

# **Motion to Reshape and Refine the UWCS Constitution**

**Proposer: Willow Brown (5648081) Second: Thomas Facos (5597341) Third: Raven Lucia (2110310)**

## **This Society Notes:**

- The UWCS Constitution was written for and in the era of Reg 9, which has now been replaced by Byelaws.
- As such, the current constitution has multiple outdated references, redundancies and fails to reflect the evolving nature of The Computing Society.
- The constitution is full of overlap, lacks a cohesive structure and can be difficult to navigate for required information.

## **This Society Believes:**

- The constitution should be updated to be in-line with the current SU byelaws.
- The constitution should be updated to remove unnecessary clauses, specifically those that are already upheld through SU byelaws.
- The constitution should be updated to reflect the societies' current direction.
- The creation of clearer, more concise and accurate categories would be more accessible for members.

## **This Society Resolves:**

The following amendments should be made to the following areas of the constitution:

### **1 Name**

1.1 The name of the society shall be ~~Warwick Students' Union~~The University of Warwick Computing Society.

1.2 The name of the society can also be shortened in an official capacity to UWCS.

### **2. Aims and Objectives**

2.1 The Society shall have a written statement of aims and objectives, providing a clear understanding of the society. This shall be subject to review annually by the University of Warwick Computing Society Executive Committee. Members.

2.2 The society aims and objectives shall be:

~~2.2.1 To act as the academic student society for Computer Science and related areas.~~

2.2.2 To act as the principle academic society for those studying Computer Science, related degrees or those with interest in the field of Computer Science.

~~2.2.3 To help people become more computer literate.~~

2.2.4 To help students of all subjects become more computer literate with academic courses, resources and opportunities.

2.2.5 To provide a welcoming and inclusive environment for like-minded people to collaborate on projects and events.

~~2.2.6 To offer a number of workshops and academic talks to help students of all subjects learn how to improve their programming abilities.~~

2.2.7 To provide non-academic events to foster community within Membership.

### 3 Regulations

3.1 The Society, its Executives, its funds and all its activities shall be subject to the provisions of the By-Laws, Regulations and Policy of the University of Warwick Students' Union.

3.2 The Society shall be subject to a disciplinary code as laid out by the Students' Union. ~~and administered by the Societies Executive.~~

3.3 Any alterations to the Society Constitution must be ratified by the ~~Societies Executive~~ Society Membership. Written confirmation of the ratification of the new constitution must be received prior to it taking effect.

~~3.4 If the Society has issues arising not mentioned in a personalised Constitution, then this document will become the default. Any issues may be dealt with by contacting your Societies Coordinator.~~

3.5 Any amendments to the constitution must be made by the end of term 3. Moved

3.6 The renewed Constitution, with up-to-date signatures, must be sent to the Societies Coordinator before the end of term 3. Moved

### 4 Affiliations

4.1 The Society is affiliated with the British Computing Society, The Chartered Institute for IT.

### 5 Memberships

5.1 Memberships of the Society shall be open to all full, associate, and honorary members of the Students' Union upon payment of the required Societies Federation subscription.

5.2 Memberships of the Society are to be renewed on the 1st September of every year.

5.2.1 Associate membership will be decided by a quorate vote within the Society Executive.

5.2.2 New Associate membership will only be granted such that standard members always represent the absolute majority of the full membership of the Society.

~~5.3 The Society must have a minimum of 30 members by the sixth week of term one. If the minimum membership is not met, a meeting with the Society, Societies Coordinator and Societies Officer will be scheduled to discuss the future of the Society.~~

5.4 The Society must have a minimum of 30 standard members by the sixth week of each academic term, in order to remain affiliated with the Student's Union.

~~5.5 It is the responsibility of the Society Executive Committee to ensure that those attending their events are members of the Union.~~

## 6 Cost of Membership

6.1 Standard Membership of the Society shall be free, or £0.00 [Moved](#)

6.2 Associate Membership of the Society shall be £3.00

## 8 Eligibility to Vote & Nominate

~~8.1 Only standard members of the society shall be entitled to vote in elections, provided they have joined the society and paid the appropriate subscription fee no less than 14 days before voting begins.~~

8.2 All standard members of the society shall be entitled to hold office of an Executive position and vote in elections or General Meetings.

~~8.3 The subscription fee to join the society is £0.00.~~ [Moved to 6. Cost of Membership](#)

8.4 For avoidance of doubt, the following shall not be entitled to hold the office of an Executive position [or vote](#) in the society:

8.4.1 An Associate or Honorary member of the Students' Union ~~or Societies Federation.~~

8.4.2 Any standard member of the society who has not joined the society no less than fourteen days before voting begins.

~~8.4.3 Any person who has received payment for the provision of services to the society (not including reimbursement of personal expenditure on behalf of the society):~~

8.5 For avoidance of doubt, the following roles shall be protected by the following limitations:

8.5.1 Freshers' Representatives positions are recognised as protected positions, restricted to only first year undergraduate members. Voting for Freshers' Representatives positions shall be exempt from quorum.

8.5.2 Gender Inclusivity Officers and Gender Inclusivity Freshers' Representative are recognised as protected positions, restricted to only individuals who self-identify as non-men.

8.5.4 Defined restrictions in 8.5.1 & 8.5.2 & 8.5.3 additionally apply to members eligibility to:

8.5.4.a Nominate for the positions

8.5.4.b Hold the positions

8.5.4.c Vote on elections for the positions.

~~8.6 The Society must have a minimum of 30 members by the sixth week of term one. If the minimum membership is not met, a meeting with the Society, Societies Coordinator and Societies Officer will be scheduled to discuss the future of the Society.~~ Moved to 6. Memberships

~~8.7 It is the responsibility of the Society Executive Committee to ensure that those attending their events are members of the Union.~~ Moved to 6. Memberships

## 9 Elections Procedures (Moved to a more relevant position + named procedures)

~~9.1 Elections shall be held online or at a quorate general meeting in line with SU by-laws.~~

9.2 Annual Elections, including the election of the Executive Committee, must occur between week five and week nine (inclusive) of Term 2 of the University of Warwick academic year.

9.2.1 Elections shall be held at a quorate general meeting. The manner and procedures of this election shall be determined by the Executive Committee provided they do not contradict the constitution or SU regulations and bylaws.

9.2.2 The Student Union shall be the Returning Officer for all Society elections. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Deputy Returning Officer through a quorate vote, provided there is no actual or perceived conflicts of interest.

9.2.3 Votes for elected positions will be counted using a Single Transferrable Vote electoral system and re-open nominations (R.O.N) shall be present on all ballot, with First Past The Post/simple majority used in votes on motions.

9.2.4 All elections shall be conducted with a secret ballot.

9.2.5 Quorum for General Meetings or By-Election shall be equivalent to 7% of Society Membership.

9.2.6 Quorum for Executive Committee votes shall be equivalent to 50% + 1 of the Executive Committee. Such votes should have a minimum time period of 72 hours, with exceptions for urgent time-sensitive matters.

### ~~9.3 Shared Office~~ Removed & clauses moved into more specific categories.

~~9.3.1 President, Treasurer, Sports Officer, and Events Officer shall be filled by one (1) seat. Secretary, Welfare, and Publicity shall be filled by up to two (2) seats. Academic, Gaming, and Social shall be filled by up to three (3) seats. Technical Officer shall be filled by up to four (4) seats. Additional positions should be filled in accordance with 6.3.2.~~ Moved to 10 Executive Committee

~~9.3.2 Further officers shall be selected by taking subsequent positions in the STV process, until the required number of officers is reached.~~ Moved to 10 Executive Committee

~~9.3.2.a This selection cannot pass a vote to Re-Open Nominations.~~  
Moved to 10 Executive Committee

~~9.3.3 Should a position not reach its quota as defined in 9.3.1, the incoming exec should treat the empty position as a vacant slot in accordance with Warwick SU's regulation 9 on vacant slots.~~ Moved to 10 Executive Committee

~~9.3.4 A maximum of two (2) Members may run together in one seat, with the exception of Fresher Representative positions, which must be held by a single (1) individual.~~ Moved to 10 Executive Committee

~~9.3.5 If multiple members run together, they will be considered as 1 candidate in regard to shared office and as such each member will be considered 1/nth of a full vote where n is the number of people running jointly.~~ Moved to 10 Executive Committee

~~9.3.6 If a Member of a shared seat vacates their position on the Executive Committee — whether by resignation, a Vote of No Confidence, or any other means — the remaining Member shall assume full responsibility for the seat, as if it had originally been held by a single (1) individual.~~ Moved to 10 Executive Committee

~~9.3.7 Any amendments to the constitution must be made by the end of term 3.~~

Moved to 3. Regulations

~~9.3.8 The renewed Constitution, with up-to-date signatures, must be sent to the Societies Coordinator before the end of term 3.~~

Moved to 3. Regulations

## 10 Executive Committee

10.1 The Society's Executive Committee (which may also be referred to as the "Motherboard") shall be made up of at least at least the President, a Welfare Officer, and a Treasurer. ~~three voting officers of whom two shall be the President and the Treasurer respectively.~~

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10.2.7 Ensuring that all society activity abides by the ~~By-laws, regulations, and policy of Warwick SU~~ governance of the Student's Union.

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10.3.1 President, Treasurer, Sports Officer, and Events Officer shall be filled by one (1) seat. Secretary, Welfare, and Publicity shall be filled by up to two (2) seats. Academic, Gaming, and Social shall be filled by up to three (3) seats. Technical Officer shall be filled by up to four (4) seats. Additional positions should be filled in accordance with 6.3.2. Moved

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