

Report on the Annual General Meeting of UCL Chamber Music Club 2022/23

Thursday 29th June 2023 at 5pm via Zoom

Participants: Andrew Fisher, Sergei Chebankov, Diana Hughes, Yvonne Cheng, Dace Ruklisa, Jin Xuan, Liz Mooney, Gillian Hogg, John Kelsey, Tabitha Tuckett, Soffia Nicholas, Maria Kiladi, Chris Waudby and two others who did not provide their full names.

1. Welcome and apologies for absence

Apologies were received from John Irving and Roger Beeson.

2. Chair's Report, 2022/23

Andrew Fisher presented the Chair's report (previously circulated).

Dace Ruklisa noted that despite the limitations on room bookings, the Club had achieved a very balanced programme of concerts. Fifteen was probably the maximum number the committee could have organised. She suggested trying to get more room bookings next year as the extra dates could be used for rehearsals, etc.

Sergei Chebankov raised the question of how many concerts people would want to attend in a year. Ten concerts would still be a reasonable number. However, Dace had previously attended every concert in an 18 concert season.

3. Interim accounts/Treasurer's Report, 2022/23

Sergei Chebankov presented the interim statement of account (previously circulated) which includes transactions up to 31 March 2023. The Steinway overhaul has not been paid for yet. The final statement of account covering the period until the end of July 2023 will have to be adopted later.

He noted that the number of members was not increasing but the cost of piano tuning was going up. Also it was now more difficult for him to access the UCL financial system (and the account held within UCL) due to his retirement.

Dace Ruklisa commented that students are now much busier than in lockdown and are pulled in different directions, which may give them less time for music. However, there is still enthusiasm - Andrew Fisher noted that the student Music Society had organised a chamber music concert.

4. Election of officers

Jin Xuan and Gillian Hogg will stand down from the committee this year, as will Maria Khokhar as she ends her term as UCL Music Society President. Andrew Fisher thanked all three for their service to the club.

The AGM participants proceeded to elect a committee for the next season.

Chair: Andrew Fisher (elected last year, initially for one year).

Proposer: Tabitha Tuckett; seconder: Sergei Chebankov. Declared elected.

Treasurer: Sergei Chebankov.

Proposer: John Kelsey; seconder: Diana Hughes. Declared elected.

Secretary: Diana Hughes.

Proposer: Dace Ruklisa; seconder: Tabitha Tuckett. Declared elected.

5. Election of other committee members

Proposed: All previously elected members of the retiring Committee not shown as resigned or standing down and not elected to an Officer position shall continue to serve (i.e. Yvonne Cheng, Liz Mooney, Dace Ruklisa).

Proposer: Andrew Fisher; seconder: Sergei Chebankov.

Motion carried.

Proposed for membership of the Committee:

Maria Kiladi.

Proposer: Tabitha Tuckett; seconder: Andrew Fisher. Declared elected.

Soffia Nicholas.

Proposer: Andrew Fisher; seconder: Jin Xuan. Declared elected.

Chris Waudby.

Proposer: John Kelsey; seconder: Dace Ruklisa. Declared elected.

The AGM noted that Amy Winterbottom, incoming President of the UCL Music Society, would be a member of the committee ex officio.

Thus a committee of ten people was elected.

6. Election of Independent Scrutineer of Accounts for 2023/24

Proposed: Jenny Godfrey – UCL Finance.

Proposer: Dace Ruklisa; seconder: John Kelsey.

Declared elected.

7. Subscriptions 2023/24

The meeting accepted the outgoing committee's recommendation to increase the subscription fees to £6 for students and £12 for other members. This motion was carried by a majority.

8. Any other business

Dace commented that the master classes were a very good idea but several committee members would need to work on them. Based on her previous experience it was a slow process to arrange – approaching tutors, identifying dates, and so on.

Sergei Chebankov noted that there was still hope that the online booking system for the practice room would be ready soon. However, this could potentially change the pattern of bookings. It would be easier to cancel unwanted bookings, which would improve utilisation, but it would also be easier to make multiple bookings and block other users.

Andrew Fisher expressed thanks to all and particularly to those leaving the committee. He welcomed the new members. He will arrange a committee meeting as soon as possible to discuss plans for next year.

The meeting closed at 6.00pm.