



1st Week council Hilary 2005

Minutes of 1st Week council

Minutes of the previous meeting:

Rob Vance (Wadham): The previous meeting was very long. The minutes are not typed up yet.

Appointments in council:

The Joint Consultative Committee with Student Members

John Blake (St Hugh's) Does anybody want a hust?

a hust was requested

Tom Packer (St Cross) Been on JCC for year all ready - good for continuity.

Liaison between JCC and university committees.

Keen. Good committee - we should use it. Am a graduate, been on post-grad exec for a year, and experience of other universities - useful.

RV (Wadham) Any questions?

there were no questions

Reports from Sabbatical officers

John Blake (St Hugh's) I start my report with support for the comment's of the Vice Chancellor in response to the tragedy in the Indian Ocean. Obviously many students will have been affected by this disaster and the Student Advice Service as well as the other university services are, as ever, available to all who require them. There will be an interfaith service for Staff and Students at the University Church on Thursday 3rd February at 5pm. I shall be attending and if anybody wishes to they are very welcome.

Azim Ansari - The case of the engineering student at St John's. His appeal has been refused by the tribunal. There was a meeting upstairs at 1pm today and we discussed many ideas including rallies, vigils etc. I will keep you updated on what is happening.

The new part time exec are very good and helping the organisation function very efficiently.

Green Electricity - The Vice Chancellor has said that unless Green Electricity comes out the cheapest option then we will not be having it. No one at University Council disagreed with him. However they have agreed to accept a report from the committee that looks at this sort of thing so we've got some lobbying time to try and persuade them that it is worth paying a premium.

Rent - many colleges may be facing rent rises. A lot of people signed 3 or 4 negotiation deals last year and you should ask early about whether they will be sticking to these as they often do not. I am always available to help and to co-ordinate any campaigns.

Finals code - There is a new finals code that now bans confettii. None in exec agrees with it.

Nicky and I will be attending the appropriate committee to express our views that Merton Street should be closed and that there are more dangerous things in this world than champagne.

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OUSU Publicity - Helen and Tom have taken this on and are working on making the website less clunky and putting on things that people might want to read.

Zoo - people who were at Zoo Na Na last night will know it was good. OSSSL continues to make us lots of money.

The Oxford Handbook - there was a problem with the proofs before Christmas. It is coming as soon as possible.

NUS - I have now had a conversation with them. It has only taken 6 months. We will be working to improve our affiliation.

OUSU cards - We will now give out spare OUSU cards to common room officers to deal with issues. If you require any, email me.

Notice of Poll - the date printed in the Oxford Student is wrong, nominations will in fact close on Thursday of 3rd Week.

Siobhan who has been with us for nearly 6 months is stepping down. She has done a lot of very good work for graduates.

Everyone: Claps.

Nicky Ellis: I highlight from my written report that the Living out Guide is now being distributed.

(Queens) Numbers are worked out on a crazy formula by the University Accommodation office and college bursars - if you need any more get in touch. Important to state that individuals can come and get them.

Bex Wilkinson: Sorry that I sound like I'm chatting to my friends when I email 6,000 students.

(SEH) Please use the nightbus more! Oxford students are under using the service as has been shown this week because Brookes students haven't been here and we've seen hardly any people! We have posters if you feel your college is lacking.

OUSU council minutes

Women's open day is being organised. Please come to the mass mailing on Wednesday of 2nd week, 4-8pm in OUSU with free pizza and diet coke.

Cherwell is wrong, I was never on Standing Committee. I was elected but resigned.

For everything else, please see my written report.

Linsey Cole: There will not be any diet Coke as it is unethical.

(St John's) Sorry my report is so long but I've been doing lots of stuff over Christmas and writing it all down helps me keep track. There is no motion on the Access Regulator as I didn't want to bring it as an emergency motion. I can't make 3rd week council so one will be coming in 5th week. Please get a mandate on this as it is a contentious issue, Also ideas for what should be on the motion would be useful.

Over Christmas I have also been spending a lot of time looking at Sab job descriptions and the Constitution. I will bring motions about these to 5th week council as well so please take a look at them closely. They will hopefully make us more efficient in our staffing,

There is a meeting for JCC reps, 5pm on Thursday in the OUSU offices.

Siobhan McAndrew: This is my last ever council. I studiously avoided council as an undergraduate (Nuffield) because it seemed long and boring. Coming as a graduate has certainly been an experience.

I have tried very hard to work for graduates but obviously you can't change everything in a term and last term was very difficult. I have tried to strengthen contacts with MCR's but there are quite a lot of you. Tried to write a personal note on each and it takes ages.

My job would be a lot easier with the correct facilities. Better IT please.

Thanks to the rest of the sabbaticals and the general office start. Sorry I haven't gotten to know the new part time exec.

Many thanks also to: (please check these) Daniel Russell, Tim Waters, Dan Paskins, Timo at Keble, Antonia (minuters note - others were also thanked). Thank you so much, I couldn't have done it without you. Also - you have an excellent grad exec - they may not be able to come here and meet you but that does not mean that they are not working hard.

Ian King: Christmas holiday was very busy. Had the national RAG and Student Volunteering (Keble) conference in the Said Business School which is a lovely place. Many people came from uni's over the country and learnt a lot about RAG and the charities they raise funds for. It was a great success.

This term - met with JCR Pres' and charities reps to co-ordinate our response to the Tsunami crisis. A small committee is organising a 12-hour music marathon on Thursday 17th Feb (5th Week) between 11 and 11 at the town hall with alcohol (license pending). Acts are being booked. Advertise this please!

Monday night was great. Thanks to my RAG reps who spent 5 hours collecting in Park End. We took many very generous donations.

RAG events this term:

Film Night in Keble

Bar Crawl tomorrow

Blind Date - Thursday of 4th week. Hoping to get 700 students dating on the same day.

Mr and Miss Oxford - 8th week at the Union.

Jailbreak - get as far away from Oxford as you can for free! Sweet talk BA and you can get a far away as Tokyo - just remember a return ticket!

Community - have 4 and bit very good community Co-chairs. Are working hard or organised the Alternative Careers Fair, in Schools on the 12th of Feb with lots of charities and NGO's.

There were no questions for the sabbatical officers

Reports from the part-time exec

RV (Wadham): Any of the part-time exec wishing to make reports?

Tom Dale: Nicky and I went to London for training about the Freedom of Information act.

(Corpus) This could be very useful to you as JCR Presidents because it means that your college has to give you basically anything you ask for including minutes of closed meetings or documents about rent negotiations. We will assist if asked and will hopefully be producing a guide.

Emma Jones: Azim - this is exactly the sort of thing OUSU should be focusing on, it is a very (Keble) just cause. We have passed a motion through council and 2/3's of JCR's have passed motions. Please help us spread information about this.

One of my portfolio's is also to organise One World Week. We are hoping to tie this in with the make poverty history campaign as this is such a big thing at the moment. If you would like to get involved or have any suggestions please email me on emma@ousu.org

Tom Packer: There is a vacancy for the Vice-President Graduates. There will be an election in

OUSU council minutes

(St Cross) 5th week, electing one for next year and one for now. If you know of anyone who would be interested please get them to get in touch or if you have any ideas on how we could advertise the position.

Claire Chalmers: I'm part of the new part-time exec. Part of my responsibilities are for Equal

(Univ) Opps and recently this has meant helping out with the organisation of Holocaust Memorial Day. It's been great - this year OUSU really has only been facilitating and a group of students from interested societies and those who are interested personally have been meeting to plan. The result of this are a series of events which will be happening on the 27th January. There will be a vigil on the Clarendon Steps beginning at 6.45pm which will flow into a service at the Holywell Music Rooms. This is non-religious and open to everyone. We've also arranged a film screening with the Magdalen Film Society which will be 'Ararat' - a film which considers the Armenian Genocide.

Lorna Stevenson: Hello to all my lovely OUSU Reps. If anyone is not on the email list then please

(Hertford) email me. If anyone couldn't come on Tuesday and hasn't got a guide then please email me,

If anyone would like to get involved in the alternative prospectus we need 100's of students and so are having an open meeting here on Sunday at 4pm.

RV (Wadham): Questions for the part-time exec?

Daniel Russell: Why are we showing a film about Armenia on Holocaust memorial day?

(St Antony's)

CC (univ): Shall I answer this? Holocaust memorial day is about remembering lives lost in all genocides and demonstrating our commitment to end all prejudice, discrimination and racism. The student's who are organising the day looked at a selection of films and chose this one as one that would broaden the scope. Want to move HMD on from just WWII

EJ (Keble): The holocaust day website supports using HMD to remember the victims of all holocausts and also Hitler used Armenia as a justification for the WWII holocaust.

RO's announcement

JB (St Hughs): It comes as a great surprise to us all the Tom Packer is duly elected to JCC by 46 votes to 8. Bad luck ron.

Passage of motion's nem con

RV (Wadham): This is where motions can pass without discussion if nobody objects to them. Please raise your hand clearly if you object.

as there was opposition to both motions no motion passed Nem Con

Discussion of motions

n. other motions

Posters motion

1. Posters

Council believes

1. That the Executive Officers have a responsibility to ensure that no poster that is produced in the name of OUSU should contravene our values and cause offence to our membership.

2. That it is important to protect OUSU's image and that if we neglect do so we risk undermining our work in public and alienating our members.

3. That it is sometimes difficult for an individual member of the OUSU Executive to know whether a poster is likely to give offence.

4. That it is a wise precaution for members of the Executive to show all posters to fellow members prior to publication.

5. That this is the most practical way to ensure that inadvertent mistakes to the detriment of OUSU do not occur.

Council resolves

1. To mandate all members of the Executive producing posters for OUSU campaigns and events to allow all members of the Executive 24 hours (not including weekends) to see the poster and register objections.

2. That the whole Executive should be consulted during term time and the Sabbaticals only during holidays.

3. That the Executive member should send an email announcement, explaining that the poster is on display in a specified location in the OUSU Office, accessible to all members of the Executive.

4. That the Executive member shall respect the objections of two or more of their fellow members, recognising that those objections will be in the interests of OUSU. They should make appropriate changes and resubmit the poster.

5. That in the event that of a poster being vetoed three or more times, the Executive member has right of appeal to the President.

Proposed: Emma Jones (Keble) Seconded: Claire Chalmers (University)

In proposition:

EJ (Keble): I'm bringing this on behalf of WomCam. We feel it is important for Equal Opps that we don't alienate anyone. Ties in with last terms Promoting Respect and Impeeding Stereotypes in the Media (PRISM) campaign. Exec have all seen it and had a chance to comment and come up with a workable solution.

SFQ's

Chris Allen: Can President individually decide yes or no? What if the President makes a poster?

OUSU council minutes

(Somerville)

EJ : Didn't envisage the President making posters, not part of his job description. Only go to Pres if veto used 3 times - have all ready had three conversations and opportunities for compromise - if still not okay need to check it is not a malicious veto.

In opposition:

IK(Keble): Not many objections except resolves. Exec were voted in by the rest of the University. 3 or 4 people from a body of 21 is not sufficient - to be democratic we should go by the majority. To have resolves 4 is to incite a lack of consensus and will make everything dull. We should only veto posters if they contradict actual written policy. This motion needs to be amended.

Debate opens

Amendment proposed CA (Somerville) seconded by LC (St John's):

Replace resolves 5: that in the event of a poster being vetoed 3 or more times, the Executive member has the right of appeal to the President

with: that in the event of a poster being vetoed 3 or more times, the poster may be brought to an exec meeting (or sab meeting during the vacation) where a majority decision shall be taken on whether or not to approve the design.

LC (SJC): This has come about as a result of the RAG poster last term. WomCam felt it needed to be addressed. This has been discussed in Exec. If one member of the exec is so concerned they ask for the poster not to be shown then that concern should be taken seriously.

Amendment passes and resolves 5 duly changed.

MTV

Amended Motion Passes

The following should be incorporated into the policy booklet:

I. Posters

Council believes

1. That the Executive Officers have a responsibility to ensure that no poster that is produced in the name of OUSU should contravene our values and cause offence to our membership.
2. That it is important to protect OUSU's image and that if we neglect do so we risk undermining our work in public and alienating our members.
3. That it is sometimes difficult for an individual member of the OUSU Executive to know whether a poster is likely to give offence.
4. That it is a wise precaution for members of the Executive to show all posters to fellow members prior to publication.
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Proposed: Emma Jones (Keble) Seconded: Claire Chalmers (University)

OUSU Stance on Smoking Motion

Council Notes

1. At current, OUSU has no policy with regards to the health and welfare issues associated with smoking
2. Tobacco smoke contains over 4,000 chemical compounds, which are present either as gases or as tiny particles. These include: nicotine which is highly active and large quantities nicotine is extremely poisonous; tar which is deposited in the lungs and respiratory system and gradually absorbed blocking breathing capacity and one of the main causes of lung cancer, over a dozen toxic chemicals only otherwise publicly available including: formaldehyde, arsenic, cyanide, benzo[a]pyrene, benzene, toluene, and acrolein and high concentrations of carbon monoxide which binds to haemoglobin in the bloodstream reducing the blood's capacity to carry oxygen round the body
3. Smoking causes at least 80% of all deaths from lung cancer, around 80% of all deaths from bronchitis and emphysema and around 17% of all deaths from heart disease. Thirty per cent of all cancer deaths can be attributed to smoking
4. In 2003 (the last full year on record), over 107,000 smokers died from smoking related diseases
5. More than 17,000 children under the age of five are admitted to hospital every year because of the effects of passive smoking

OUSU council minutes

Council Believes

1. The Scientific Committee on Tobacco and Health (SCOTH) has estimated that exposure to second-hand smoke in the workplace causes around 700 premature deaths in the UK each year
2. Particularly at risk are bar staff and other employees in workplaces where smoking is routine with one a death a week attributed to hospitality staff
3. That the government should be condemned for its refusal to act substantially on such a serious matter, with one mind on the approaching election
4. With the effects of smoking of serious importance, that it is vital that some action is taken to protect the rights and health of non-smokers
5. Since smoking is such an antisocial and potentially dangerous (in terms of health) activity, that OUSU should discourage smoking.

Council Resolves

1. Resolves to mandate the VP (Welfare) to encourage university members to take a more active stance with respect to banning smoking in public enclosed spaces within the university and individual colleges.
2. To mandate the VP (Welfare) lobby the university to take a stance on smoking themselves and make this uniform across the university and all university owned buildings.
3. To support and publicise National No Smoking Day on Wednesday 9th March throughout the university to encourage smokers to reconsider their habits
4. To mandate the VP (Welfare) to encourage an entirely smoke free day throughout the university on Wednesday 9th March
5. To mandate the VP (Welfare) to publicise the local advice services for smokers wanting to quit

Proposed: Matthew Lovell (Lincoln) Seconded: Joseph Mela (Balliol)

In proposition:

Matt Lovell (Lincoln): The motion originated when colleges started banning smoking in their bars. College's have been on their own without any assistance when looking at this matter. Have spoken informally with the Vice Chancellor and college bursar's - all except Harris Manchester said that any moves would have to come from students as students far outnumber staff. Currently we have nothing in OUSU Policy and I think we should be giving more support to colleges on this one.

SFQ's

There were no SFQ's

In opposition:

BW (SEH): Several points in opposition. As an elected officer SU officer I believe generally in collective action however occasionally we need to take decisions down to the lowest level and this is one such case. I do not feel comfortable sitting here and telling Lincoln Bar that they should ban smoking because I have never been to Lincoln Bar. I happily went to the Teddy Hall meeting as a student of that college but the decision should be made by the people who visit the place. This motion disregards those people in colleges who disagree with it. It implies that we know best how colleges should do their housekeeping. Anyone can come to us for help with motions and with this piece of policy would we be able to help students who come to us and want to overturn their bans? What would we do for them?

Debate opens:

TP (St Cross): I agree with Bex and there are several other points I would also like to raise. Many JCR's have had referendum's on this issue and several have voted not to ban smoking. We should not disregard those democratically held views. We are ostracising students which is exactly not what we should be doing. This could have a serious impact on college life as it may harm student bars. I'm not pro-smoking but I'm against it being banned.

Peter Hughes (Hertford): We shouldn't minoritise smokers. We should have appropriate smoking areas and proper ventilation - smoking is a problem but not one we should solve by excluding people.

CA (Somerville): Most college bars are smoking.

Most student's don't mind having people smoke in their bar.

ML (Lincoln): Many that haven't banned smoking yet haven't discussed it yet. I've spoken to at least 10 colleges who are looking to discuss it soon, that would give it a majority of college bars. Many Oxford colleges are old and small so ventilation and restriction don't work. You are inflicting smoking on other people.

An amendment was proposed by DR (St Ant) and seconded by Julian Brown (St. Antony's)

To replace resolves 1: "Resolves to mandate the VP-Welfare) to encourage university members to take a more pro-active stance with respect to banning smoking in public enclosed spaces within the university and individual colleges"

With: "Resolves to mandate the VP-Welfare) to encourage university members to take a more pro-active stance with respect to regulating smoking in public enclosed spaces within the university and individual colleges"

DR (St Ant): Banning is too extreme but still keep good bits if we change to 'regulating'. Many colleges doing this. Raising awareness of this will be more popular. 'Banning' is instantly alienating to a large group of students.

Amendment passes and Resolves 1 duly replaced

OUSU council minutes

LC (SJC): Spend a lot of our time getting the university to consult on these issues. Would be useful if we could have a policy to take to them.

An amendment was proposed by ML (Linc) and seconded by Joseph Mela (Balliol)

To add resolves 6: That OUSU should write a strongly worded letter to our current government questioning the indecisiveness, ambiguity and confusion within their current 4 year plan...

ML (Linc): With regard to believes 3, need to address the government's lack of action on this matter.

DR(St Ant): Makes this motion even more aggressive. Shouldn't be adding anything more controversial to this all ready touchy subject. Too political

Amendment withdrawn

Proposer amends motion by striking resolves 3

LS(Hert): If JCR's have all ready decided we don't have to be debating this, you can use a MTV.

Alan Strickland (Merton): This motion has been ammended well. It is now uncontroversial. Covers university and college buildings which is good.

MTV

MTV opposed

In proposition:

LC (SJC): If you all ready have policy, go MTV

In opposition:

BW(SEH): Haven't discussed lots of issues like smoking rooms in libraries so that finalists don't get pneumonia.

MTV Passes

In summation for:

ML (Linc): Should have a point of contact and good to have a point of view. We're not trying to stop smoking everywhere.

In summation against:

NE(Queen's): Concerned that we still have in a lot of the resolves. I wanted the chance to ammend it. This is very time consuming for me. Smokers know that smoking is bad for them, I don't need to campaign on it. There are some things like college welfare provision I should campaign on but not this. Some things we need to educate people about - like Student mental health but not the dangers of smoking as everybody knows. We should have policy and I think people should bring another motion but the other resolves are spoilers.

Motion Fails

RV(Wadham): Congratualtions on the shortest Council ever! As we finished so early I'd like to raise the issue of where council should be. We've been at Wadham too long, had problems with Oriel, shall we go somewhere far out or the Union debating chamber or the town hall..

DR (St Ant): St Antony's has offered to host council. We are far from the centre but near a cluster of colleges. It's a grad college which is good for grad involvement. Everyone will have a chair.

BW(SEH): Does it have windows

DR (St Ant): Opening windows on both sides and a bar! Can get in and out and has diet coke.

RV(Wad): Certain requirement for a room in which to hold Council: disabled access and no alcohol so bar will have to be shut.

DR (St Ant): Could serve coke.

Susanne McClland (St Hilda's): Where is St Antony's

John I'd like to make an appeal to JCR Presidents to agree to St Antony's. You all look horrified when I suggest a grad college that's really far out but I went to St Hugh's and that's 20 minutes away so yah-boo to the Turl Street and Merton Street college's

All: Awww

John Move from college to college. See the difference of experience - good for us. Should go to St Antony's.

Those who cannot locomote their legs can get a taxi - its on the Woodstock Road.

An informal vote showed approval for holding Council at St Antony's

RV(Wad): The Union? Might confuse people but nice big room with good acoustics.

LC(SJC): Don't want to go to the Union. Many people have problems with it and don't join or go their on principle.

Bad precedent. Intimidating to speak in.

Rob: Used to be held at the Union. Precedent all ready set.

John: I think a lot of the problems with the Union come from the pretty OUSU or the Union 'dispute' and I feel that the level of disparateness between the two organisations is not helpful. Have the President elect here are ChCh VP. It is the best room in the city. We will not have the dispatch boxes.

PH (Hert): Union is college neutral which is good. Its a nice place to go to that everybody knows. Makes it more a whole university thing not just Wadham.

TP (St X): Go to St Antony's first. Its a grad college. Not that many people who will not even go into the Union building, even if they wouldn't join.



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SM (St Hilda's): I know many people who get confused between OUSU and the Union, this is just going to confuse people further. To be honest if people don't know where colleges are it's about time they found out.

CA (Somerville): Cost?

Rob: They'll get the money back from the bar!

John: Will speak to the lovely President and President elect. They are generous and lovely people.

Nicky: Maybe we need policy on this but we need to start going to places we can record council for those with hearing difficulties and for the minute taking.

Oliver Russel (Magdalen): If we go to the Union is it automatically the choice of bar as many of us are not members.

Ed Young (Magdalen): Given the number of people who didn't care in the last vote can we just get this over and done with?

A vote showed general apathy towards using the Union as a venue

AOB

Rob: Pub?

Rabble: The KA.



council minutes

Rob Vance (Wadham)

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Keen. Good committee – we should use it. Am a graduate, been on post-grad exec for a year, and experience of other universities - useful.

RV (Wadham)

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council minutes

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Many thanks also to: (please check these) Daniel Russell, Tim Waters, Dan Paskins, Timo at Keble, Antonia (minuters note – others were also thanked). Thank you so much, I couldn't have do it without you. Also – you have an excellent grad exec – they may not be able to come here and meet you but that does not mean that they are not working hard.

Ian King:
(Keble) Christmas holiday was very busy. Had the national RAG and Student Volunteering conference in the Said Business School which is a lovely place. Many people came from uni's over the country and learnt a lot about RAG and the charities they raise funds for. It was a great success.

This term – met with JCR Pres' and charities reps to co-ordinate our response to the Tsunami crisis. A small committee is organising a 12-hour music marathon on Thursday 17th Feb (5th Week) between 11 and 11 at the town hall with alcohol (license pending). Acts are being booked. Advertise this please! Monday night was great. Thanks to my RAG reps who spent 5 hours collecting in Park End. We took many very generous donations.

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RAG events this term:

Film Night in Keble

Bar Crawl tomorrow

Blind Date – Thursday of 4th week. Hoping to get 700 students dating on the same day.

Mr and Miss Oxford – 8th week at the Union.

Jailbreak – get as far away from Oxford as you can for free! Sweet talk BA and you can get a far away as Tokyo – just remember a return ticket!

Community – have 4 and bit very good community Co-chairs. Are working hard ot organised the Alternative Careers Fair, in Schools on the 12th of Feb with lots of charities and NGO's.

There were no questions for the sabbatical officers

Reports from the part-time exec

- RV (Wadham): Any of the part-time exec wishing to make reports?
- Tom Dale:
(Corpus) Nicky and I went to London for training about the Freedom of Information act. This could be very useful to you as JCR Presidents because it means that your college has to give you basically anything you ask for including minutes of closed meetings or documents about rent negotiations. We will assist is ask ad will hopefully be producing a guide.
- Emma Jones:
(Keble) Azim – this is exactly the sort of thing OUSU should be focusing on, it is a very just cause. We have passed a motion through council and 2/3's of JCR's have passed motions. Please help us spread information about this.
- One of my portfolio's is also to organise One World Week. We are hoping to tie this in with the make poverty history campaign as this is such a big thing at the moment. If you would like to get involved or have any suggestions please email me on HYPERLINK "mailto:emma@ousu.org" emma@ousu.org
- Tom Packer:
(St Cross) There is a vacancy for the Vice-President Graduates. There will be an election in 5th week, electing one for next year and one for now. If you know of anyone who would be interested please get them to get in touch or if you have any ideas on how we could advertise the position.
- Claire Chalmers:
(Univ) I'm part of the new part-time exec. Part of my responsibilities are for Equal Opps and recently this has meant helping out with the organisation of Holocaust Memorial Day. It's been great - this year OUSU really has only been facilitating and a group of students from interested societies and those who are interested personally have been meeting to plan. The result of this are a series of events which will be happening on the 27th January. There will be a vigil on the Clarendon Steps beginning at 6.45pm which will flow into a service at the Holywell Music Rooms. This is non-religious and open to everyone. We've also arranged a film screening with the Magdalen Film Society which will be 'Ararat' – a film which considers the Armenian Genocide.
- Lorna Stevenson:
(Hertford) Hello to all my lovely OUSU Reps. If anyone is not on the email list then please email me. If anyone couldn't come on Tuesday and hasn't got a guide then please email me, If anyone would like to get involved in the alternative prospectus we need 100's of students and so are having an open meeting here on Sunday at 4pm.
- RV (Wadham): Questions for the part-time exec?
- Daniel Russell:
(St Antony's) Why are we showing a film about Armenia on Holocaust memorial day?
- CC (univ): Shall I answer this? Holocaust memorial day is about remembering lives lost in all genocides and demonstrating our commitment to end all prejudice, discrimination and racism. The student's who are organising the day looked at a selection of films and chose this one as one that would broaden the scope. Want to move HMD on from just WWII
- EJ (Keble): The holocaust day website supports using HMD to remember the victims of all holocausts and also Hitler used Armenia as a justification for the WWII holocaust.

RO's announcement

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JB (St Hughs): It comes as a great surprise to us all the Tom Packer is duly elected to JCC by 46 votes to 8. Bad luck ron.

Passage of motion's nem con

RV (Wadham): This is where motions can pass without discussion if nobody objects to them. Please raise your hand clearly if you object.

as there was opposition to both motions no motion passed Nem Con

Discussion of motions

n. other motions

Posters motion

1. Posters

Council believes

1. That the Executive Officers have a responsibility to ensure that no poster that is produced in the name of OUSU should contravene our values and cause offence to our membership.
2. That it is important to protect OUSU's image and that if we neglect do so we risk undermining our work in public and alienating our members.
3. That it is sometimes difficult for an individual member of the OUSU Executive to know whether a poster is likely to give offence.
4. That it is a wise precaution for members of the Executive to show all posters to fellow members prior to publication.
5. That this is the most practical way to ensure that inadvertent mistakes to the detriment of OUSU do not occur.

Council resolves

1. To mandate all members of the Executive producing posters for OUSU campaigns and events to allow all members of the Executive 24 hours (not including weekends) to see the poster and register objections.
2. That the whole Executive should be consulted during term time and the Sabbaticals only during holidays.
3. That the Executive member should send an email announcement, explaining that the poster is on display in a specified location in the OUSU Office, accessible to all members of the Executive.
4. That the Executive member shall respect the objections of two or more of their fellow members, recognising that those objections will be in the interests of OUSU. They should make appropriate changes and resubmit the poster.
5. That in the event that of a poster being vetoed three or more times, the Executive member has right of appeal to the President.

Proposed: Emma Jones (Keble) Seconded: Claire Chalmers (University)

In proposition:

EJ (Keble): I'm bringing this on behalf of WomCam. We feel it is important for Equal Opps that we don't alienate anyone. Ties in with last terms Promoting Respect and Impeding Stereotypes in the Media (PRISM) campaign. Exec have all seen it and had a chance to comment and come up with a workable solution.

SFQ's

Chris Allen: Can President individually decide yes or no? What if the President makes a poster?
(Somerville)

EJ : Didn't envisage the President making posters, not part of his job description. Only go to Pres if veto used 3 times – have all ready had three conversations and opportunities for compromise – if still not okay need to check it is not a malicious veto.

In opposition:

IK(Keble): Not many objections except resolves. Exec were voted in by the rest of the University. 3 or 4 people from a body of 21 is not sufficient – to be democratic we should go by the majority. To have resolves 4 is to incite a lack of consensus and will make everything dull. We should only veto posters if they contradict actual written policy. This motion needs to be amended.

Debate opens

Amendment proposed CA (Somerville) seconded by LC (St John's):

Replace resolves 5: that in the event of a poster being vetoed 3 or more times, the Executive member has the right of appeal to the President

with: that in the event of a poster being vetoed 3 or more times, the poster may be brought to an exec meeting (or sab meeting during the vacation) where a majority decision shall be taken on whether or not to approve the design.

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LC (SJC): This has come about as a result of the RAG poster last term. WomCam felt it needed to be addressed. This has been discussed in Exec. If one member of the exec is so concerned they ask for the poster not to be shown then that concern should be taken seriously.

Amendment passes and resolves 5 duly changed.

MTV

Amended Motion Passes

The following should be incorporated into the policy booklet:

1. Posters

Council believes

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Proposed: Emma Jones (Keble) Seconded: Claire Chalmers (University)

OUSU Stance on Smoking Motion

Council Notes

1. At current, OUSU has no policy with regards to the health and welfare issues associated with smoking
2. Tobacco smoke contains over 4,000 chemical compounds, which are present either as gases or as tiny particles. These include: nicotine which is highly active and large quantities nicotine is extremely poisonous; tar which is deposited in the lungs and respiratory system and gradually absorbed blocking breathing capacity and one of the main causes of lung cancer, over a dozen toxic chemicals only otherwise publicly available including: formaldehyde, arsenic, cyanide, benzo[a]pyrene, benzene, toluene, and acrolein and high concentrations of carbon monoxide which binds to haemoglobin in the bloodstream reducing the blood's capacity to carry oxygen round the body
3. Smoking causes at least 80% of all deaths from lung cancer, around 80% of all deaths from bronchitis and emphysema and around 17% of all deaths from heart disease. Thirty per cent of all cancer deaths can be attributed to smoking
4. In 2003 (the last full year on record), over 107,000 smokers died from smoking related diseases
5. More than 17,000 children under the age of five are admitted to hospital every year because of the effects of passive smoking

Council Believes

1. The Scientific Committee on Tobacco and Health (SCOTH) has estimated that exposure to second-hand smoke in the workplace causes around 700 premature deaths in the UK each year
2. Particularly at risk are bar staff and other employees in workplaces where smoking is routine with one a death a week attributed to hospitality staff
3. That the government should be condemned for it's refusal to act substantially on such a serious matter, with one mind on the approaching election
4. With the effects of smoking of serious importance, that it is vital that some action is taken to protect the rights

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and health of non-smokers

5. Since smoking is such an antisocial and potentially dangerous (in terms of health) activity, that OUSU should discourage smoking.

Council Resolves

1. Resolves to mandate the VP (Welfare) to encourage university members to take a more active stance with respect to banning smoking in public enclosed spaces within the university and individual colleges.
2. To mandate the VP (Welfare) lobby the university to take a stance on smoking themselves and make this uniform across the university and all university owned buildings.
3. To support and publicise National No Smoking Day on Wednesday 9th March throughout the university to encourage smokers to reconsider their habits
4. To mandate the VP (Welfare) to encourage an entirely smoke free day throughout the university on Wednesday 9th March
5. To mandate the VP (Welfare) to publicise the local advice services for smokers wanting to quit

Proposed: Matthew Lovell (Lincoln) Seconded: Joseph Mela (Balliol)

In proposition:

Matt Lovell (Lincoln): The motion originated when colleges started banning smoking in their bars. College's have been on their own without any assistance when looking at this matter. Have spoken informally with the Vice Chancellor and college bursar's – all except Harris Manchester said that any moves would have to come from students as students far outnumber staff. Currently we have nothing in OUSU Policy and I think we should be giving more support to colleges on this one.

SFQ's

There were no SFQ's

In opposition:

BW (SEH): Several points in opposition. As an elected officer SU officer I believe generally in collective action however occasionally we need to take decisions down to the lowest level and this is one such case. I do not feel comfortable sitting here and telling Lincoln Bar that they should ban smoking because I have never been to Lincoln Bar. I happily went to the Teddy Hall meeting as a student of that college but the decision should be made by the people who visit the place. This motion disregards those people in colleges who disagree with it. It implies that we know best how colleges should do their housekeeping. Anyone can come to us for help with motions and with this piece of policy would we be able to help students who come to us and want to overturn their bans? What would we do for them?

Debate opens:

TP (St Cross): I agree with Bex and there are several other points I would also like to raise. Many JCR's have had referendum's on this issue and several have voted not to ban smoking. We should not disregard those democratically held views. We are ostracising students which is exactly not what we should be doing. This could have a serious impact on college life as it may harm student bars. I'm not pro-smoking but I'm against it being banned.

Peter Hughes (Hertford): We shouldn't minoritise smokers. We should have appropriate smoking areas and proper ventilation – smoking is a problem but not one we should solve by excluding people.

CA (Somerville): Most college bars are smoking.
Most student's don't mind having people smoke in their bar.

ML (Lincoln): Many that haven't banned smoking yet haven't discussed it yet. I've spoken to at least 10 colleges who are looking to discuss it soon, that would give it a majority of college bars. Many Oxford colleges are old and small so ventilation and restriction don't work. You are inflicting smoking on other people.

An amendment was proposed by DR (St Ant) and seconded by Julian Brown (St. Antony's)

To replace resolves 1: "Resolves to mandate the VP-Welfare) to encourage university members to take a more pro-active stance with respect to **banning** smoking in public enclosed spaces within the university and individual colleges"

With: "Resolves to mandate the VP-Welfare) to encourage university members to take a more pro-active stance with respect to **regulating** smoking in public enclosed spaces within the university and individual colleges"

DR (St Ant): Banning is too extreme but still keep good bits if we change to 'regulating'. Many colleges doing this. Raising awareness of this will be more popular. 'Banning' is instantly alienating to a large group of students.

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Amendment passes and Resolves 1 duly replaced

LC (SJC): Spend a lot of our time getting the university to consult on these issues. Would be useful if we could have a policy to take to them.

An amendment was proposed by ML (Linc) and seconded by Joseph Mela (Balliol)

To add resolves 6: That OUSU should write a strongly worded letter to our current government questioning the indecisiveness, ambiguity and confusion within their current 4 year plan...

ML (Linc): With regard to believes 3, need to address the government's lack of action on this matter.

DR(St Ant): Makes this motion even more aggressive. Shouldn't be adding anything more controversial to this all ready touchy subject. Too political

Amendment withdrawn

Proposer amends motion by striking resolves 3

LS(Hert): If JCR's have all ready decided we don't have to be debating this, you can use a MTV.

Alan Strickland (Merton): This motion has been ammended well. It is now uncontroversial. Covers university and college buildings which is good.

MTV

MTV opposed

In proposition:

LC (SJC): If you all ready have policy, go MTV

In opposition:

BW(SEH): Haven't discussed lots of issues like smoking rooms in libraries so that finalists don't get pneumonia.

MTV Passes

In summation for:

ML (Linc): Should have a point of contact and good to have a point of view. We're not trying to stop smoking everywhere.

In summation against:

NE(Queen's): Concerned that we still have in a lot of the resolves. I wanted the chance to ammend it. This is very time consuming for me. Smokers know that smoking is bad for them, I don't need to campaign on it. There are some things like college welfare provision I should campaign on but not this. Some things we need to educate people about – like Student mental health but not the dangers of smoking as everybody knows. We should have policy and I think people should bring another motion but the other resolves are spoilers.

Motion Fails

RV(Wadham): Congratualtions on the shortest Council ever! As we finished so early I'd like to raise the issue of where council should be. We've been at Wadham too long, had problems with Oriel, shall we go somewhere far out or the Union debating chamber or the town hall...

DR (St Ant): St Antony's has offered to host council. We are far from the centre but near a cluster of colleges. It's a grad college which is good for grad involvement. Everyone will have a chair.

BW(SEH): Does it have windows

DR (St Ant): Opening windows on both sides and a bar! Can get in and out and has diet coke.



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RV(Wad): Certain requirement for a room in which to hold Council: disabled access and no alcohol so bar will have to be shut.

DR (St Ant): Could serve coke.

Susanne McClland (St Hilda's): Where is St Antony's

John I'd like to make an appeal to JCR Presidents to agree to St Antony's. You all look horrified when I suggest a grad college that's really far out but I went to St Hugh's and that's 20 minutes away so yah-boo to the Turl Street and Merton Street college's

All: Awww

John Move from college to college. See the difference of experience – good for us. Should go to St Antony's. Those who cannot locomote their legs can get a taxi – its on the Woodstock Road.

An informal vote showed approval for holding Council at St Antony's

RV(Wad): The Union? Might confuse people but nice big room with good acoustics.

LC(SJC): Don't want to go to the Union. Many people have problems with it and don't join or go their on principle. Bad precedent. Intimidating to speak in.

Rob: Used to be held at the Union. Precedent all ready set.

John: I think a lot of the problems with the Union come from the pretty OUSU or the Union 'dispute' and I feel that the level of disparateness between the two organisations is not helpful. Have the President elect here are ChCh VP. It is the best room in the city. We will not have the dispatch boxes.

PH (Hert): Union is college neutral which is good. Its a nice place to go to that everybody knows. Makes it more a whole university thing not just Wadham.

TP (St X): Go to St Antony's first. Its a grad college. Not that many people who will not even go into the Union building, even if they wouldn't join.

SM (St Hilda's): I know many people who get confused between OUSU and the Union, this is just going to confuse people further. To be honest if people don't know where colleges are it's about time they found out.

CA (Somerville): Cost?

Rob: They'll get the money back from the bar!

John: Will speak to the lovely President and President elect. They are generous and lovely people.

Nicky: Maybe we need policy on this but we need to start going to places we can record council for those with hearing difficulties and for the minute taking.

Oliver Russel (Magdalen): If we go to the Union is it automatically the choice of bar as many of us are not members.

Ed Young (Magdalen): Given the number of people who didn't care in the last vote can we just get this over and done with?

A vote showed general apathy towards using the Union as a venue

AOB

Rob: Pub?

Rabble: The KA.