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

**Tuesday 09th November 2021**

**Virtual – 5:30PM**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Item** | **Agenda** | **Actions** |
|  | **Welcome and apologies**  Marcin Pisanski (Chair of Council) welcomed council members to the meeting and explains how Student Council will run, and some ground rules. | 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**  There are no matters arising. | To receive |
| **C** | **Elections in Council**  Chair hands over to the Returning Officer Wesley Ding. The returning officer goes through all the roles that are up for election. RO informs members that today we have 1 role up for elections.  **Scrutiny Committee (x2):**Scrutiny are elected at the start of Michaelmas to serve for the entire academic year. It is their task to interview the Sabbatical officers at the end of each term and ensure that they are doing the job they have been elected to do. Scrutiny will craft a report to be delivered to Council in 7th Week of each term.  RO: Invites candidates to address members.  **Dara :** The RO reads out Dara’s manifesto submitted; “I have a range of experience, both within and outside the SU. I've served on a campaign committee, and would love to help fulfill one of the SU's most important functions by becoming part of the scrutiny committee.”  Up next is  **Marcin:** Informs members that due to the post being vacant for a couple of weeks he felt it’s important to stand for this role and hold the sabbatical officers to account.  **RO:** asks members if there are any questions. No questions to candidates  **RO:** Encourages members to stand for other roles in 7th week | To receive |
| **D** | **Reports from and questions to Sabbatical Trustees**  **Reports from and questions to Sabbatical Trustees**  Chair informed members that officer written updates can be accessed on the website pages for the Sabbatical Trustees.. Reports from the Sabbatical Trustees can be found [here](https://www.oxfordsu.org/representation/student-council/21mt3w/).  **Chair opens the floor for Questions and comments on officer reports**  **No questions to sabbatical trustees** | To receive |
| **E** | **Reports from and questions to It Happens Here Campaign+ Campaign**  Co-Chair of IHH presented a verbal report: To increase awareness of events and campaigns, distributed resources to students, created a new mailing list, a very successful freshers fair, been giving media comments on various stations. Worked closely with LGBTQ+ , produced a code of conduct to be distributed in clubs and finally our bye-elections we have had lots of interests. Host an online event an artistic craft event.  **The Chair opens the floor to questions to It Happens Here Campaign+ Campaign**  There are no questions.  **Reports from and questions to International Students’ Campaign**  The current co-chair sent apologise however the main issue is as they are the the only active committee member, they would like to look into the possibility to recruitment via means other than elections.  Full report can be found [here](https://www.oxfordsu.org/representation/student-council/21mt5w/)  **The Chair opens the floor to questions to International Students’ Campaign**  There are no questions. | To receive |
| **F** | **Reports from and questions to MED Sciences PG Report**  **Divisional Representative**  Went to SU meet and greet w/ Reuben College – pleased to talk to some of the students and see how well they are thriving in the conditions they are in without a central college site etc.  In general, I am keen to drive forwards the increasing momentum related to data science and computational techniques becoming increasingly integrated with biomedical techniques. I am keen to ensure that we have a competent and well-trained force of young researchers leaving the MSD confident in their ability to keep up with the 21st century skills required in research or in the workplace. Helping students in my own lab grow their coding skills has re-enforced the need for appropriate divisional training in these now fundamental skills.  I am also keen to ensure that we learn from the experiences we had during the pandemic, rather than simply leave them as lived experiences. This is with regards to the provision of online materials and improving equality of access to education across the division, amongst many other things.  Whilst we are awaiting the recruitment of a UG rep, I am taking on the role. Having done the role for two years previously, I am pleased to see familiar faces on committees, and hope to ensure that we retain optimal student representation across all these issues. If any UGs from MSD have any issues to raise – please do contact me!  **Chair explains that MED Sciences UG post is vacant** | To receive |
| **G** | **Items for resolution** |  |
| **1** | Oxford SU Annual Elections are the largest set of student elections in Oxford, in which our members elect their 6 full-time sabbatical trustees, 3 non-executive student trustees, and 7 delegates to the National Union of Students.  The 2021 Annual Elections and By-Election saw more turnout than ever before in an Oxford SU election. Still, there is a lot of room for improvement, with turnout under 25%.  Aside from the Annual Elections, Oxford SU also holds Referendums, Campaign Committee Elections, and Elections-in-Council.  The Returning Officer informs members on the new proposed strategies and policies the elections team could implement to boost turnout, attract more candidates, and ensure the election process is fair, transparent, and accessible.  **Proposer:** Wesley Ding, Returning Officer  Votes: 28  For: 24 Against: 1  Abstain: 3 |  |
| **H** | **Items for discussion**   * 1. **Representation Review**   Anvee Bhutani, Oxford SU Presidentpresented to council members a representation review model as an item for discussion this was well-received. The President invites a conversation on how students can be better represented and supported within the democratic structures that exist internally within the SU. |  |
| **I** | **Any Other Business**  **Full meeting can be viewed** [**here**](https://unioxfordnexus-my.sharepoint.com/personal/oxsu0018_ox_ac_uk/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Foxsu0018%5Fox%5Fac%5Fuk%2FDocuments%2FRecordings%2FStudent%20Council%205th%20Week%20Michaelmas%20Term%202021%2D20211109%5F173447%2DMeeting%20Recording%2Emp4&parent=%2Fpersonal%2Foxsu0018%5Fox%5Fac%5Fuk%2FDocuments%2FRecordings) | To note |
|  | **Chair declares meeting finished at 18:16** | To note |