



1st week Trinity 2004

Laurie Burton Chair

Dan Simpson Minutes

Peter Gallagher granted attendance rights

Bryn Adams (Christ Church): Point of Order: that agenda item 6 not be put. The F+F co-chairs object. It adds nothing to policy and serves no purpose. It will damage the F+F campaign and OUSU because it will appear to be a cover-up.

Ed Griffiths (St Johns) Those points can be made in debate on the motion, debate should not be stifled. Policy is now unclear, people do not know what it is so we should have the debate.

For: 13 Against: 24

Lorna Stevenson (Hertford): the minutes are hard to read, can they be spaced out?

**Ratifications in council, no objections:**

Fernando Guigliano (Pembroke), College inequality co-chair  
Dominique Chaput (Linacre) Environment co-chair  
Mohsin Zaidi (Keble) F+F co-chair  
Dan Paskins (Magdalen) RO  
Sinead Malik (Keble) DRO  
Ros Stanley (Somerville) DRO  
Kim Hardman (Keble) Press Officer

**Elections in Council**

Dan Paskins (Magdalen): Dave White has resigned from the executive, there is one nomination.

Emrys Jones (Regents Park):

Declarations: OULD, no motions of censure or no-confidence

I have the same affiliations as Dave. I could do a good job on his committees. I am particularly concerned with Racism, Ron Atkinson, not just within the university. Bit nervous, just had a horrid tute, could do a good job on committees.

Greg Stafford (St Peters): Would you abide by and campaign for the result of the referendum?

EJ: Could you elaborate?

GS: As a result of last term's referendum OUSU's policy on funding is that of the Conservative party.

EJ: I will abide by it, but from my own perspective.

Peter Jones (Worcester): Will your unpleasant tutorial affect your position on stint reform?

EJ: Elaborate?

PJ: the campaign to save the tute.

EJ: No

Chris Allan (Somerville): What OUSU campaigns have you been involved in?

EJ: None

Rob Vance (Wadham): Should OUSU provide services or campaign?

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Louise McMullan (Wadham): How would you involve Common Room officers?

EJ: Publicity.

Rosie Buckland (St Hildas): What is the main role of an exec officer?

EJ: Looking after campaigns and committees.

Rodrigo Davis (Wadham): Any lessons from 'Clueless' regarding exec?

EJ: Do not be judgemental, applies to you, do not judge me as a member of OULD.

Hawkins (Queens): How will this election affect your mandate?

EJ: Less than for someone else because I am a Lib Dem

## **Emrys Jones was duly elected**

### **Reports**

Helena Puig-Larrauri (St Hildas): I went to NUS conference, had a great time, thank you to all the other delegates. Digo and I are going to bring something to council about affiliation. I have received lots of questions on F+F, in report. Ents, tickets now on sale for Freshers week, they are cheap, get in touch. Webpage, a 'what's on at OUSU?' feature has been added. I have been mandated to describe exec what we discuss in exec meetings. In 0<sup>th</sup> week we appointed a press officer and discussed exec job descriptions, the budget, the VP (Graduates) election and survey, about involving Common Room committee members and the web page. In 1<sup>st</sup> week we appointed an ethics committee co-chair and discussed rotas and the policy implications of the referendum. Do you want council to stay here or return to Wadham? [Informal vote: to remain in Oriel] I would also like to thank Ros Dampier for standing to be VP (Women) and to express regret at her resignation.

Rodrigo Davis: I have been working on the budget, have a look at the last one and get in touch if you have any suggestions.

Rosie Buckland: The housing bank is progressing well. Oxford Pride tomorrow, come along and bring friends. Equal Opportunities committee will be meeting on Tuesdays of even weeks.

Dan Paskins: VP (Graduates) election yesterday, Roland Enmarch was elected. Thank you to the sabs and part-time exec for helping. First time that we have tried this timing, it worked as we had a candidate, the survey will be useful. However, turnover was 92. This is the highest ever but it is unacceptable. Also it takes lots of time. I apologise to the executive for this and take responsibility.

Josef Henry-Bochan (Wadham): RAG week, got t-shirts, major events every day. Details in report but we hope to raise £15 000

Louise McMullan: Highlight things in report. Get in touch if you are having problems with your exam timetable. There will be study skills sessions with Tim Waters on Biology and Geography.

Catherine Wallace (Keble): Sorry for not submitting a report. In the vac I worked on sorting out the Nightbus' MOT, taxing etc. I printed and distributed posters for the Women's Open Day to schools. Some in Northern Ireland did not get them. There have been lots of applications and some will have to be turned down.

### **Questions**

Greg Stafford: Has the Nightbus been resprayed with the PWC logo?

Catherine Wallace: It will be, it now runs six nights a week.

Dominic Curren (St Hughes): Can we advertise that?

CW: yes

## **Passage of motions *nem con*: 2,3,4**

### **Motion 1**

Rosie Buckland: This is quite simple. Council should be inclusive, sometimes there is less of a debate than there should be, it becomes intimidating.

## Passage of motions *nem con*: 2,3,4

Motion 1

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SFQs

Dom Curren: Will this apply to SFQs?

RB: no

Vladimir Gligorov (St Johns): Will this apply if several people put their hands up together?

RB: at the discretion of the chair

Helen McCabe (St Hildas): How will it work?

?? (ChCh): this is unclear and we cannot amend it.

Gareth Lyon (Keble): How does it apply to amendments?

RB: separate lists

HM: Does this apply to the proposer and seconder?

RB: the proposer and seconder tend to dominate.

Rodrigo Davis: Point of Order: that this motion is tabled until the next council. There are good intentions here but the motion needs clarification

No objection, the motion is tabled.

Motion 5 [the minutes are omitted]

The motion was amended to strike 'Resolves 3' with 31 for, 30 against and 11 abstentions

The amended motion passed by a clear majority.

Motion 6

Ed Griffiths: As Helena said earlier, people are confused about policy, it is not clear and should be made more transparent. We are here because of the referendum. With a 7% turnout this is not representative, one third of the turnout in the OUSU elections, where candidates were clear about their position on fees. We are collecting signatures to hold another referendum alongside the OUSU elections. In the interim we need to have working policy. Resolves 2 is uncontroversial, it has been repeatedly stated. There is confusion about 'decrease in student numbers'. It is not Conservative policy, that policy is to scrap the 50% target. It is not stated what it does mean, ratio of change, absolute numbers, proportions, where the decrease would come from. This motion would shelve the policy which has no democratic legitimacy.

SFQs

Stafford: How many people voted in the VP (Women) election?

Catherine Wallace: 1700

James Coatsworth (Mansfield): were there any technical problems?

Rodrigo Davis: read section two of the RO's report.

Anna Whitfield (St Peters) I thought that the referendum was binding.

EG: It is

Chris Allan: why would OUSU officers understand 'decrease student numbers' differently to anyone else, it seems perfectly clear.

EG: It is not clear

Greg Stafford: Do you mean the elections in 6<sup>th</sup> week Michaelmas?

EG: yes.

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Greg Stafford: Do you mean the elections in 6<sup>th</sup> week Michaelmas?

EG: yes.

McDermott (Queens): when did your concerns arise?

EG: concerns about turnout obviously later. More general concerns earlier, I did not act on them.

Gareth Lyons: how many people would have to vote to make it legitimate?

EG: absolute numbers are probably a bad idea but we should consider making it a proportion of the turnout in elections.

Rodrigo Davis: Is it true that under the government's plans most of the university sector will be funded through progressive general taxation?

EG: yes

RD: Are OUSU officers allowed to interpret policy?

EG: I do not know

RD: they are not.

Move to debate

Tim Ayles: I was heartened by the idea of a referendum. It answers many criticisms of OUSU. I voted to decrease student numbers, I was not thinking of the things in this motion. If this motion passes it would be a travesty, I would have no part in it and would resign.

Amendment: proposed: Dan Paskins, seconded Emma Norris (Somerville)

In 'Notes 1' replace 'higher education funding policy' with 'how the funding problems of the universities should be solved'

Add as 'Believes 3' 'that it is important to make every effort to involve as many students as possible to campaign on issues in line with OUSU policy'

In 'resolves 2' replace 'to campaign for the abolition of tuition fees and the full restoration of maintenance grants, and for the higher education sector to be funded out of progressive general taxation' with 'that higher education and student maintenance should be part of the general welfare state and therefore freely available and accessible to all and that the funding problems of universities should be solved by decreasing student numbers'

Strike 'resolves 3'

Add a new 'resolves 3: 'to mandate the president and the co-chairs of the Finance and Funding campaign to encourage anyone who is interested in campaigning for OUSU's policy to get involved in the F+F campaign'

Add 'resolves 4': to encourage any student who feels that OUSU's policy needs further clarification to submit a motion to council so that their suggestions for clarification can be discussed.

Dan Paskins: This amendment removes factual inaccuracies and misleading elements from the motion. OUSU has lots of good policy, not all of which we are able to implement. People who believe in things should go to F+F and campaign for those things. An overall decrease can go along with more from certain groups. This amendment makes the motion democratic.

Ed Griffiths: I cannot accept this, some parts serve no purpose and the motion is clearer than the amendment.

DP: It is from policy

EG: I know, I am trying to change it. I will not treat you like idiots, I am trying to put the policy on ice.

Sian Hickson (Pembroke): can we summarise what the two achieve?

Dominic Curren: This is bizarre. We should vote down both the amendment and the motion. The amendment is well-intentioned

Rodrigo Davis: move to vote, have heard the arguments

Thomas Packer (St Cross): we need more conversation.

MTV: For: 44, Against: 20, Abstentions: 9

Dan Paskins: this is a clear statement of our policy

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Dan Paskins: this is a clear statement of our policy

Vladimir Gligorov: it does not clarify what 'decrease student numbers' means

For: 33, Against: 32, Abstentions: 8. Confirmed at recount.

Ed Griffiths: I withdraw the motion

It is take up by Frederick Herzberg and Dan Paskins

Rob Vance: move to vote

Greg Stafford: I am confused as to what the motion involves.

MTV clearly fails

Helena Puig-Larrauri: reads out the amended motion

Greg Stafford: It does not mean anything now. I disagree with Dan Paskins, we elect people to do things. We should have clarified at the time.

HPL: This is not Tory policy, it is defined as what was in the glossary

James Coatsworth: this is a bastardised motion, it helps no one, it will lose the support of students

MTV: For: 49, Against: 13, Abstentions: 9.

Dan Paskins: people want clarification, it does not override the referendum. We have lots of policy and sabs only have so much time, they need support. This is not a bastardised motion. It removes ambiguity. Vote for this and we can continue to debate the issues in the future.

Ed Griffiths: my motion shelved the referendum, this means nothing. It does not clarify, lets collect signatures for another referendum.

Motion Falls 11 for, lots against.

Emrys Jones takes over minuting

Motion 7

Helena Puig-Larrauri: if OUSU backs this it may get through to students. It is fair to ask that students do not disrupt. It is an alcohol free zone in any case. More space for celebration. Will probably be passed in any case, symbolic support important.

SFQs

James Coatsworth: confetti is still allowed, is there any limit on the amount?

HPL: apparently not

?: six mile radius including colleges?

Sian Hickson; in relation to difference in fines

?: sprating alcohol different to consumption?

Richard (ChCh): clarification of fines

HPL: £0 to £70

?: why are water pistols banned?

Rosie Buckland: All spraying of liquid is.

Anna Whitfield: why silly string?

HPL: it sticks to the pavement

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Jeremy Saddler: noise regulations?

Mark Hawkins (Queens): How will proctors know students?

Dan: will fines really only be in isolated areas?

Rosie Buckland: there are only 12 proctors officers, they will not be on the march.

Debate

Greg Stafford: not something OUSU can support in any way, molly-coddling. Don't go to schools if you don't want to be involved. Personally, not bothered, an exciting time, focussed on Merton Street, students want to have fun.

Ashley (Queens): large proportion of students want celebrations. Cherwell article. Six-mile ban draconian. Do not have to put weight behind it

[Helena comments on by-law, Ashley accepts points]

Police could fine as well as proctors

Louise McMullan: issue publicised in the newspapers. A lot of things aren't new, things to take back to the negotiation table. But it is a good clarification of rights.

Ed May (Mansfield): must oppose, look at student opinion, cannot ignore Cherwell. Discriminatory and does not solve noise problems. Mess problems remain, confetti. We don't have to say yes, OUSU can come up with something better.

Rodrigo Davis: The Cherwell seems clear but they are so inept that they could not even organise a 'fit union' poll and had to leave it to Nobbler and his mates on Oxford Gossip.

Greg Stafford: point of order, how do we take the resolves separately?

Marcus Walker: student union supporting the university

Dom Curren: agrees with Marcus, cannot support this, makes it harder for OUSU to relate to students

Rosie Buckland: nobody is up in arms about anything else in the Proctor's memorandum, I want to be able to publicise this.

?: Point of information, isn't it different to publicise than to support?

Amendment, proposed Helena Puig-Larrauri, seconded Dan Paskins: strike 'resolves 1'

HPL: work with us, not against us

Neil Cowley (Brasenose): not rejecting code, just not accepting it.

Dan Simpson (Balliol): The debate is not about what is in the university statutes, we cannot control that. The debate is about how we best represent our members' interests. We ought to inform them what their rights are but we do not need to endorse it. Vote for the amendment and then for the motion.

Rob Vance: Move to Vote

Opposed Dom Curren

MTV clearly passes

Amendment passed

MTV on whole motion passed

HPL: we will publicise it but we are not supporting it, we should try and get something different next year.

Dominic Curren: I am not very opposed to this, we should distance ourselves from this policy.

Motion passes.

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Motion passes.

#### Motion 8

Nancy Mendoza (Balliol): there are a number of minority languages that are indigenous to Britain. BSL has 250 000 users but does not have proper status in law which leads to services and education problems.

Daniel Cooper (Balliol): would lessons be free.

NM: would have to investigate this, not very expensive.

?: request for figures on other minority languages?

NM: it is the fourth most common language. Far more common than Cornish, for example.

Tom Packer (St Cross): How much will government policy cost?

NM: Not sure

Amendment: proposed Tom Packer, seconded Greg Stafford: strike 'resolves 1', remove 'NUS' from 'resolves 3', replace 'participate in the NUS campaign for recognition of BSL by mandating' in 'resolves 4' with 'mandate'.

TP: I oppose involvement with the NUS

NM: has nothing to do with the motion

Rodrigo Davis: MTV

Aidan: Opposes

MTV passes

Dan Simpson (Balliol): the NUS' campaign is a good one and we should support it

Motion Passes

#### Any Other Business

Nominations opened yesterday for the VP (Women) by-election in 3<sup>rd</sup> week.

Mansfield bar open

Hilda's bar open, arts week

Wadstock

Balliol LGB bop

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