

OU SU

council minutes

3rd Week Hilary 2003

Council Secretary: John Blake, St. Hugh's
Amendments Clerk: Lindsay Cole, St. John's

Chair thanks Copson for gavel.

Chair's Ruling: issue of use by JCR members of their college's MCR votes in Council is cleared up by recent ruling. However, representations have been received about illegitimate use of MCR vote. Julia Buckley signed in, despite being told not to by MCR President, Christ Church, emails prove that this is so. This is a major breach of trust. Only sanction to expel, even if she is not present, it will be a symbolic gesture. 2/3 required.

Vote: 51 in favour, 0 against, 4 abstaining. **Julia Buckley expelled.**

a. Minutes from the previous meeting

Minutes provided. Any objections?

Question to Exec: p6. What explicit examples do you have to justify the comments made about JCR Presidents? Laura McInerney, SPC.

Sonia Sodha, St. Hilda's: where is my statement? I will send it to Helen McCabe. (Melanie Marshall accepts responsibility.)

Ros Dampier, St. Hilda's: Phil Thompson is NOT Phil Thomas. (Will Straw will just change.)

Matter arising:

Conor O'Neill, Wadham (Chair): Put this emergency motion through – I cocked up on friendly amendments. Apologies to Council, friendly amendments must have opportunity for objections. What I propose is examine those four amendments not objected to, to be debated and voted upon. Is Council in agreement?

Jamie Johnston, Somerville: Do we need the debated, do they just need to be objected?

Penny Berrill, St. Hilda's: First friendly amendment was thrown open to floor for comment.

Chair: I said it just passes, and was wrong. Are there any other objections to debating and voting in normal way?

Am 1: No objections.

Am 2: Tom Hart, Univ: It's a good starting point, Seems churlish not to recognise this

Georgia Toynbee, Balliol: Do agree, this is recognised in motion, but we need to acknowledge the bad points.

Will Straw, New: Line does acknowledge problems of grant. Agree with Tom. Student Union's campaigning hard after abolition despite Dearing. Student Unions should be proud of change in student support.

RD, Hilda's: Naive to say this is a result of SU campaigning. Only 1000 pounds for parents earning less than 10,000 pounds. Should not be positive response.

Andrew Copson, Balliol: Should stay out – is factually incorrect "the grant" has not been introduced and we weren't campaigning for it. A pitiful new introduction.

TH, Univ: Opposing money to needy students? Not sufficient but should not be opposed.

PB, Hilda's: To acknowledge that they have brought in a grant is not enough to be welcomed.

Wouldn't cover rents in some colleges.

Michael Girling, Teddy Hall: We shouldn't be proud of the little bit if you don't agree with all of it.

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Michael Girling, Teddy Hall: We shouldn’t be proud of the little bit if you don’t agree with all of it.

Rodrigo Davies, Wadham: MTV – fairly clear, lets vote

SoSd, Hilda’s: One more point

MTV withdrawn

SoSd, Hilda’s: Not creating more money. There are already complicated systems in place that this simplifies. They support low incomes anyway, so it's not new.

JJ, Som: My concern is that govt are considering expanding fairly minimal grant for people. If we now change our minds and welcome it, they might think the pressure is off when they think it is on.

MTV – no opposition

44 in favour, 28 against, 5 abstaining.

Amendment passes.

Point of Order: GT, Balliol: can we focus projector?

Am3: Any objections?

TH, Univ: What was resolves 7? Can you read it?

Chair reads resolve and amendment. Any objections?

Passes

Am 4: Chair corrects grammar of amendment. Reads resolve and amendment.

TH, Univ opposes.

SoSd, Hilda’s: Strongly support for access reasons. Govt tried to differentiate between up front and post graduation fees ignores economic facts that lower income groups and risk averse and the govt ignores this. If we are in favour of wider access, we have to be against any form of student debt.

TH, Univ: Naive to oppose fees for access reasons. 80s witnessed free education as a vehicle for the perpetuation of the middle class. No involvement from lower socio-economic classes. If they back from their position they could put through any repayment system. Grad tax does not individualise debt and is thus the most favourable one to help the risk averse and prevent govt passing anything.

WS, New: Draw attention to amendment – we all understand Sonia’s point, the question with this amendment is grad tax. A grad tax means that grads pay an extra level of tax for a set period of time into a general HE pot. That is progressive – tax on earning. On the other hand, you are playing tax. No footballer tax. There is a very serious point that the grad tax is the least worse option, and I think we should not have policy on this. Hoo-ha over letters was bad – they were valid, there must be room for manoeuvre. The govt are hell bent on grad repayment and we should oppose that with free education, but if progressive taxation is not an option we have to say that some options are better. Grad tax is that, and we should have leeway to discuss it. No need for policy.

GT, Balliol: I want to support amendment. We shouldn’t be ruling out option but we should have a focused campaigning against top-up fees. It backs up OUSU policy for HE funding out of progressive tax and cut in non-welfare spending.

RD, Hilda’s: AcAff VP is not naive. If there was a problem in the 80s there was a problem regardless of debt or not. We should send strong message that education should be free.

SoSd, Hilda’s: If we, as a SU, can’t talk about access and talk about HE funding then no one can. We have a responsibility to future students. Grad tax might be less of a problem it is still a problem, still more cost and problems for access. We need to say we have a preferred option.

Richard Knight, Merton: If we are not open to other possibilities then we look like a closed shop.

Free education is the aim, but there grad tax is least.

Dominic Curran, St. Hugh’s: We will be repeating phrases if we pass this amendment.

Friendly amendment to take out reference to Graduate Repayment Scheme

Chair: Penny, do you accept?

PB, Hilda’s: Yes

AC, Balliol: I don’t understand.

Chair explains.

PB, Hilda’s: Makes total sense now.

Chair: Objections? No

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Chair: Objections? No

Passes

MTV:

Sean Sullivan, SEH: heard all views

PB, Hilda's: I proposed it and would like to say things.

MTV passes

Summation speeches:

AC, Balliol: Amendment is very good idea, Sonia laid out reasons of access. Slightly confused because people talking of compromising, and whacking out their compromise in full glory. You don't go to negotiations with a compromise – you don't say least worst. There is no need – it is stupid. If we had victories, this is not how we got them

WS, New: AC is right which is why we should oppose it. This is not saying the least worst, but it is having no policy on it. There are other choices. No policy means we are not bound. Grad tax is better than others. Lets not have it as policy.

44 in favour, 36 against, 9 abstaining Amendment passes.

Chair bans being happy in council and warns future chairs, "don't fuck it up".

Any further matters arising?

RD, Hilda's: Misquoted. "It is the only place where many students see the contact details for the student advice service"

c. Ratifications in Council

RO for this term's elections: Lyndsay Lomax (Keble). **Ratified.**

Health & Welfare Co-Chairs: Laura Mainz (Pembroke)
Heather Goldstein (LMH) **Ratified.**

International Fees

The OUSU International Students' Committee believes that the university and Oxford colleges should be more open in the fees that they charge for international students. Any changes in charges should be informed in advance. Any increase in the level of university and college international student fees should be justified by an explanation of how the increase is commensurate with academic provision. It also believes that all colleges should allow international students to pay their fees in instalments. Students allowed to pay fees in instalments should not be charged more than those who pay at the beginning of the academic year. **RATIFIED**

College International Officers/Representatives

The OUSU International Students' Committee encourages all college JCRs and MCRs to have international officers or representatives. These people are strongly encouraged to come to the Committee's meetings at least twice a term.

RATIFIED.

d. Elections in council -

Pubs Board

Rodrigo Davies, Wadham,

Hust: Standing because I'm VP (Finance)-elect – pubs board will be appointing editors of pubs I will have to oversee. I've edited Oxford Directory and the OxStu. Last summer I was Assistant Business

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RD, Hilda's: Political affiliations?

RD, Wadham: None

RD 83; RON 5

Grad Exec Officer:

Nicholas Cole, Univ

No hustings.

[Results]

NC 56; RON 29

e. Reports from Sabbatical Officers.

SeSu, SEH: In fifth week bringing amended budget to Council. If Committees (coughs due to cookie) want to say something about resource application please ask me to attend committees or sound email about finance.

RD, Hilda's: Any progress made with ReFresher's Fair

SeSu, SEH: Not financially viable or practical in this year. An unfulfilled manifesto commitment. Very sorry.

PB, Hilda's: Term planner in Trinity?

SeSu, SEH: Yes – said to both Council and Exec. Looking for good quotes for Trinity term.

Duncan Weldon, Somerville: OUSU Business Manager said that you would come and attack me with a pointed stick if I didn't pay Somerville's various bills to OUSU. Will you?

SeSu, SEH: Debt collection is important. I will be sharpening stick.

WS, New: Pleased this week with Environment Meeting with reps from council, colleges, university and OUSU and talked about recycling scheme and there is now a date when there will be a plan on the table of Domestic Bursars Committee, so recycling in colleges for Easter. Well done to Environment Com. Successful demonstration to Stephen Twigg, lets keep up the pressure. Finally Co-Chairs – F&F, OUSU Reps and Entz, One World. Please pick up form – Mon, 10.30 interviews.

DW, Som: Do we have no platform policy against Stephen Twigg? Will there be more demonstrations? Will everyone go to Andrew Smith's surgery?

WS: No no platform policy on Twigg. Good ideas on other points.

MC, SEH: Where is the banner?

WS, New: Needs to be designed. Talk in Exec. Once that's done there is a company we can do it. Hopefully before end of term.

PB, Hilda's: OUSU's policy on meetings in inaccessible places, such as Environment Committee, meet in OUSU's offices. What steps are you taking to rectify this?

WS, New: Things will be being moved as of next week.

RD, Hilda's: Do you think this is the responsibility of disabilities campaign or is it the responsibility of Sabs?

WS, New: Co-Chairs made the choice. We discussed it. There was a message at bottom of email asking if we want to change the venue. Not good enough, have to move.

RD, Hilda's: Is there any kind of internal review about the "cock-up" in elections?

WS, New: There is no admission of guilt, does not hold office, move forward.

Chris Hanratty, St. Anne's: Where is RO's report.

Sabs?

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WS, New: Before end of term

AC, Balliol: Equal opportunities, disabilities action would like co-chairs. Mostly spent my time of Diversity Week. Look on Website for events. I might resign at the end, and wouldn't that be fun.

MC, SEH: Are we to hassle Paul Boatang?

AC, Balliol: Please don't. I won't be.

DC, Hugh's: Are there going to be posters for Diversity Week. ICE has more advertising in advance.

Ryan McGhee, Pembroke: Regarding civil rights protest – will it be detrimental? It's quite laughable and detracts from the whole queer rights thing.

AC, Balliol: Is it suitable? It's QR argument so I will help them with it.

RD, Wadham: When is Paul Boatang coming?

AC, Balliol: I shall tell you – St. John's, 7pm Wed 5th Week.

DC, Hugh's: Isn't there double standards if other speakers come and we ruin it but not the ones we invite?

AC, Balliol: This is clearly going to be an issue. People can protest, it is an effective tool. Was the Labour Club's event disrupted? Well, no, nowhere near the room and the Labour Club organisers knew that it was to happen. If only we worked that hard for everyone

Jocelyn Pully, Jesus: couldn't find diversity week website?

AC, Balliol: Will put a link of homepage, it does exist.

Paul Afshar, SJC: Will you marry me?

AC, Balliol: It's not a marriage.'

Chair: Its not a matter for Council, beautiful though it is.

RM, Pem: How many colleges have given to Oxford Pride

AC, Balliol: Wadham, Balliol, Hilda's, Mansfield – total £650, applying to university for another £1000.

Ruth Hunt and I go and pressing the point that students are funding the event.

Melanie Marshall, Christ Church: Sorry for not writing, not feeling perky, much to Chair's delight.

Chair: Not an issue?

MM, ChCh: Diversity Week – organising cabaret. You must be a woman and you must have a talent you can decently display in front of an audience. Please get in touch, we have good line up. Men and women are free to watch. Please don't ask about the bus, takes up more time than it deserves. Finals Forums take more work than you can imagine to organise, please tell me names of pro-women, female tutors. Ancient History currently occurring. NUS Women's Camp – conference deadline Mon 5pm. ProChoice event in London in March. Also need Co-Chairs?

Hanish Rajani, Merton: Why is Regent's Park Women's Officer not allowed to attend WomCam.

MM, ChCh: Women's officers are not entitled to attend, women are. Regent's Park's officer can ask for any assistance, but not attend WomCam.

Andy Garlick, ChCh: Nothing to add.

CH, Anne's: What progress has been made on VP Grads nominations?

AG, ChCh: Nominations open.

SoSd, Hilda's: Nothing to add.

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JJ, Som: President in his report said, in regard to Guardian things, said you asked best question. What was it?

SoSd, Hilda's: What would he actually say to someone from a low social economic group to encourage them to take on debt? Clarke had a crap answer. Governments are made up of politicians who want to spend money on nurseries, but that is weak govt.

Eleanor Thompson, Wadham: Congrats on article. Progress on library hours?

SoSd, Hilda's: Been referred to Library Opening Hours Committee?

Chair: Do you sit on that?

SoSd, Hilda's: No, but I'd like to.

RD, Wadham: Do you know when it will meet?

SoSd, Hilda's: No.

f. Reports from those Executive Officers who wish to make them.

GT, Balliol: Just to say, Environment Com is doing stuff, can we have environment reps coming along to Committee?

TH, Univ: Is there best practice for colleges?

GT, Balliol: I'll look into it.

Helen McCabe, Hilda's: College Inequality information – please return it?

Nick Wilson, Hugh's: Can you send me a copy of the form.

AC, Balliol: Got one back from Treasurer.

Jonty Ollife-Cooper, Magdalen: What are you campaigning for?

HM, Hilda's: College Inequality

Daniel Rees, Merton: Co-Chair for One World.

TH, Univ: What?

DR, Merton: One World

PDW., Som: Is it up on Website?

DR, Merton: Yes, link to my email address.

Linsey Cole, SJC: need disabilities co-chair.

John Blake, Hugh's: Need AcAff Co-Chairs. Please stand for all these committees.

Matthew Richardson, St. Peter's College: If you missed NUS meeting, missed a treat, Training session, Thurs 6th Week.

RD, Hilda's: Exec/Delegate Headcount?

Chair: All on list.

HR. Merton: Clubs and Societies?

Stuart Colville, Queen's: All happening, details will be going out to everyone. Got some ideas.

PB, Hilda's: I only got information on CRO on Weds.

Lyndsay Lomax, Keble: Only sent out on Mon. Please return as soon as possible.

MR, SPC: Should have all got conference forms. Please also send an email to me if your not sending you NUS rep please let me know.\

g. Emergency Motions.

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g. Emergency Motions.

I. Chancellor Statement

WS, New: Think we have a unique opportunity on Chancellor election. Close of nominations in two weeks, no enlightening candidates. Get a statement, collate it in Exec, and ask candidates to sign it. Lots of people vote, and get a voice. Lets have it done by Mon 5th Week. Endorse a candidate.

SFQs:

PDW, Som: Are you aware there is already an F&F candidate

WS, New: F&F is not the only camp

MCR Pres, Oriel: I am Oriel's candidate

WS, New: Fair enough.

RD, Hilda's: What are the other areas for the statement.

WS, New: Its up to the committees, whatever they want. If you want something in it, say so.

Opposition:

DC, Hugh's: It's not really in opposition to the motion. It's an excellent idea and we should keep statement short and to the point. Not a rag bag.

WS, New: Absolutely right, and that what we'd like. Not a Labour manifesto

RD, Hilda's: Endorse John Corouble.

Motion passes.

Chair calls for break.

h. Passage of Motions Nem Com

No motions passed Nem Com.

i. Motions of no confidence or censure

There were no motions of no confidence or censure. Which makes a nice change, I suppose.

m. Other motions

I. Library Occupations

DR, Merton: I hope people will see it as a sensible motion. Some people might say occupation doesn't cause disruption, but it does. Straw poll in Oxford – people would rather than have access to their books, than be disrupted by a minority. JCR Pres will have to be the ones who have to deal with complaints. Is this the most effective way? It's not representative. Far better to pass motions in Council – sensible and not reactionary.

PB, Hilda's: Am speaking as JCR President, have any previous occupations been instigated by OUSU?

DR, Merton: Purpose of motion is to make policy explicit; policy can be interpreted either way. This makes it clear.

PofO: CH, Anne's: Can DR answer the question?

SeSu, SEH: That is not an appropriate PofO

Chair: Not a point of order I can rule on. Not impartial.

Pete Morton, Somerville: Are the Exam Schools educations facilities?

DR, Merton: Yes

makes it clear.

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Pete Morton, Somerville: Are the Exam Schools educational facilities?

DR, Merton: Yes

GT, Balliol: Could you define educational facilities?

DR, Merton: Any facilities used to further education.

PM, Som: Was OUSU started as a direct result of occupation of the Exam Schools?

DR, Merton: Wasn't born in 1970s.

CH, Anne's: Is my college an educational facility?

DR, Merton: Yes

Laura Santana, Hilda's: Divinity Schools?

DR, Merton: Yes

Marilyn Thomson, Mansfield: What occupations does this allow?

DR, Merton: Those not used as educational facilities?

Move to Debate passes.

Speech in opposition:

CH, Anne's: This motion is stupid, it would need so many amendments to make it work. It is very reactionary, brought in response to occupation of RadCam, which wasn't non-violent and did damage education of students – but the violence was the Porters and the educational facilities damaged were for students being thrown from RadCam. Definition of educational facilities is so elastic as to be worthless. Since my college is an educational facility, I can't demonstrate in my college by occupation and have OUSU support. JCR Presidents must bear that in mind – your constituents will want to know what you are doing in the campaign for free education. This motion does not work, but allow OUSU as a body to occupy Tesco. This will cut out direct action.

GT, Balliol: I support the idea of non-disruption, but I'm not sure what educational facility means. Your definition leaves us not open to anything? Your straw poll depends upon the question, and we should have the option open to us.

RD, Hilda's: Proposes Amendment:

Replace Council believes 1 with:

“Occupation of libraries and other educational facilities can disrupt the education, and further increase the disillusionment of OUSU members if undertaken during the opening hours of such facilities.”

Remove Council believes 2.

Replace Council resolves 1 with:

“Oppose the occupation of libraries and other educational facilities used by OUSU members if these take place during such facilities' opening hours (with the proviso that a small amount of time would be required before closing for those involved to enter such a building”).

Replace Council resolves 2 with:

“Support direct action in the campaign for free education that does not disrupt the education of students not participating in the direct action.”

Proposed: Ros Dampier, St. Hilda's

Seconded: Georgia Toynbee, Balliol

RD, Hilda's: Apologies for length, but WomCam have mandated me. This does not disrupt people very much, financial hardship is far more disrupting. I don't know how much of an expert Mr Rees is, but generally occupations don't disrupt before they begin.

SFQ on Amendment:

SeSu, SEH: When it says oppose the occupation of libraries during open hours, does that mean if someone sneaks in before it shut, then it must cease before it opens?

RD, Hilda's: Yes, although I'm not clear.

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RD, Hilda's: Yes, although I'm not clear.

Charlie Pickles, Queens: If a college does decide to have an occupation in its own library what does this mean?

RD, Hilda's: I don't know.

LS, Hilda's: What are the opening hours for a college library? Aren't some open all day?

RD, Hilda's: Yes

Tom Lubbock, BNC: Our college never shuts.

MTD passes

SoSd, Hilda's: Amendment is not useful regardless of if you're in favour or not. Opening hours is not a helpful distinction, and does not discuss the long-term effects of having a through-night occupation. Might have consequences of pissing off university and costing us other advantages, Does not recognise that it is detrimental both inside and outside opening hours.

CH, Anne's: Occupation might have long term damaging consequences, it also raises issues with staff.

HR, Merton: We will accept bits of this.

Chair: You can't.

MTV: RD, Hilda's: Heard everything.

AC, Balliol: Don't think we've discussed the amendment.

MTV passes

RD, Hilda's: Think its sensible. Its wrong to say outside hours is worse than hardship

AC, Balliol: Its a confused and foolish amendment to a confused and foolish motion.

Amendment fails.

Chair imposes 2 minute speeches. Opposed. Withdrawn.

HR, Merton: This is not in direct reactions to attempted occupations of last week, but because policy is vague. We do not condemn or condone. Occupations are not always the best way to go – Clarendon gathering was more effective. If we have serious points to make we have democratic processes to go through, letter writing etc. Occupying educational facilities is hijacking other people's resources, and stick to proven effects channels. It clarifies policy, occupations do work but it is minority, why should support them.

AC, Balliol: I'm proposing amendment:

Strike Notes 3

Replace in Believes 1 and 2 and in Resolves 1 and 2 "libraries" with "university buildings".

**Proposed: Andrew Copson, Balliol
Hilda's**

Seconded: Sonia Sodha, St.

AC, Balliol: I think this motion is too vague – I want it all replaced. It is irrelevant to the issue. Does OUSU Council support the occupation of educational facilities?

SeSu, SEH: Does it substantively change the content of the motion?

Chair: I don't believe it is large enough to qualify as a new motion. I accept it as a valid amendment.

Were you happy to accept? There are objections so you can't. Now is discussion on amendment.

Opposition to Amendment: SeSu, SEH: I fear this is to change the motion into a form that will be rejected by Council. Initial motion is about which buildings should be subject to sit ins, but not if we believe in occupations generally. If AC wanted a straw poll about his amendment, he should have brought a motion I know from meetings that he doesn't believe in this

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PofO: AC, Balliol: I don't think he should be allowed to say that.

Chair: Sean isn't being defamatory, he is talking about your motives. He is debating.

PofO: RD, Wadham: Will we able to ask SFQ?

Chair: No, it's in the constitution.

PofO: JB, Hugh's: Can we have titles?

Chair: No.

Back to speech: SeSu, SEH: I have sat in Sab and Exec meetings where AC has said we can occupy whatever, whenever. So proposing this amendment is an attempt to wreck the motion.

AC, Balliol: Can I withdraw it?

Chair: No.

MTV – WS, New: powerful speech and they want it withdrawn.

RD, Hilda's: can we have powerful speech against?

43, 30, 7 – MTV fails.

RD, Hilda's: I don't think this amendment substantially changes the motion. It seems clear from SFQ that you can't occupy anything. Let us remove the confusion.

PB, Hilda's: The distinction is philosophical – the post room has an academic purpose. University buildings is an important clarification.

AG, ChCh: When the term 'university building' was used does it mean colleges?

AC, Balliol: I'd never thought colleges might be occupied. It's a matter of interpretation.

AC, Balliol: Sonia and I want to clarify the motion, and I thought the debate that was being had was not clear. It might have been a good idea to have clarified the motion in the other direction to simply libraries.

PofInfo: RD, Wadham: Does not include colleges, I'm fairly certain.

AC, Balliol: I'd like to withdraw.

Chair: Can you? I'm checking. Calls for quiet numerous times. Reads relevant bit of Constitution: no amendment can be withdrawn without permission of chair and council. Any objections? Yes, so it can't be withdrawn.

MTV from WS, New

HR, Merton: Can we take it up?

Chair: No, we have to MTV.

MTV – WS, New: either it's about all or some, but lets get on with it.

HR, Merton: Designed to make the scope of motion clear, talk some more.

Vote on amendment:

HR, Merton: We should limit this to university buildings, so as not to stop colleges, but we can do demos and marches but not occupations.

WS, New: I think we shouldn't vote for it – you either would or wouldn't be able to occupy anything. Some university buildings are good for occupations, some are not.

43, 42, 5 – Amendment passes

RM, Pem: Amendment

Change Resolves I to:

“oppose the occupation of libraries and other educational facilities used by

WS, New: I think we shouldn't vote for it – you either would or wouldn't be able to occupy anything. Some university buildings are good for occupations, some are not.

43, 42, 5 – Amendment passes

RM, Pem: Amendment

Change Resolves 1 to:

“oppose the occupation of libraries and other educational facilities used by cross-campus OUSU members unless prior permission from OUSU and its committees or members, has been sought.”

Proposed: Ryan McGhee, Pembroke Knight, Merton

Seconded: Richard

DR, Merton: Is this not superfluous?

Chair: No.

Proposes Amendment: RM, Pem: Slightly weary about this, so that this has the cross-campus element so that it is not colleges, and obtaining permission from OUSU Campaigns. Consulting the SU and its members. No one should have the right to wreck a campaign.

LS, Hilda's: If the occupation had been authorised, how can you ask yourself permission? No one needs permission, but we would be giving ourselves permission,

RM, Pem: Students can LOOK as though they are working with OUSU's support, but may not be.

Nicky Ellis, Queens: I think this is a muddle, and it is becoming worse. This is akin to us passing a motion saying that people should not commit crime. Either we can decide OUSU can occupy something or people can do it off their own back, and we can't stop them and we still would not be able to do so. I think it is a sensible sentiment but does not alter policy.

PB, Hilda's: Problems with this – individuals will do what they want to do, and they are entitled to our support.

PofInfo: Chair: No support provider is bound by policy

PB, Hilda's: No previous occupation has been started by OUSU. Others have started it and we have either supported it or not, and this will not help.

MTV – RD, Wadham: Desperately tedious, I'd like to poke myself in the eye with a pen. Either you agree with it or not.

RD, Hilda's: I had a fag and did not say stuff.

MTV passes.

RM, Pem: We shouldn't vote for this.

Chair: Two summation speeches in one.

Amendment fails.

MTV – RM, Pem: Have done this long enough

WS, New: Rubbish and we should amend it to work it.

MTV withdrawn.

PofO: GT, Balliol: Can we have the motion as it currently stands?

Chair: Yes. [Reads motion]

PofO: RM, Pem: Amendments don't take precedence.

Chair: Correct.

SoSd, Hilda's: Proposes Amendment:

Replace 'university buildings' with 'university libraries (except Divinity School)'

Proposed: Sonia Sodha, St. Hilda's Seconded: Sean Sullivan, St. Edmund Hall

SoSd, Hilda's: Now wish to propose not occupying libraries specifically because it will damage education achievement, because it can deprive students of books and upset relations with staff., perhaps making longer library opening hours unfeasible for the universities. Do you believe students in Oxford as a whole believe occupations can be done anywhere?

Chair's ruling: 2 minute speeches

Alex Beecroft, Univ: What are the Div Schools and why are they excluded?

SoSd, Hilda's: Part of Bod where there are no books.

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Chair's ruling: 2 minute speeches

Alex Beecroft, Univ: What are the Div Schools and why are they excluded?

SoSd, Hilda's: Part of Bod where there are no books.

SeSu, SEH: This amendment does what needs to be done – when OUSU carries out sit-in should it be in any building? That is the debate we should have. Then if we believe in direct action we can ask where it should be directed. It is no great hassle to the university if we occupy RadCam, but it is students who will be upset and dislike F&F. This university has a massive administration and many buildings we can target to make the point but without hassling students. It makes the motion the debate we should be having.

MTV – WS, New: Think Sean summed it up.

DC, Hugh's: Much in favour of amendment, but not enough against.

50, 15, 1 – MTV passes

Vote on amendment

SoSd, Hilda's: Amendment clarifies issue about the debate we should be having.

DC, Hugh's: I agreed with everything Sonia said, but I think there is a very large class of university buildings such as lecture halls which might also be of detriment.

51, 15, 5 - Passes

MTV on main motion: WS, New – this is now the motion about library occupations, lets vote.

LS, Hilda's – We haven't spoken about this.

55, 18, 4 – MTV passes

Summation:

Procedule Motion: PDW, Som: Recorded vote

WS, New: Not necessary.

Fails

Summation speech: SeSu, SEH: We should target direct action against university and govt, but not students. To occupy libraries harms students.

RD, Hilda's: Feel strongly that having a situation in which it is fare more disruptive to have no money than no books. High profile occupations make a strong campaign for free education.

41, 36, 9 – Motion passes.

2. Violation of Human Rights

RD, Hilda's: Procedural motion: Move that motion not be put, does not affect students and students.

WS, New: I'm putting it because the proposer wishes to remain anonymous.

Proposition speech: WS, New: The info is in the motion

SFQ:

RM, Pem: Can the person named select Rhodes Scholars.

WS, New: Yes he can, the decisions he makes are what happens.

RM, Pem: It is the case that this affects students as students

WS, New: Its like an admissions committee.

Louise Radnovsky, Univ: What was the basis on which the man under question denied debate? Was it a standard procedure?

WS, New: No, he didn't allow any debate.

PB, Hilda's: What are we actually going to do?

WS, New: This is within the jurisdiction of the university.

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PB, Hilda's: What are WE going to do?

WS, New: Write.

PB, Hilda's: Can I propose an amendment to mandate writing to University figures,

WS, New: I will do it anyway.

Motion passes.

n. Any Other Business

PB, Hilda's explains "Take the Shirt off the Back"

JJ, Som: Thank the author of last motion for commendable clarity

RM, Pem: Inequalities committee will be meeting.

Chair: I cannot make most of 7th Week Council. Need By-election. Please do it.

LR, Univ: Can people tell me who their college LGB reps are.

Here endeth the unholy minutes of OUSU Council, 3rd Week HT

"If't were done, when't were done, then 't were well it were done quickly" – Macbeth

"I'll do these minutes as fast as I bloody well can" – John Blake

14