUUNA theme of 2024-25 Michaelmas Term to be "Inclusive Sustainable Development" with particular emphasis on the UN Decade of Sustainable Energy for all.

Submitted by: **Cholatich Supawattanapong**

Addendum:

- DUUNA Exec. Plans to hold the first official meeting of the society on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024. The topic will be "Welcome (Back) to DUUNA" and will serve primarily as an introductory session.
- DUUNA Exec. Plans to hold the second official meeting of the society on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2024. The topic will be "Welcome to MUN at Durham University" and will serve as an introductory session to Model United Nations.
- All executive members present unanimously motion in favour of hosting the following as well;
  - a. MUN Events:
    1. Welcome to MUN at Durham University – 10<sup>th</sup> October
    2. UN Resolution Workshop – 16<sup>th</sup> October
    3. MUN Session – UN Environmental Assembly: The Question of the Threat of Climate Change on Food Supply – 16-17<sup>th</sup> October
    4. 17<sup>th</sup> Oct - MUN Social - Treasurer's job to organise
    5. 25<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> Oct: UCLMUN
    6. 7 Nov – MUN – come up with a topic based on the findings of this [report](#). Consider the context of the Coffee Talk on the previous day.
    7. Late November: Chinese investment in Africa & sustainability – MUN Debate – UNDP
  - b. Academic Events
    1. 31 Oct – Coffee Talk on World Cities Day – Sustainable Cities – [Professor Harriet Bulkeley](#) (invite EcoDU and DU Climate)
    2. Coffee Talk on the [International Day for Preventing the Exploitation of the Environment in War and Armed Conflict](#) – 6<sup>th</sup> November
      - Attempt to contact faculty members regarding a potential speaker for this event. Maybe Oliver Belcher and Jack Copley will want to talk. (**Tsz Yeung Anthony Law** to draft email for each **individually**.)
      - Will need to reconsider talk title later in order to connect it to the thematical concept of "Inclusive Sustainable Development"
    3. 20 Nov – Coffee Talk for Africa Industrialisation Day – How to industrialise in a world threatened by climate catastrophe? (The exec to consider working in collaboration with DU Society for Economic Pluralism regarding this event)
- All members present unanimously voted in favour.
- Result: The DUUNA theme of 2024-25 Michaelmas Term is officially declared to be "Inclusive Sustainable Development", effective immediately. All events raised in the motion above shall begin planning phase, to be overseen by the President and the relevant Officer in charge.

**Point 4:** To formally reintroduce advocacy at DUUNA.

- It is noted by all members present that DUUNA should aim to be a *United Nations* society, not a Model UN society.
- It is noted by all members present that the previous DUUNA exec. used to work with numerous charities to support UN goals.
- It is noted by all members present, however, that these collaborations were never formalised as part of DUUNA, nor was advocacy (more broadly), introduced as part of the society.

**In light of the above;**

Motion 4: The current exec. shall aim to find ways to continue currently pre-existing collaborations with NGOs/Charities on top of formalising advocacy as part of DUUNA.

- All members present unanimously voted in favour.
- Result: Advocacy at DUUNA is inducted as a formal branch of the society. President to work on contacting other societies. Upon the election of an "advocacy officer" after Michaelmas election cycle, such an officer shall oversee the operations this motion pertains to.

**Point 5:** To update the DUUNA page on UNA-UK

- It is noted by all members present that the DUUNA page on the UNA-UK website is unacceptably out of date (by several years), and therefore is not an accurate reflection of our aims, goals or members as a society.

**In light of the above;**

Motion 5: To contact UNA-UK in regards to updating the DUUNA page on the UNA-UK website to accurately reflect the current state and aims of the society.

Submitted by: **Cholatich Supawattanapong**

- All members present unanimously voted in favour.
- Result: It is decided that the Secretary will email UNA-UK regarding this matter. (Conditional on Secretary's approval.)

**Point 6:** To engage in sufficient Public Relations with Freshers to expand and promote the society.

- It is once again noted by all members present that DUUNA currently lacks a complete exec. cabinet fundamental to the smooth and functional operation of the society.
- It is noted by all members present that DUUNA also lacks sufficient paying members in terms of both active and passive engagement with the society.
- It is noted by all members present that substantial action should be taken by all members to promote and advertise the society to students.

**In light of the above;**

Motion 6: The current exec. should begin the planning and execution of a marketing and advertising campaign targeting freshers for Michaelmas Term.

Submitted by: **Cholatich Supawattanapong**

- All members present unanimously voted in favour.
- Result: As **Cholatich Supawattanapong** has been nominated Marketing and Public Relations Officer *pro tempore*, they shall take primary responsibility. The Treasurer, **Sasha Morgan Rosca**, shall assist in this endeavour. All other officers must put in effort to advertise the society.

## Section IV: Tasks

### President

1. Reach out to other societies on advocacy partnerships
2. PR with freshers
3. Contact SU about Michaelmas elections
4. Welcome (Back) to DUUNA
5. Disarmament Week Advocacy; Liaise with [DU Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament Society and Bridges not Borders](#)
6. Ask former exec for all previous material to smoothen the transition process
  - a. Hoh Shan for the Resolution Writing Workshop Presentation
7. TBD in Late November: Chinese investment in Africa & sustainability – MUN Debate – UNDP

### Acting MUN Officer

1. Fix Events Calendar (Events, Dates, Conferences, Uni+World Events)
2. Welcome (Back) to DUUNA short presentation regarding MUN.
3. UCLMUN (Organise and Liaison)
4. Find and Plan other external Conferences for DUUNA delegations to participate in.
  - a. CUIMUN?
  - b. BathMUN?
  - c. LiMUN (President confirms our attendance)
  - d. OxiMUN?
  - e. HultMUN?
5. Academic Officer Work (Temporary)
  - a. Coffee Talks; 31<sup>st</sup> Oct, 6<sup>th</sup> November, 20<sup>th</sup> November
  - b. Draft Emails for Speakers regarding Academic Events
  - c. Contact DU Society for Economic Pluralism regarding Industrialisation Day Talk
6. MUN Officer Work (Interim)
  - a. Introduction to MUN Talk
  - b. UN Resolution Workshop (in tandem with Pres.)
  - c. MUN Session Study Guide(s)
  - d. Plan MUN Session Topic on 7<sup>th</sup> Nov (in tandem with Pres.) come up with a topic based on the findings of this [report](#). Consider the context of the Coffee Talk on the previous day.
  - e. TBD in Late November: Chinese investment in Africa & sustainability – MUN Debate – UNDP (Liaise with Pres.)

### Treasurer

- Organise MUN Social
- Report most recent financial information to the Exec
- Liaise with Pres. to deal with PR-related tasks. TBD.

### Secretary

- Email UNA-UK to inform of the need to update DUUNA's Page

## Appendix 1: Agenda

1. Filling in empty roles
2. Themes for each term
  - a. Plan MUN session topics II
  - b. Coffee talk / advocacy topics
  - c. Collabs with other groups
    - i. The old DUUNA used to work with charities to support UN goals - let's find ways to do the same?
    - ii. maybe we could get someone from another society to come and speak?
  - d. Invite speakers from our uni and elsewhere
3. DUUNA page on UNA-UK needs updating
4. PR job - freshers - we need a liaison person to promote our society to freshers