

COUNCIL
Thursday 14 May 2026

DRAFT UNCONFIRMED MINUTES

Present:

Lan Tu (Chair)	Professor Adrian Armstrong	Professor Colin Bailey CBE
Ken Batty	Professor Liam Campling	Patricia Gallan QPM
Paul Goswell	Indy Hothi	Maryanne Matthews
Dr Michaela Macdonald	Dr Natalie McCloskey	Tracey McDermott CBE
Dr Anthony Phillips	Dr Alix Pryde	Diya Selastin
Melissa Tatton CBE	Rob Whiteman CBE	

In attendance:

For m.2025.074	Professor Stephanie Marshall	Professor Deborah Rafalin
For m.2025.076	Louise Lester	
Tushar Goyal	Dr Sharon Ellis	Dr Maggie Leggett
Dr Nadine Lewycky	Jonathan Morgan	Maria Rubbani

Apologies:

Malcolm Hitching	Karen Kröger
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Welcome, apologies and declaration of interests

2025.070 The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the apologies. There were no declarations of interests.

Chair's update

2025.071 The Chair gave an update on her recent activities. The following points were noted:

- [a] The Chair had finished her induction meetings with staff members in the University. External members were encouraged to take advantage of opportunities to learn about the excellent work taking place across the University.
- [b] In order to navigate the challenges facing the higher education sector over the next few years, Council would need to balance the immediate concerns with a focus on what was needed in the longer term.

President and Principal's Report (QM2025/62)

2025.072 *Minute 2025.072 is confidential.*

QMSU President's report (QM2025/63)

2025.073 Council **considered** the QMSU President's report. The following points were noted in the discussion:

Education awards

- [a] The annual Education Awards Ceremony had been held at Drapers' Hall last month. The awards celebrated students who had made a demonstrable impact as course representatives or postgraduate subject representatives, including by championing student priorities and raising issues affecting their cohorts. The awards also celebrated academics who had provided strong leadership, support, and high-quality teaching.

QMSU elections

- [b] Elections had been held in February and March for next year's sabbatical officers, student representatives and student trustee positions. There had been 89 candidates across all roles. Over 7,500 students had cast 54,000 votes, which is the highest number of votes for similar elections. The results for one of the part-time positions and five of the full-time positions were on hold due to unresolved complaints. Following last year's elections, a set of measures to improve candidate behaviour and streamline the complaints process had been introduced. This resulted in a quicker complaints process, but required more staff time to investigate the complaints. The complaints related to candidate behaviour, such as society endorsement, rather than concerns about procedural fairness.

Volunteering

- [c] Feedback was being collected from students about their awareness and experience of volunteering to inform the future of QMSU volunteering. External community partners were also being asked for feedback to inform the report. Two new partner organisations had been on-boarded, and the volunteering team was working with the sport team to offer sport-related volunteering opportunities and to integrate the Sports Employability Academy's opportunities into the wider volunteering offer.
- [d] The number of students engaged with the employability skills award was low and Council asked what steps QMSU would take to increase student engagement. The skills award was one of several initiatives organised by QMSU for employability and overall engagement from students with employability opportunities was good.

Young Woman of the Year

- [e] Council congratulated the QMSU President for being recognised in the Tower Hamlets Women's Awards.

Curriculum 2030 (QM2025/64)

2025.074 *Minute 2025.074 is confidential.*

Update on progress to reduce education, research and operating costs (QM2025/65)

2025.075 *Minute 2025.075 is confidential.*

Staff survey (QM2025/66)

2025.076 *Minute 2025.076 is confidential.*

Remuneration Committee (QM2025/67)*

2025.077 Council **noted** a summary of the Remuneration Committee meeting on 16 March 2026.

QMSU Articles of Association (QM2025/68)*

2025.078 Council **approved** the revised QMSU Articles of Association.

Minutes of the last meeting (QM2025/69)

2025.079 Council **confirmed** the minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2026.

Matters arising* (QM2025/70)

2025.080 Council **noted** the matters arising from the last meeting.

Decisions taken and use of the Common Seal since the last meeting* (QM2025/71)

2025.081 Council **noted** the decisions taken and the use of the Common Seal since the last meeting.

Agenda for the next meeting* (QM2025/72)

2025.082 Council **noted** the agenda for the next meeting on 09 July 2026.

Dates of Meetings 2025–26:

➤ Thursday 09 July 2026 at 1600 hours.