

## Council Minutes

1<sup>st</sup> week michaelmas term 2011

1st week Council 5.30pm on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2011, held in St John's College

- a. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- b. Matters Arising from the Minutes
- c. Ratifications in Council
- d. Elections in Council
- e. Reports from the Sabbatical Officers
- f. Reports from the Executive Officers who wish to make reports
- g. Questions to Members of the Executive
- h. Emergency Motions
- i. Passage of Motions Nem Con
- j. Motions of No Confidence or Censure
- k. First readings of Motions to Amend the Constitution or Standing Orders
- l. The Budget or Amended Budget
- m. Motions Authorising Capital Expenditure
- n. Other Motions
  - i. motions affecting ousu members as ousu members
  - ii. motions affecting ousu members as students at Oxford University
  - iii. motions affecting ousu members as members of the student movement
  - iv. motions affecting ousu members as residents of Oxford
  - v. motions affecting ousu members as residents of the United Kingdom
  - vi. motions affecting ousu members as citizens of the world
- o. Any Other Business

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### a. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of both 7<sup>th</sup> Week and termly council are passed

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### c. Ratifications in Council

#### 1. Technical Details of the Voting System for the Michaelmas Term Elections

Council notes and approves:

1. The appended technical details

**Proposed:** *Jim O'Connell (University)*

Jim O'Connell (Univ):

Over summer acting as Returning Officer. We have to ratify mi-voice online voting system, generally works quite well. Appendix detailing this information.

Nathan Akehurst (Lincoln):

Member of Youth Parliament, have used this system before and found problems with people requesting additional voting codes.

Jim O'Connell (Univ):

New Voter codes are sent to the email addresses students register with university at beginning of the year so should be secure.

Motion passes

## 2. Appointment to Elections Committee

**Council notes and approves:**

1. The appointment of Kershia Parris to Elections Committee by the Returning Officer on 2nd August 2011.

**Proposed: Jim O'Connell (University)**

Jim O'Connell (Univ):

Kershia has to set up the emails, which send out the voter codes. So we need to put her on elections committee.

Motion Passes

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## d. Elections in Council

The following positions were elected in OUSU Council of 1<sup>st</sup> week.

**Returning Officer** - The Returning Officer is responsible for running OUSU elections including election in Council, and this term, the annual cross-campus elections. The successful candidate will serve for one term.

Jim O'Connell (Univ):

Anyone want a hust from Jonathan. No requests heard. Any questions to Jonathan.

Jack Matthews (Univ):

What are you going to do to ensure you have 2 DRO's by 2 weeks time?

Jonathan Edwards (Balliol):

Will approach people directly and get them to stand in council next time.

David Townsend (St John's):

Are you going to look into how people vote, according to whether people dip in or dip out?

Jonathan Edward (Balliol)

Would try something similar to last year, but may re-examine to make clearer.

Jim O'Connell (Univ):

Vote on pink slip. Candidates Jonathan Edwards and RON.

Jonathan Edwards was elected Returning Officer for Michaelmas 2011.

**1 person for Complaints Committee** - Complaints board deals with any complaints raised through OUSU's statutory complaints procedure. Successful candidates will serve for one year.

Jim O'Connell (Univ):

Complaints Committee. Do we want to hear Jack hust? No questions.

Please vote now I will collect pink pieces of paper.

Jack Matthews elected to Complaints Committee.

**Graduate Women's Officer** (candidates must be a graduate woman)

Jim O'Connell (Univ):

Please come to front. Part time exec role so have to we hear a hust. Will ask them to hust in the order that they appear on the ballot paper.

Jessica Lam (Merton):

I plan to empower the grad women at Oxford to break the gender barriers, by first of all through events with WomCam, also plan to organise female professors to tell their success stories. Intend to expand on participation of WomCam and female MCR Presidents.

Deborah Cheong (St Antony's):

Very involved in Leadership and women, increase grad women participation in WomCam and work with leadership campaign, help them to participate in student representation. Aim to talk to Grad colleges about student parent facilities.

Clara Ferreira (Corpus Christi):

Working with WomCam and wish to expand two projects empowering inclusive leadership project to get more grad female rep, from all divisions and departments. Also awards the gender equality policies in the departments, expand to get discussion going by having events. Positive role models, to get Grad women as role models for undergraduates and school children.

Nicola Sugden:

Grad women can tend to be a lot busier than undergraduates, how will you engage them without the time intensity?

Deborah Cheong (St Antony's):

One thing can get them to do is respond to emails and encourage to attend events.

Clara Ferreira (Corpus Christi):

Flexible can arrange to meet outside office hours.

Jessica Lam (Merton):

Hope to expand WomCam the graduate side, can have a few women do small projects, or whole community together by decentralising the events we hold. Would give us more feedback and let us know if we are actually doing things that are benefiting the Graduate Women.

Katie Colliver:

Julie Bindall invited to speak. How would you include trans women?

Clara Ferreira (Corpus Christi):

Already a lot of bridges that have been set up, should not be difficult to increase and extend these bridges.

Jessica Lam (Merton):

Last year at Merton through a huge event which would bring together the straight and lgbtq community together. Would hold more events like these. Lots of events for LGBTQ but also categorises them, events should be combined as this would really help. For first time had 100 people turn up and had loads of positive feedback. Could do again.

Deborah Cheong (St Antony's):

Personal stance everyone should be included. This issue has to be dealt with sensitively would talk to people.

Yuan Yang (Balliol):

Event in your life which made you get involved.

Jessica Lam (Merton):

President for women for women, held event with genital mutilation, great success, found out loads womcam could do. WomCam usually focuses activities on women in Oxford, having outreach made me

really interested. Seen the TED talk based on professional women, who people think are fine but actually glass ceiling.

Deborah Cheong (St Antony's):

Events that happened in college to do with mental health, which lead me to get involved in this.

Clara Ferreira (Corpus Christi):

Decided to get involved in WomCam diversity of people, involvement with other groups, and local and national groups, extends and opens up to a wider circle.

Laura Hancox:

Hope would you support women with a family

Deborah Cheong (St Antony's):

Understand what they need. First step to approach individual women who have families and find out what they need. With data will know what action to take.

Clara Ferreira (Corpus Christi):

Don't know anyone with family here, not sure of all things that are in motion, so would find out and find out what areas need help. There is flexibility, find good practices, and try to implement them across the whole.

Jessica Lam (Merton):

One thing that inspired me was the TED talk, and was inspired and a lot are quitting for a family life. To inspire women not to do this. Hold a panel of people who have been successful in both academic and personal life. Hearing personal stories is a good strategy, should show people can be successful and have a family.

Charlotte

Really laudable that you are talking about great things for women, what are you going to do to stop them being alienated by the men.

Clara Ferreira (Corpus Christi):

One of the main issues is trying to get male support, as not just women who are pro equality, a lot of education and information. Don't see would be a segregation story, if people honest will just happen. Need to engage people.

Jessica Lam (Merton):

Women in international, need to educate men, women are to well respected, these are in war torn countries. This isn't anti women, basically coexisting peacefully and equal representation. Going against barriers and regulating policies. More women in professional fields, hold events which include men. Campaign should show not anti men but for equality.

Deborah Cheong (St Antony's):

Not to be isolationist. Includes men into equation get family support.

Yuan Yuang (Balliol):

Attitude about gender you would like to change?

Jessica Lam (Merton):

Haven't thought about, there is in addition to WomCam there is GenCam a lot of people view them as separate, if I am part of GenCam they still see it as an LGBTQ issue. Great speakers who talk about women empowerment, if we can combine these events people would not view as separate

Deborah Cheong (St Antony's):

Don't want feminism to be a dirty word.

Clara Ferreira (Corpus Christi):

Don't want women to have to have male characteristics for leadership.

Clara Ferreira elected as Graduate Women's Officer

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## **e. Reports from the Sabbatical Officers**

Jack Matthews (Univ):

Would like to thank Sarah Hutchinson for her work as Grad Women's Officer over summer.

Martha Mackenzie (St John's): - President

Hi guys wanted to say hello to those who haven't met me yet. If you have any questions. Most in written report, wanted to flag up elections, having a short meeting after this meeting so stick around it will be short and informal. Enjoy council.

Also positions we will be electing in council next week in agenda.

Yuan Yuang (Balliol): - VP Women

Was once OUSU rep in reign of Lewis Iwu, three main issues dealing with this year, if want to know more there is more info in my report.

Seb Baird (Corpus Christi): - VP Welfare and Equal Opportunities

All in report, any questions let me know. Two things to flag up want to set up a mental awareness campaign if anyone you know interested get in touch. Will be writing a new guide to disability, if anyone you know interested in helping to manage that project or submit information.

Hannah Cusworth (Brasenose): - VP Access and Academic Affairs

Over the next few weeks focussing on Common Room Support, thank you to all of your reps, running training for access and academic affairs reps let them know and advise them they can come along.

Jim O'Connell (Univ): VP Graduates

Made a great start in work with grads, many thanks to those have assisted so far. UG ed is world class, grad provision a bit patchy a job for all of us. Look forward to working with all of you on this.

Daniel Stone (St Peter's): VP Charities and Community

Keep it brief most things in report. Have been trying to get together projects am developing a long term community strategy if you want to get involved talk to me or if you want me to send you the paper.

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## **f. Reports from the Executive Officers who wish to make reports**

Jacob Diggle (Corpus Christi):- Clubs and Societies Officer

Martha and I have been working on a very exciting project. OUSU wasn't supporting clubs and societies, Proctors responsible, working on transfer of responsibilities from Proctors to OUSU. To ensure club and soc support is as good as everything else.

Sarah Santhosham (Corpus Christi):- Community Outreach and Charities Officer

Lots of events happening. Firstly thanks to everyone who came to community workshops. Event at OxHUB building next week, if interested come along. 7.30pm next Wednesday three good speakers.

Katie Colliver (Univ):- LGBTQ Officer

Main things covered in council report. World Aids Day on December 1<sup>st</sup>, have held meetings and want to get together and make quite big, feel should think about. Main thing is raising awareness through common room events and raising money. Want to get common room officers trained on HIV information. Want to have discussion about prevention and want to get everyone involved. Get welfare officers involved in training; also think about if you know anyone who may be good to talk on this. Would really like to hear from you.

Francesco Fermani (Merton):- Graduate Academic Affairs Officer

Grad Academic Affairs nothing to add, apart from election in 3<sup>rd</sup> week. Apart from Divisional representative election, I have done last year, it is really important, we can change things. Trying to create a network of representatives within departments and fill the gaps.

Colin Jackson (LMH):-

No report in book, on Thursday and Monday gave speech and orientation speech to international grads and undergraduates, with Jim and Daniel. Went to common rooms to meet international students to meet them and engage in their events. Rest of term going to hang around international student clubs and societies to get a feel from them.

Chair: I received apologies from Andrew Dunne and David Bowe

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## **g. Questions to Members of the Executive**

Chris Gray (Merton) to Yuan Yang - VP Women

Adina Swann awards do you have any figures for humanities, or any tests?

Yuan Yang (Balliol):

Unfortunately not yet as there aren't funding carrots, and also no structures, but am very interested in this and will be arranging meetings with heads of departments.

Nathan Akehurst (Lincoln):

The White paper criticism paper. Would like to ask Exec what they are doing, and whether going to engage in National Demonstration?

Martha Mackenzie (St John's):

Going to do activist training and will be advertising details of demonstration, not going to actively support unless a motion is brought, but will circulate information about it. If any of our liberation chairs here may talk about what doing.

Katie Colliver (Univ):

Support LGBTQ campaign, will be encouraging them to think of the effects the cuts which it will have on them, and will get back to you about their decision.

Martha Mackenzie (St John's):

White paper response is here for you to look at and take away to your common rooms. Will vote on in 3<sup>rd</sup> week.

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## **h. Emergency Motions**

### **vi. Motions affecting OUSU members as citizens of the world**

#### **Oxford Community Against Trafficking**

##### **Council Notes:**

1. That last month, two men were arrested for human trafficking and forced prostitution in Oxford.
2. That sex trafficking is an ongoing issue in Oxford and worldwide, with more women trafficked into sex slavery today than there were total slaves trafficked in the Atlantic slave trade. There are at least 4,000 trafficked women in the UK.
3. That Oxford Community Against Trafficking (OxCAT) have organised a flashmob demonstration on Cornmarket Street on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October (2<sup>nd</sup> Week) from noon-2pm, titled "Pretty Girls for Sale", to attract media coverage, public engagement and publicity on the issue of trafficking in Oxford.
4. That the Oxford City Council Safer Communities Partnership and the Thames Valley Police have spoken in favour of OxCAT's initiatives.

##### **Council Believes:**

1. That students have a role to play in championing safe communities free of human exploitation.
2. That OxCAT's publicity drive is a good initiative to raise public awareness of the scale of the problem of human trafficking, and to open people's eyes to possible signs of human trafficking in their neighbourhood.

**Council Resolves:**

1. To support the OxCAT demonstration on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> October.
2. To mandate the Vice-President for Women and the Vice-President for Charities and Community to write to OxCAT expressing their support, and to look into how students can work together with OxCAT on the issue of human trafficking in Oxford.

**Proposer:** Yuan Yang (Balliol)

**Seconder:** Katie Colliver (University)

Chair:

An Emergency Motion is something that came up after the deadline for motions.

Speech in proposition

Yuan Yang (Balliol):

Pretty girls for sale is the name of the demonstration that will be happening on Tuesday. Human trafficking is a huge thing that is happening in our communities, we have a positive voice to push for change, think should actively support this process. Thanks for David Messling for publicising on PresList.

No opposition.

Passes automatically.

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## **i. Passage of Motions Nem Con**

### **m. Motions Authorising Capital Expenditure**

1. Motion to appropriate funds for PhD Movie.

Question

### **n. Other Motions**

#### **i. Motions affecting OUSU members as OUSU members**

##### **1. Election Regulations**

**Council Notes:**

1. The appended Regulations, issued by the Returning Officer under Standing Order J.1.2 on October 10th 2011

**Council Believes:**

1. That these Regulations should apply to this term's elections

**Council Resolves:**

1. To approve these Regulations

**Proposed:** Jim O'Connell (University)

**Seconded:** Hannah Cusworth (Brasenose)

Passes Nem Con.

##### **2. Junior Tribunal Shortlist**

**Council Notes:**

1. The appended shortlist for Junior Tribunal (appendix )

**Council Believes:**

1. That the persons named on the shortlist are suitable to serve on Junior Tribunal

**Council Resolves:**

1. To approve the appended shortlist for Junior Tribunal

**Proposed:** *Jim O'Connell (Univ)*

**Seconded:** *Daniel Stone (St Peter's)*

Passes Nem Con.

**ii. Motions affecting OUSU members as students at Oxford University**

**3. Providing a prayer room for Muslim students at Oxford University**

Question

**4. Motion in support of the VC's Oration**

**Council Notes:**

1. The Vice Chancellor's Oration on Tuesday of 0th made national headlines.
2. The VC used his Oration to call for Government to better fund research and postgraduate students generally.
3. He highlighted four main issues: that our research funding is not competitive with other world class institutions in the US and Asia, that we need to be able to attract the best PG students regardless of nationality or background, we are currently losing many of the best students to our competitors and there is a social justice issue with unfunded PG study increasingly required for access to the professions.
4. Jane Sherwood, Director of Graduate Admissions and Funding, has been a consistent advocate of Graduate Access and her support has been crucial in raising these issues within the University.

**Council Believes:**

1. The Vice Chancellor was right.
2. Oxford needs more money to fund postgraduate study and research, in order to compete internationally and give opportunities to all the best students.
3. It would be good if government provided more money, but in the current climate this is not particularly likely.
4. Therefore, Oxford should look to prioritise fundraising for graduate scholarships, and student support more generally, in the next phase of its fundraising campaign.
5. The University should also encourage donations and partnership funding from business, industry and charitable foundations such as the Wellcome Trust.

**Council Resolves:**

1. To mandate the President to write to the Vice Chancellor praising him for his national leadership on the issue of research and postgraduate funding.
2. To ask the Vice Chancellor to continue this leadership.
3. To mandate the President, Vice President (Access and Academic Affairs) and
4. Vice President (Graduates) to campaign within the University for greater focus on fundraising for postgraduate student support.

**Proposed:** *Jim O'Connell (University)*

**Seconded:** *Martha Mackenzie (St John's)*

Passes Nem Con.

**5. Clarifying Exam Procedures**

Question

**iv. Motions affecting OUSU members as residents of Oxford**

**6. OUSU and Private Student Rental**

Question

## m. Motions Authorising Capital Expenditure

### 1. Motion to appropriate funds for the PhD Movie

#### Council Notes that:

1. Approximately 5000 Oxford students are working towards a D.Phil.
2. The PhD Movie is a cultural phenomenon amongst the DPhil community.
3. The PhD Movie is coming to Oxford on November 15<sup>th</sup>, along with its creator Jorge Cham.
4. Jorge's trip is sponsored by the Times Higher Education Supplement, but the cost of the screening and hiring out the Exam Schools is not.
5. Without OUSU sponsorship, the event could go ahead but it would cost up to £5 for a ticket.
6. With OUSU sponsorship, the event would only cost £3.50 for a ticket.
7. OUSU has a discretionary fund of £2000 to spend over the course of the year.

#### Council Believes:

1. OUSU should provide support, services and representation to DPhil students.
2. This year OUSU will be doing a lot of work on DPhil supervision, and the PhD movie offers a perfect opportunity to talk to DPhils about their experience of supervision and life as a DPhil.
3. Funds are increasingly tight for DPhil students, and OUSU should endeavour where possible to make life cheaper for them.
4. Contributing to the PhD Movie in order to keep prices down would be both very popular and much appreciated.
5. OUSU should demonstrate its commitment to supporting DPhils by sponsoring something they really like, and using it as an opportunity to promote our work on supervision and funding.

#### Council Resolves:

1. To donate £400 from the discretionary fund to the screening of the PhD movie.
2. To mandate the VP (Graduates) to work with the MPLS Office and other volunteers to support organising the screening.
3. To mandate the VP (Graduates) to take the opportunity to promote OUSU's representation work that supports DPhil students.

**Proposed:** *Jim O'Connell (University)*

**Seconded:** *James Anderson (St Catherine's)*

Jim O'Connell (Univ):

What it is, where money will come from.

Cultural phenomenon movie comes from cartoon, hugely popular, gets screened at campuses all around world. The maker is also coming, chronicles trials and tribulations of doctoral students. We think will fill up exam schools. Money comes from a discretionary fund, last year used for buses to demo's plenty of money left.

Reason why is threefold, hugely popular will make students happy, also ideal opportunity to launch the work we are doing on grad supervision this year, will be very visible and engage dphils will be a large rallying cry to university, to show they can't get away with offering sub standard supervision.

Martin (St Anne's):

Why £400?

Total cost £1800, to £2000 hiring exam schools. Important that OUSU shows that it wants to support research students and that we value them, lets do something nice for them, we can use remaining funds to spend on other groups.

Tickets open to everyone.

Question:

Is £1.50 reduction best thing we can do?

Jim O'Connell (Univ):

Symbolic, DPhil students are suffering huge pressure, DPhil funding policy will start being a big issue.

David Messling (St John's)

Will OUSU make a formal presentation?

Jim O'Connell (Univ):

OUSU Officers stewarding, introduction from Martha or myself and advertise work we are doing.

Seb Baird (Corpus Christi):

Capacity?

450, 425 will be sold. To leave space for stewards etc.

Opposition. None. Passes.

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## **n. Other Motions**

### **i. Motions affecting OUSU members as OUSU members**

#### **1. Election Regulations**

Passes Nem Con.

#### **2. Junior Tribunal Shortlist**

Passes Nem Con.

### **ii. Motions affecting OUSU members as students at Oxford University**

#### **3. Providing a prayer room for Muslim students at Oxford University**

##### **Council Notes:**

1. That there is currently no University prayer room for Muslim students in Oxford
2. That a prayer room is needed for the five daily congregational prayers, educational study groups and interfaith discussions
3. That Muslim students at Oxford strongly desire a prayer room and feel that their life at University is made more difficult by not having one
4. That 82 other higher education institutions provide a prayer room for Muslim students
5. That Oxford University's Equality and Diversity Mission Statement states that its objective is to allow students to reach their "full potential" and to "remove any barriers which might deter people of the highest potential and ability from applying to Oxford, either as staff or students"
6. That the Oxford University Islamic Society has requested a prayer room on several occasions over the past 10 years but no action has been taken by the University

##### **Council Believes:**

1. That Oxford University has a duty to meet the needs of its students and that the University should therefore provide a prayer room for Muslim students
2. That the failure of the University to provide a prayer facility for Muslim students directly opposes the University's Equality and Diversity Mission Statement
3. That the failure of the University to provide a prayer room is likely to deter potential applicants to the University

##### **Council Resolves:**

1. To support the Oxford University Islamic Society's campaign for a prayer room
2. To mandate the Vice President for Welfare and Equal Opportunities, collaborating with other members of the OUSU Executive as appropriate, to put pressure on the University authorities to establish a student prayer room in a central University location.

**Proposer:** Adam Ali (Green-Templeton College)

**Secunder:** Liban Saleh (New College)

Adam Ali (Green Templeton):

Behalf of Islamic Society, no prayer room in city centre students can use. Only way students can pray is go back to colleges or mosques on Cowley. Also no place to organise events. Many other faith groups, have places can use in town. Although Oxford Centre for Islamic studies mainly academic and closes at 5.00pm can't go for morning or evening prayers. Asking for small prayer room we can use all day. Other universities have, would help to make life for muslim students easier.

James (Worcester)

Specific location?

Adam Ali (Green Templeton):

Somewhere in town depends where uni has rooms.

St Catherine's

Where will the funds come from OUSU or University?

Adam Ali (Green Templeton):

Haven't thought about.

Katie Colliver (Univ):

Leyla is considering site of Radcliffe Infirmary.

Adam Ali (Green Templeton):

Would be something could consider, depending on where students are based.

James Anderson:

All the college chapels are multi faith have you approached them?

Adam Ali (Green Templeton):

Logistical issue, haven't approached them. If multi faith everyone should be able to use, but we need specific times

Martin (St Anne's)

How far can OUSU go in supporting this?

Adam Ali (Green Templeton):

We are actually meeting the Proctors, University in principle supports. We would like OUSU support in the motion, to take to University and say OUSU supports.

David Townsend (St John's):

Looking for University funding?

Adam Ali (Green Templeton):

Haven't thought about financial or logistics, hoping when we meet VC would want to take further. OUSU support vital with University.

Yuan Yang (Balliol):

If multi faith could Buddhist faith use for meditation?

Adam Ali (Green Templeton):

Mainly because muslims don't have anywhere. Muslim students are likely to use facilities would engage with other faiths.

Adam Tyndall (Hert):

How many people interested?

Adam Ali (Green Templeton):

70 or 80 interested. But about 30, in Cambridge had room and at 1.00pm everyone would meet. Other centres and mosques use for their staff and at their time.

Hannah Cusworth (Balliol):

IS there a prayer room at John Radcliffe.

Adam Ali (Green Templeton):

Yes there is one, but university doesn't have one. Often get asked by applicants whether we have one, and it reflects badly that Oxford doesn't have one.

No Opposition passes.

#### **4. Motion in support of the VC's Oration**

Passes Nem Con.

#### **5. Clarifying Exam Procedures**

##### **Council Notes:**

1. Annexe 1 and 2
2. Various phrasings exist for similar Public Exam processes which involve the student submitting information and requests to the Proctor's Office.
3. Several of the procedures are expressed in such a way that clarity is lacking.
4. The OUSU Student Advice Service has found that the combination of unclear phrasing and slightly differing procedures appear to have caused a variety of interpretations from college to college, which could have equity implications
5. The meeting of Exams Panel on Monday of 3rd Week

##### **Council Believes:**

1. Public Exam procedures should always be clear, transparent and easy for students to understand.
2. There should be no differential access to these procedures for students, simply because of the college they go to.
3. Timeliness is key for students who are using these exams procedures.
4. The potential for conflict to arise between a college and their students over the understanding of procedures should always be kept to a minimum.

##### **Council Resolves:**

1. To support the clarification and harmonisation of the procedures surround Public Exams.
2. To mandate the VP (Access and Academic Affairs) to lobby the university to effect this change.

**Proposed:** *Hannah Cusworth (Brasenose)*

**Seconded:** *Jim O'Connell (Univ)*

Hannah Cusworth (Brasenose):

I didn't think anyone would ask as a dry topic. It has made the Student Advice Service's life a misery over the summer. We have had advise from Proctors, it is dependent on colleges, some colleges Senior Tutors think gatekeeper. It would be easy if we could clarify, say forwarding medical certificate, some colleges this causes a fight other easy.

This motion is going to exams panel so would like to get support, so can say that whole body of OUSU. Would like to extend mandate, yes, are doing a lot with JCR Presidents, currently piecemeal, but happy to have a motion.

Yuan Yuang (Balliol):

Ball park figure on how long SAS has spent?

Hannah Cusworth (Brasenose):

Not that many colleges, hours of our life spent on it. 15 hours personally, then 3 other student advisers. Takes a long time for something that should be easy.

Adam Tyndall (Hert):

Aware of a couple of students at Hertford received mark of zero, wondered how broad you are going to go.

We are aware of this and are going to collect evidence and take to head of division. Terms of going further, going to arrange meeting with proctors, to discuss appeals as at moment contradicts itself.

No opposition. Passes.

#### v. **Motions affecting OUSU members as residents of Oxford**

#### **6. OUSU and Private Student Rental**

##### **Council Notes:**

1. Seeking private housing can be a very time consuming, expensive and stressful activity
2. Many colleges do not provide accommodation for all years of a student's course
3. Letting agents in Oxford often exploit students' concerns and some even suggest that they camp outside or provide very large deposits to secure a house.
4. Issues with students in the private rental market particularly affect those with least contact with OUSU - especially graduate students, international students, mature students, and those with children.
5. OUSU has just produced a well-received paper on Community Policy that highlighted many student housing issues - including relationships with other residents, the short supply of dedicated student housing, and the poor state of many student rental properties.
6. The NUS produces a series of guidelines for student housing providers and letting agents but these are often ignored by landlords and agents in Oxford.
7. Cardiff Student Union runs its own award-winning letting agency - with no fees to students, thorough checks on landlords who use the scheme, and a system to find lone students space in a shared house.
8. The Cardiff Student Union Letting Agency made £1,000 in 2007, £50,000 in 2008, £70,000 in 2009 and projected a profit of £100,000 in 2010 - money raised only from landlords and not students.
9. Student unions with their own letting agencies include: Cardiff, Glamorgan, Exeter, Liverpool, Leicester, Queen's University Belfast, and shortly, Sussex.

##### **Council Believes:**

1. Students should not be exploited by private letting agents
2. That your accommodation and how you secure it has a big impact on welfare and academic performance
3. That students are better equipped to understand the accommodation needs of other students than letting agents.
4. That an OUSU rental agency would be much more accountable than a private provider
5. That revenue raised could be put into a whole range of other fantastic OUSU services

##### **Council Resolves**

1. To mandate the President and the Rent and Accommodation part-time executive officer to explore the option of establishing an OUSU Letting Agency
2. To mandate these representatives to consider both a profit-making and a not-for-profit option

**Proposed:** *Jacob Diggle, (Corpus Christi College)*

**Seconded:** *Roberta Iley, (Brasenose College)*

Jacob Diggle (Corpus Christi):

All agree that where we live has huge impact on our lives. Lots of colleges don't supply accommodation for all years of your study. Nightmare stories about how difficult to find accommodation. Doesn't seem a great situation. Cardiff University Student Union set up own agency, have made profit without charging students. This has been rolled out, all different models. Fantastic range of best practice. We don't need the hassle of trying to find a house. There are obviously issues on space and funding. Should look into and say good idea in principle.

SFQ

Eleanor Brown (St Hugh's):

Obviously I get people coming to me with problems. How do you feel this would relate to University letting list.

Jacob Diggle (Corpus Christi):

University is working on this. Feel real advantage of this model is the fact that doesn't charge students money up front. Think good step forward.

David Townsend (St John's):

Relevant question about business case. Can OUSU afford this?

Jacob Diggle (Corpus Christi):

How did Cardiff only spend £12,000 already had space. Letting agency software. Liverpool didn't have space, joined with existing agency who already had a good feedback, had staff had location, added on student union supervision.

Cardiff and Liverpool large block grants. Think we can make a good case to University. Would need to really look into it. Get the best possible case.

David Townsend (St John's):

What are the figures, Cardiff £100,000's of pounds. Not directly comparable to us.

Colin Jackson (LMH):

Any comparison with University on other projects.

Jacob Diggle (Corpus Christi):

University giving OUSU money to hire Club and Society Staff. Really good position to do this.

Martha Mackenzie (St John's): (POD)

Where at financially not looking great, resources not great. Forewarning think incredibly difficult to get very far at this time.

Fabian Neuner:

Think great project was a major financial hold. Cardiff different. Needs to be a lot of money in reserve. Once go in you have to be in there. Have to be serious in financial response.

Jacob Diggle (Corpus Christi):

Very interesting time, lets explore option. May not be implemented by start of next term. But lets put it on the agenda. Don't think Cardiff will work here but think Liverpool might work here. In terms of being financial black hole. Not aware of Birmingham. Glamorgan made a profit in 1<sup>st</sup> year and Exeter made profit of £30 in 2<sup>nd</sup> year.

Martha keen in getting code of standards in place across Oxford, especially with Oxford Brookes. If OUSU isn't strongly involved then not incentive.

Chris

Considering time restraints would it not be sensible to introduce this first as much more attainable.

Eleanor agrees with Chris

Jacob Diggle (Corpus Christi):

I am going to have to talk to people about code of standards can do at the same time. As will be having Passes.

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## **o. Any Other Business**

**A discussion on the OUSU response to the Government's Higher Education White Paper.**

Chair:

In elections in 3<sup>rd</sup> week will be looking for deputy chair, trial to put into Standing Orders. As Chair might not always be here, a lot of issues concerning governance which I then can't chair as I attend these. Also Scrutiny Committee so can't chair. Will email information around re this.

Adam Tyndall (Hertford):

Don't like David Willets. You said consultation period over, and has been submitted.

Martha Mackenzie (St John's):

Things will develop because of this, would like more student backing

Nathan

Think very glad students are starting to recognise this on what it is. An area where vulnerable ill thought out, dodgy accounting. Opportunity to win the argument over the white paper. Also we do need to energise the union and encourage people to attend demo and support the Union.

Martha Mackenzie (St John's):

If people want to bring a motion on the Demonstration please do.

Andrew Hood (New):

How does Core Margin effect Social mobility.

Martha Mackenzie (St John's):

This is about A, AB students what we think might happen is grade inflation. Which would skew incentives. When NUS looked into this, it was disproportionately students in independent schools got these grades, so a greater proportion would be independent students.

A whole cohort of Independent students going to good universities.

Some universities would be crowded out of market. Smaller universities won't be able to attract students.

People competing on price, will cut standards, and people will get budget accommodation.

Stefan Collini good article on this.

Louis Dane (New)

In order to give strength to this. Have you considered going directly to the students, have you considered a referendum. To see how many support.

You could propose a motion on this. Also happy to talk to common rooms about this.

Yuan Yang (Balliol):

Has gone out to students.

Louis Dane:

Difficult to locate who is interested.

Sarah (Wadham)

Would you like individual JCR's to have votes on this.

Martha Mackenzie (St John's):

Down to JCR or MCR President to see whether interested.

Adam Tyndall (Hert):

What would be the most useful thing OUSU reps could bring back. Are there points which we need detailed feedback on.

Martha Mackenzie (St John's):

Aware not everyone checks email, would like any feedback and let people know welcome to.

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## Additional Documents

### Technical Details

1. The System
  - a. The Election will be conducted via the Mi-Voice electronic voting system.
  - b. Mi-voice is a product of iMeta Technologies Limited.
2. Counting Method for Single Transferable Voting
  - a. Mi-voice Participation uses the Electoral Reform Society '97 calculation algorithm. Further information on this calculation algorithm can be found on the on the Electoral Reform Society's Website - <http://www.electoral-reform.org.uk/article.php?id=48> <<http://www.electoral-reform.org.uk/article.php?id=48>>
3. Voting Procedure
  - a. Mi-Voice generates Unique Voter Codes (UVCs).
  - b. All voters receive a UVC via email.
  - c. Voters visit [www.mi-vote.com](http://www.mi-vote.com) <<http://www.mi-vote.com/>> and enter their UVC. They are then able to vote in all elections in which they are eligible to vote.
4. Counting
  - a. All counting is conducted electronically.Mi-Voice provides a detailed breakdown of the results and counting stages.

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## Election Regulations

### Size of Joint Manifesto Booklet (JMB) entries

The size of JMB entries shall be limited to the following:

One full tabloid page (340mm up by 285mm across) for each candidate for Sabbatical office;

One quarter page (170mm up by 142.5mm across) for each candidate for Executive of Graduate Executive office;

One eighth page (85mm up by 142.5mm across) for each candidate for NUS Delegate or Student Trustee.

### Expenditure Limit

The expenditure limits for candidates shall be the figures laid out in SO C.3.c.1.

### Definitions

"Notice" to a candidate, agent, activist or other subject shall mean:

Notice in person, in writing, or by fax to his/her home address, or other such address or fax number (if any) as previously agreed, by e-mail to such e-mail address (if any) as previously agreed, or via telephone call (including the leaving of a voicemail message) to such telephone number as previously agreed, or via SMS or pager to a previously agreed number. Such notice shall be deemed to have been given upon delivery.

A candidate or subject who is informed that they have information awaiting collection from the OUSU Offices shall be deemed to have received it 60 minutes after receipt of such a message, or from when they collect it from the OUSU Offices, whichever is sooner.

"Political Organisation" shall mean:

A political party; or

An organisation affiliated to a political party; or

A partisan, political organisation, including all subdivisions thereof; or

An organisation that holds and/or promulgates views of a political nature.

"Electoral Official" shall mean any member of Elections Committee, or any member of OUSU staff carrying out duties on behalf of any such member.

"Activist" shall mean any person who is active on a candidate/slate's behalf, as defined in SO C.2.g.4.

“Candidate” shall mean any person validly nominated to stand in the election. A person is a “candidate” only during the period between the Returning Officer calling the poll to the issuing of the final electoral ruling, in accordance with C.3.a.2.

#### Application of the rules on election material.

For the avoidance of doubt, in keeping with the basic restrictions in C.3.a.2, the rules on election material in C.3.b apply also from the calling of poll to the final electoral ruling. The only the exception to this provision is that all election material purchased by a candidate/slate must be accounted for against the expenditure limit regardless of whether or not the candidate/slate purchased and/or distributed that material prior to the calling of poll, in keeping with C.3.b.1.

#### Construction

No electoral official shall be held to account, and no complaint upheld, in respect of:  
Any omission in the fulfillment of their obligations under these Regulation, or under the Standing Orders, where that omission was wholly and unavoidably caused by outside events; or  
The exercise of any discretionary power granted under these Regulations or the Standing Orders, unless the exercise of that power was either purposely unfair to anyone involved in the elections, or where it was exercised by an official in a situation where s/he did not have the authority to exercise such a power.

#### Activists

Every candidate shall be responsible for registering with the RO, or a person appointed by the RO for this purpose, any person who is active on his/her behalf 24 hours prior to the opening of polls.  
Lists of Activists for all candidates/slates shall be made available to the Principal Agent of each candidate/slate no less than 12 hours prior to the opening of polls.  
Any person endorsing a candidate shall be deemed to be an activist.  
Up to, but not more than, ten people may be active on behalf of the same two candidates or slates without this sharing of activists in itself being evidence of cross-slating.  
No agent or candidate may be an activist for another candidate unless on the same slate.  
No activist may disseminate in any form, including via Facebook, any unlawful, false or misleading statements.

#### Websites

All websites (not including Facebook “groups”, for which later Regulations will apply) must be registered. To register a website, a candidate or agent must submit to the RO, either via [ro@ousu.org](mailto:ro@ousu.org) or in person, the following:  
Proof of purchase of the domain name;  
A signed statement or forwarded e-mail from any person actively involved in creating the website that s/he/they collectively were entirely responsible for creating the website. If anyone actively involved in creating the website has been paid, a receipt must be submitted, and the amount deducted from the candidate’s expenditure limit.  
Websites shall be deemed to be election material, and shall be subject to the relevant Standing Orders.  
To ensure fairness in costing websites, all domain names must be purchased specifically for the purpose of the Michaelmas Term OUSU Elections. Domain names must contain some reference to the election or a candidacy, such as [www.voteforA.com](http://www.voteforA.com) or [www.BinOUSUElection.com](http://www.BinOUSUElection.com).

#### Social Networking

Being a member of a Facebook group, or following a candidate/slate on Twitter is not activism. Retweeting a candidate/slate or posting a group or a link to a group/website is activism, as is any other action promoting a candidate/slate by word or deed online beyond simply being a group member or following a candidate/slate.  
Candidates/slates may not send messages via a Facebook group. Any such action shall be deemed to be an infringement of SO C.3.b.6.a.  
Candidates/slates may tweet. This will not be deemed as infringing C.3.b.6.a  
Candidates/slates’ Facebook groups, Twitter accounts and similar social networking milieu shall be considered election material, and are bound by all provisions in the Standing Orders, Electoral Regulations and Rulings relating to election material. Candidates must, therefore, remove any

comments posted in their group's "wall" that contravenes such provisions within 24 hours, after which time they shall be responsible for the content of the comment.

For the avoidance of doubt, a Facebook message shall be deemed an e-mail. Tweets shall not be deemed emails.

Candidates/slates can buy Facebook ads or other online advertising if they wish. Like all bought election material, receipts for any online advertising must be submitted to the Returning Officer at the close of poll, and expenditure limits must not be infringed.

### **1. Public Utterances**

9.1 People are allowed to express support for candidates/slates in public without that candidate/slate being penalised. Doing so is, of course, activism.

9.2 Similarly, people are allowed to criticise candidates/slates in public. Doing so is not necessarily activism for another candidate/slate to the candidate/slate being criticised.

9.3 Public statements are not all, and need not be, considered 'husts'. If a public statement, in whatever forum, is not an officially constituted hust according to the rules, the rules for husts do not apply.

9.4 For the avoidance of doubt, disseminating unlawful, false or misleading statements in public is not allowed and candidates/slates will be held responsible for disseminating such statements if it is done in their name or there is evidence they are responsible.

### **2. Hustings**

11.1 In addition to the procedures for Hustings laid down in the SOs, at least one set of hustings will be recorded and uploaded to Youtube by the RO.

11.2 The RO will notify candidates which Hustings are to be recorded, giving at least 24 hours' notice.

### **3. Endorsements**

11.1 Anyone can endorse anyone, subject to the restrictions on cross-slating in C 3 a 2 and C 3 a 3.

11.2 If candidates/slates are claiming the Endorsements of anyone holding elected office (or recently holding elected office) within OUSU, OUSU's Campaigns and Committees, or a Common Room on their JMB entry or election material, they must be compliant with SO C 3a 2 vii by stating on their JMB/election material that the endorsement is made in that individual's personal capacity.

11.3 Candidates/slates must not mislead the electorate by claiming the Endorsements of OUSU, OUSU campaign/committee, Common Room or Society Officers who are not current members of OUSU. Such people can of course endorse candidates/slates, but candidates/slates cannot count them towards any 'total' of endorsers they wish to present to the electorate, or claim they are endorsed in that person's capacity as a former Officer.

11.4 An example to illustrate what is and is not allowed under these regulations:

Candidate Oulc is endorsed by Antonia Bance. Candidate Oulc *can* say they are endorsed by Antonia Bance, in her capacity as a City Councillor or otherwise. They *cannot* say they are endorsed by Antonia Bance in her capacity as a former OUSU Vice President (Women) or her capacity as a former Co-Chair of Oxford University Labour Club, because she is not a current member of OUSU. Similarly, if Candidate Oulc wishes to claim to the electorate that they are endorsed by 700 current and former Common Room or Society Presidents or OUSU Officers, they cannot count Antonia Bance towards this total, because she is not a current member of OUSU.

## Junior Tribunal Shortlist

Stephen Moses	Returning Officer MT97
Tony Lord	RO MT00
Stuart Hudson	RO HT01
Anthony Fairclough	RO MT01
Nick Bennett	RO MT02
Conor O'Neil	RO MT03
Steve Harper	RO TT04
Angus Hebenton	RO MT04
Daryl Leeworthy	RO MT05
Andrew Grey	RO MT06
Tana Das	Deputy Returning Officer MT04
Kimberly Gillingham	DRO MT04
Dominic Curran	DRO MT04
Matt Baker	DRO MT05
Kirsty McNeil	President 2000
Steph Gray	Vice-President (Finance) 2000
Jane Blumer	V-P (Women) 2000
Rhodri Thomas	V-P (Access & Academic Affairs) 2000
Eleanor Fletcher	V-P (Finance) 2001
Antonia Bance	V-P (Women) 2001
James Rowlands	V-P (Welfare) 2001
Will Straw	President 2002
Sean Sullivan	V-P (Finance) 2002
Sonia Sodha	V-P (Access & Academic Affairs) 2002
Andrew Copson	V-P (Welfare) 2002
Helen Puig Larrauri	President 2003
Rodrigo Davies	V-P (Finance) 2003
Dan Paskins	V-P (Graduates) 2003
Rosie Buckland	V-P (Welfare) 2003
John Blake	President 2004
Alan Strickland	President 2006
Martin McCluskey	President 2007
Ingrid Frater	V-P (Graduates) 2007
James Lamming	V-P (Access and Academic Affairs) 2007
Rich Hardiman	V-P (Finance) 2007
Claire Addison	V-P (Charities and Communities) 2007
Lewis Iwu	President (2008)
Rachel Cummings	V-P (Women) 2008
Jack Wellby	V-P (Charities and Communities) 2008
Rosanna McBeath	V-P (Welfare) 2008

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## Annexe 1

### Examination Regulations

#### Part 10 Candidates with Special Examination Needs

10.2 A candidate in any University Examination with special examination needs may apply to the Proctors through the Senior Tutor of his or her college

1.1.2 Where any college has a visually-impaired candidate for any University Examination, the Senior Tutor shall, not less than three months before the date of the Examination, inform the Proctors who will make the necessary arrangements (including provision for papers in Braille if appropriate) in consultation with the Chairman of Examiners and the Academic Registrar and Secretary of Faculties.

#### Part 11 Acute illness or other urgent causes affecting candidates

#### Non appearance at Exam

## 11.2.

(1) A candidate in any University Examination may, through his or her college, request the Proctors to accept a submission that the candidate will be or has been prevented by illness or other urgent cause from presenting himself or herself at the appointed time or place for any part of a University Examination.

(2) For the purposes of this regulation a candidate will be deemed to have presented himself or herself for a written paper if he or she was present in the place designated for that examination and had the opportunity to see the question paper there.

## 11.3.

(1) A request under regulation 11.2 above must be submitted in writing by the Senior Tutor or other proper officer of the candidate's college, with sufficient evidence to support it.

### Factors affecting performance

11.8. If it comes to the notice of a candidate's college before, during or after an examination that the candidate's performance in any part of a University Examination is likely to be or has been affected by factors of which the examiners have no knowledge, that college shall through the Senior Tutor inform the Proctors of this factor.

### Part 12 Religious Festivals and Holidays Co-inciding with Examinations

12.1 A candidate in any University Examination who is forbidden, for reasons of faith, from taking papers on religious festivals or other special days which may coincide with days on which examinations are set, may, through his or her Senior Tutor, apply to the Proctors for approval of special examination arrangements.

12.5. Following such notification, the Senior Tutor shall make arrangements for the candidate to be examined at that alternative time and shall submit these arrangements to the Proctors for approval.

### Illegible scripts

16.7. (2) The Senior Tutor or other proper officer shall then arrange for the candidate to dictate his or her illegible script(s) to a typist under the invigilation of a Master of Arts of the University or any other person who in the opinion of the Proctors seems suitable; the typist and invigilator having been approved beforehand by the Proctors.

### Regulations for the Investigation by the Proctors of Complaints under Section 22 of Statute IX

## PART B

Procedure applying to complaints concerning academic appeals. Appeals concerning university examinations for taught courses

37. It is open to a student, to a supervisor, or to college authorities acting on his or her behalf, or to any staff member of the University who has concerns about the conduct of an examination, to make formal representations in writing to the Proctors.

38. Any representation made by a student must be submitted through the Senior Tutor of his or her college, whether or not it has the Senior Tutor's support.

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## Annexe 2 Examination Regulations

### Part 10 Candidates with Special Examination Needs

10.2 A candidate in any University Examination with special examination needs may apply to the Proctors through the Senior Tutor of his or her college who must then submit the application to the Proctors on the student's behalf.

1.1.3 Where any college has a visually-impaired candidate for any University Examination, the Senior Tutor must, not less than three months before the date of the Examination, inform the Proctors who will make the necessary arrangements (including provision for papers in Braille if appropriate) in consultation with the Chairman of Examiners and the Academic Registrar and Secretary of Faculties.

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(2) For the purposes of this regulation a candidate will be deemed to have presented himself or herself for a written paper if he or she was present in the place designated for that examination and had the opportunity to see the question paper there.

###### 11.3.

(1) A request under regulation 11.2 above must be submitted in writing by the Senior Tutor or other proper officer of the candidate's college, with sufficient evidence to support it.

##### Factors affecting performance

11.8. If it comes to the notice of a candidate's college before, during or after an examination that the candidate's performance in any part of a University Examination is likely to be or has been affected by factors of which the examiners have no knowledge, that college must through the Senior Tutor inform the Proctors of this factor.

#### Part 12 Religious Festivals and Holidays Co-inciding with Examinations

12.1 A candidate in any University Examination who is forbidden, for reasons of faith, from taking papers on religious festivals or other special days which may coincide with days on which examinations are set, may, through his or her Senior Tutor, apply to the Proctors for approval of special examination arrangements. The Senior Tutor must then submit the application to the Proctors on the students behalf.

12.5. Following such notification, the Senior Tutor must make arrangements for the candidate to be examined at that alternative time and must submit these arrangements to the Proctors for approval.

##### Illegible scripts

16.7. (2) The Senior Tutor or other proper officer must then arrange for the candidate to dictate his or her illegible script(s) to a typist under the invigilation of a Master of Arts of the University or any other person who in the opinion of the Proctors seems suitable; the typist and invigilator having been approved beforehand by the Proctors.

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38. Any representation made by a student must be submitted through the Senior Tutor of his or her college. The Senior Tutor must then submit the application to the Proctors on the students behalf, whether or not it has the Senior Tutor's support.