**Student Council 5th Week Hilary Term 2021**

**Tuesday 16th February 2021**

**Virtual – 5:30PM**

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| **Item** | **Agenda** | **Actions** |
|  | **Welcome and Apologies**    Wesley Ding (Chair of Council) welcomed council members to the meeting and explains how Student Council will run, and some ground rules. Wesley explained that as no amendments were submitted, voting is now open online.  **Chair’s announcements:**  **RAG** Have just launched an emergency fundraiser for their fab RAG charities all of which are very much on the frontline in helping to deal with covid in various different ways! It would be fab if you could check it out, give it a like and may even donate the price of that coffee/pint you're missing out on at the moment! Thanks <https://www.facebook.com/donate/440675657137560/?fundraiser_source=external_url>  **CAMPAIGN ELECTIONS.**  Nominations open – NOW!  Nominations close- Monday 22nd Feb 12 midday  Voting opens - Tuesday 23rd Feb 12 midday  Voting closes - Wednesday 24th Feb 12 midday  Full details can be found here <https://www.oxfordsu.org/representation/campaigns/>  Chair informs council members that there is a trigger warning on item B1: Possible discussion of queerphobia  Chair also informs members that the President-elect has submitted a letter of resignation from her post therefore Item H1: possible discussion of antisemitism, racism, and transphobia will be removed from the agenda | To note |
| **A** | **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**  Chair opened the floor to questions and comments regarding the minutes of the previous meeting and any matters arising from the minutes. | To receive |
| **B** | **Matters arising from the minutes**  Actions taken subsequent to the withdrawn motion “Supporting LGBTQ+ Rights and Welfare in Light of Events at Magdalen College”  **Nikita:** Been in touch with the proposer of the above motion with a paragraph to help support the motion  **Amelia:** Creation of the resource in light of the motion and finishing it off soon and will send it to all welfare officers and happy to take any feedback. | To receive |
| **C** | **Elections in council**  Chair hands over to the returning officer Caleb  **Candidate for Steering Committee:** Asif Malik  I would like to work closer with SU in setting a direction and course. There are a lot of activities that take can use greater collaboration and planning  **Returning officer invites Candidate for scrutiny Committee and rules committee :** Eric Sheng  I was in this role in 2018–19, when I was elected on the basis of proposing amendments to allow societies to have co-chairs rather than a single president without having to apply for a special exemption from the Proctors, which often involved long delays. I recently discovered that the amendments, though they met with no objection at the Rules Committee, were never enacted, for reasons unclear to me. I intend to make sure that that's done this time around.  I was a member of Student Council in 2018–19 and am familiar with how the SU work. I'd also be bringing a graduate student perspective to the committee.  Retuning officer encourages members to vote in the elections  **Council Results:**   |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Election:** | **5th Week Hilary Term 2021 Student Council** |  |  |  |  | | **Post:** | **Rules Committee** |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Total Valid Vote** | **33** | **Places** | **1** | **Quota** | **16.5** | | **Candidate** | **Stage 1** | **Stage 2** | **Stage 2 Total** | **Result** |  | | **[8876] Re-open Nominations (R.O.N.)** | **1** | **0** | **1** | **Excluded @ Stage 1** |  | | **[8884] Eric Sheng** | **32** | **0** | **32** | **Elected @ Stage 1** |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Non-Transferable Differences** | **0** | **0** | **0** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Election:** | **5th Week Hilary Term 2021 Student Council** |  |  |  |  | | **Post:** | **Scrutiny Committee** |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Total Valid Vote** | **28** | **Places** | **1** | **Quota** | **14** | |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Candidate** | **Stage 1** | **Stage 2** | **Stage 2 Total** | **Result** |  | | **[8875] Re-open Nominations (R.O.N.)** | **1** | **0** | **1** | **Excluded @ Stage 1** |  | | **[8885] Eric Sheng** | **27** | **0** | **27** | **Elected @ Stage 1** |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Non-Transferable Differences** | **0** | **0** | **0** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | | **Election:** | **5th Week Hilary Term 2021 Student Council** |  |  |  |  | | **Post:** | **Steering Committee** |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Total Valid Vote** | **32** | **Places** | **1** | **Quota** | **16** | |  |  |  |  |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Candidate** | **Stage 1** | **Stage 2** | **Stage 2 Total** | **Result** |  | | **[8873] Re-open Nominations (R.O.N.)** | **1** | **0** | **1** | **Excluded @ Stage 1** |  | | **[8886] Asif Malik** | **31** | **0** | **31** | **Elected @ Stage 1** |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | **Non-Transferable Differences** | **0** | **0** | **0** |  |  | |  |  |  |  |  |  | | To receive |
| **D** | **Reports from and questions to Sabbatical Trustees**  Chair informed members that full officer written reports can be accessed on [student council website](https://www.oxfordsu.org/representation/student-council/21ht3w/). Sabbatical Trustees supplemented their written reports with a short verbal update.  **Chair opens the floor for Questions and comments on officer reports**  **Alex Foley:** Informs members that they didn’t submit a report due to personal matters. Alex welcomed any questions from members  **Nikita Ma:** Wanted to address the now President-elect issue who has now resigned. As your elected representatives and in recognition of the Office we hold, we sincerely apologise for the hurt and discomfort caused by the actions of the President-elect. Oxford SU has a no tolerance policy towards discrimination. Racism, transphobia, and antisemitism have no place in our organisation.  **Josh (President St Anthony’s): can we get a time frame for the by-election please**  **Nikita: Unfortunately the president elect resignation letter has only just come to us before council. Once all plans are in place we shall send out comms to all students**  **Caleb (returning officer): in a matter of weeks we shall make sure a plan is in place and we aim to insure everyone is aware of the process**  **Is there some vetting process before people stand for such elections?** or any checking of people’s social media before they stand:  **Nikita Ma:** According to rules its based on the eligibility of their membership | To receive |
| **E** | **Reports from and questions to International Students Campaign and It Happens Here**  **Key highlights from International Students Campaign:**  When I first took up my term as chair in Trinity Term 2020, I was not expecting that this pandemic which has affected so many people’s lives would continue for so long. No doubt, international students have been seriously affected by the pandemic. Some have faced personal financial difficulties as universities continue to charge unfair tuition fees during the pandemic. Some have been unable to leave the United Kingdom for the vacation periods, while others have been unable to return due to circumstances in their home country.  Over the past year, International Students’ Campaign has been lobbying for the interests of international students. Over the summer vacation, we liaised with sabbatical officers to raise concerns about quarantine arrangements. We have passed two motions in Student Council, both focusing on vacation, term-time, and quarantine residence for international students. Aside from our advocacy in Student Council, we have also created a variety of resources and attended events to support international students. We ran an online booth at the freshers’ fair, speaking to prospective members about our work. We have upgraded our freshers’ guides and published them online. We ran part of the university’s freshers’ fair presentation for international students, giving advice on living in Oxford as an international.  We will soon also be distributing a small gift to international students living in Oxford—branded phone card holders.  **Chair opens the floor for Questions and comments on International Students Campaign**  There were no questions from delegates.  **Key highlights from It Happens Here:**  Reflecting on our time as Co-Chairs, we are extremely satisfied with the work that we have achieved. Ranging from advocacy work, to outlining available resources and hosting educational events, we have consistently worked in the direction of creating a safer community for everyone. We hope that the incoming chairs and committee members will continue the work of IHH and finish some of the projects we have started. A quick note that due to the pandemic, we were not able to use the SU funding the way we would have hoped, however, we believe that next year when in-person events etc. can start again, we will be using more of our funding  **Chair opens the floor for Questions and comments on International Students Campaign**  There were no questions from delegates.  **Key highlights from** submitted a[written report](https://www.oxfordsu.org/representation/student-council/21ht5w/) which can be found online | To receive |
| **F** | **Reports from and questions to PG and UG Medical Sciences Report**  **Chair opens the floor for Questions and comments for the PG Rep.**  Both delegates were not present at the meeting therefore no questions for delegates.  Both PG and UG submitted a [written report](https://www.oxfordsu.org/representation/student-council/21ht5w/) which can be found online. |  |
| **G** | **Items for discussion**  Wesley Ding (Chair) opened up the floor to members to discuss this item  **1. Race Equality Task Force**  **Notes:** To collect student feedback on racial equality and inform the work of the Race Equality Task Force subgroups pertaining to students.  **Proposer:** Nikita Ma, Oxford SU | To receive |
| **I** | **Any Other Business**  **Chair opens the floor for AOB to members**  **Wesley Ding (Chair):** | To note |
|  | **Chair declares meeting finished at 19:30** | To note |