

Council Minutes

5th week Hilary Term 2013

5th Week Council held on Wednesday 13th February 2013 at 5.30pm in Corpus Christi College (MBI Al Jaber Building). Sign in from 5.15pm.

If you have any questions about OUSU Council, please contact David Railton, the Chair, at chair@ousu.org

- a. Minutes of the Previous Meeting
- b. Matters Arising from the Minutes
- c. Ratifications in Council
- d. Elections in Council
 - LGBTQ Officer
 - 2 Positions for Rules Committee
 - 1 Positions for JS(EC)SM
 - 1 Positions for Scrutiny Committee
 - 4 positions for Complaints Committee
 - 3 positions for Internal Affairs
- 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
- n. Other Motions
 1. NUS Conference Debate - Proportion of female delegates
 2. NUS Conference Proposal - Anti-early release campaign
 3. NUS Conference Proposal - Sex and relationship education
 4. NUS Conference Proposal - Tax avoidance
 5. NUS Conference Proposal - Child poverty
 6. NUS Conference Proposal - Boycott, divestment and sanctions
 7. Same sex marriage
- m. Any Other Business

a. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Chair identifies non OUSU people in the room and asks if Council is happy for them to stay, Council advises it is and there are no objections. The chair advises that we will have to have another motion if later they wish to speak, in order them to be given permission to speak.

No matters arising.

d. Elections in Council

The following position was elected in OUSU Council of 5th week.

LGBTQ Officer

The DRO introduced themselves in the absence of the RO. Brief husts from the individuals standing were requested.

Christopher Pike (St Edmund Hall)

Already LGBTQ rep for my college and am standing again, hasn't been anyone in OUSU for a while needs to be someone to raise issues across the whole University, representing all the LGBTQ people in the University and represent them academically.

Katherine Stagg (Christ Church)

Have experienced events and homophobic ents posters, would look at the OUT in Sport campaign and would like to push on with it. Didn't really feel that anyone knows to come to OUSU for advise so will increase communication and support to college LGBTQ reps.

Katie Colliver (Univ)

Political and welfare based role how would you deal with both.

Katherine Stagg (Christ Church)

Experience of welfare in college, and up to date politically and am not afraid to say what I mean

Christopher Pike (St Edmund Hall)

Have political and welfare as my role and first college to send letter to MP. Passionate about political issues.

Katherine Stagg (Univ) was elected.

e. Reports from the Sabbatical Officers

President - David Townsend

Tomorrow morning at 8.00am we are going to celebrate our partnership with the University and will send out little pink flyers stating why students love their student union and why they should do. All the reasons why they and you should are in our written report, shadowing schemes, money raised through RAG. Would love you to all come along, have sent email to Presidents. Would love you to help us distribute them which is a fun way of demonstrating why they should support us. Meet outside G & Ds on Little Clarendon street.

VP Graduates - Chris Gray

We have endless conversations with University about funding so it's really important if you all come along as they are bored of our faces, we need your support

Harry Burt (Trinity)

Did you meet with the VC?

President - David Townsend

I asked when he would respond to letter, he advised would be in the next week an a half. The letter stated the student union should be funded to the same levels as other Unions. Will pass on any information about this that I get back from him.

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

None

i. Passage of Motions Nem Con

[Motion 1 is a DEBATE on policy for the NUS Conference]

1. PROPORTION OF FEMALE DELEGATES

Opposition

[Motions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are PROPOSALS on policy for the NUS Conference]

2. ANTI-EARLY RELEASE CAMPAIGN

OUSU COUNCIL NOTES

1. That OUSU is affiliated to the National Union of Students.
2. That the policy of the National Union of Students is set in its annual Conference, which will occur in April 2013.
3. That 5 delegates to the NUS Conference were elected by and from the students of Oxford during the elections in Michaelmas Term 2012 (in addition to the current President and the President-elect who are automatically delegates under Standing Orders Sch 1 M 2.1)
4. That the draft agenda for the NUS Conference is available at www.nusconnect.org.uk/pageassets/conference/about/NC2013_CD5a_Zoneproposals.pdf
5. That, once a final agenda is compiled in response to amendments and new motions from the NUS' s constituent student unions, OUSU' s 7 NUS delegates will be called on to vote at the NUS Conference on the various motions proposed therein.

OUSU COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To submit the following amendment for inclusion in the agenda for the NUS Conference 2013:

Motion 603 (Holding Landlords and Agents to Account: Housing Standards in Private Accommodation), add to Conference resolves:

“To support students’ unions lobbying against letting agencies that force students to sign contracts as early as November for the following academic year.”

Proposed: David J Townsend (St John’s College)

Seconded: Eleanor Davidson (New College)

Passes Nem Con

3. SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

Opposition

4. TAX AVOIDANCE

Opposition

5. CHILD POVERTY

Opposition

6. BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT AND SANCTIONS

Opposition

[Motion 7 is has NOTHING TO DO with the NUS Conference]

7. SAME SEX MARRIAGE

Opposition

n. Other Motions

Procedural Motion to bring Motion 6 to the top to be debated first.

6. BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT AND SANCTIONS

OUSU COUNCIL NOTES

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OUSU COUNCIL BELIEVES:

1. That Common Rooms should have enough time to debate Motions that they deem controversial.

OUSU COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. At the next meeting of OUSU Council, vote on introducing the following motions to NUS Conference.

“Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions

Conference believes

1. *Since 1948 hundreds of UN resolutions have condemned the government of Israel's colonial and discriminatory policies as illegal.*
2. *On the 31st January 2013 the UN Human Right's Council said the government of Israel was in violation of article 49 of the fourth Geneva Convention, which forbids the transfer of civilian populations to occupied territory.*
3. *The Israeli government practices a policy of collective punishment and killing against the people of Gaza. This has included an illegal siege on Gaza in November 2012 which created a devastating humanitarian crisis for the 1.5 million people trapped there. Contrary to media reports this is not a proportionate response of self-defence.*
4. *Palestine is also responsible for violence and the killing of innocent civilians.*

Conference further believes

1. *All forms of international intervention and peace-making have until now failed to convince or force Israel to comply with humanitarian law, to respect fundamental human rights and to end its occupation and oppression of the people of Palestine.*
2. *We have a moral responsibility to fight injustice.*
3. *Palestinian civil society, including organisations in Gaza, has called for a campaign*

of boycotts, divestment and sanctions (BDS) against Israel until it complies with international law. Compliance is understood as follows: 1) Ending its occupation and colonization of all Arab lands and dismantling the Wall 2) Recognizing the fundamental rights of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel to full equality; and 3) Respecting, protecting and promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and properties as stipulated in UN resolution 194. More information about this movement is available here: <http://www.bdsmovement.net/call>

4. *These are non-violent punitive measures.*

5. *Supporters of the campaign include Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the UK Green Party and filmmaker Ken Loach, and motions in support of BDS initiatives have been passed at universities across the UK, the National Union of Students, the University of London Union (ULU) and by the Trades Union Congress.*

Conference resolves

1. *Condemn violence and successive breaches of international law by both Israel and Palestine*

2. *Join the global movement for Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel until it ends the occupation and complies with international law.*

3. *Conduct Research into Higher Education institutions' contacts, relations, investments and commercial relationships that may be implicated in violating Palestinian human rights as stated by the BDS movement."*

Proposed: *Emily Cousens (Wadham College)*

Seconded: *Sarah Pine (Wadham College)*

The Chair directs council to amendment. This does not decide OUSU's policy it is specifically for NUS.

Sarah Pine (Wadham)

This isn't a motion about Israel and Palestine it is for opening up debate. Important thing for NUS to have policy about. Accepted amendment as friendly common rooms need to discuss. It is about NUS having a conversation. The context is that the NUS Conference passed motions in this area before.

This amendment can be considered part of motion so now will be considered in 7th Week.

Brasenose

Don't know how many people turn up good to see so many people. They are wrong to say not taking a stance. Half the motion cut off saying propose NUS boycott one country or not. We are proposing NUS join a trade and academic boycott. If OUSU endorses this motion, will boycott Israel students and universities. Many Israeli academia pro peace, will shut off dialogue. Should debate today, not 7th week. It is divisive and controversial, part of the reason 20 JCR's are abstaining or not voting on, is because don't want to create poisonous atmosphere. 20 JCR's have already decided on how voting and have had formal ways or have consulted in other ways with them. We have a lot of people planning to abstain. Would like to have constructive debate and instead of it becoming fragmented. We want to trust the judgement of the delegates from colleges that are in attendance today.

James Newton

Proposer of amendment when I consulted JCR, most people didn't understand what was happening. Queens have decided will vote according to delegation. OUSU has a problem with dialogue with JCR's so it's important that they are given time to feed into this discussion.

Natasha Bassett (Oriol)

Have tacked on to emergency meeting so could get Common Room feedback.

Question:

Have to submit by 1st of March, will we still be able to submit to NUS conference or is it too late if we don't debate until 7th Week.

David J Townsend (St John's)

Will submit electronically so should be in time.

Jacob (Worcester)

Are there tensions in colleges.

We are aware of Wadham where there has been tension. Wadham will support this boycott and we are concerned as it marginalises students.

Jack Matthews (Univ)

Are we debating motion as a whole?

Eylon

Don't want to accept amendment as friendly.

Procedural motion. So we are debating whether to accept.

Chair takes a straw poll on how many colleges have already discussed this motion in a CR meeting.

18 common rooms still require a steer.

Now we are voting on whether we can accept amendment on green paper as friendly.

The amendment has been passed. So we are now debating on whether to have debate now.

Have had a move to vote, which would mean we would only debate in 7th week.

Jack Matthews (Univ)

If we vote now all the conference stuff has disappeared. OUSU is affiliated to NUS and OUSU believes we should discuss in our common rooms and then discuss in 2 weeks. Already on the agenda for then and will happen then.

Jonathan Metzger

Jack right about waiting to vote, but think useful to discuss so that precedents can go back to their common rooms and give them more information. Think it's good to debate now and in 2 weeks good for council.

2/3rds majority.

Council has not passed a move to vote. So we will debate now.

Each person will get 2 mins. We will do it in blocks of 4 we will continue until no more time.

Emily Cousens (Wadham)

Think important to discuss. A lot of people don't understand what is in motion, last year passed freedom for Palestine motion. They support two companies involved in occupation. NUS able to take action. In terms of the boycott, lot of misunderstanding it is only people that are involved in the occupation those who are involved in anti human rights.

Individual from Balliol

Through extraordinary general meeting. Didn't have enough time to call it and therefore support the move to speak

Max (New College)

Nothing wrong with debating this motion, but these weeks will be full of conflict. We don't have to support NUS policy just because already have. We need to use the right means to move forward to a

future with no war. Israel is trying to secure its future. Areas around Israel are not secure, not saying what Israel is doing is right. Israel is continue doing what doing as sees Jordan as a threat, we shouldn't push Israel into a corner, we have to be realistic and understand why Israel

Jacob Haddad

This is a wrong motion now it is just wrong, wrong because what it does to have our campus atmosphere. Have already received information that news organisations around the world that are following this, proposing a boycott of Israel a lot of other JCR's have been debates which have gone hostile want to depoliticize campus. This isn't the first time this has come up, have experienced before and a Jewish student got knifed in London. When table keeps atmosphere hostile and stops freedom of academic expression.

At NUS Conference can people introduce motions to NUS conference without this.

No can't just turn up and propose. NUS delegates can put on agenda but is put before council to decide if should.

Sarah Pine (Wadham)

Think you should pass and we debate in two weeks. If some common rooms haven't debated yet this is wrong. Lots that we can learn if discuss in two weeks.

Henry (Brasenose)

Follow through logic, this will hit the lower parties who are peace loving but will become receptive to right wings who feel can't trust Europeans. If don't want two state Middle East. In 2010 went to a Prom by Israeli Symphonic orchestra every single one of the 4 pieces was interrupted by Palestine professors.

Jonathan (Brasenose)

Questionable legal aspects. This motion has devastating effects, if you read it. It is important to know as stated by BDS movement, boycotting guidelines, like academic organisations, so will boycott University's and societies, Jewish WJS is an organisation based in Tel Aviv will threaten Jewish Society in this University. JS have been banned in other Universities; the University may have to threaten ties with religious organisations. Intentions noble possible effects devastating and illegal and Jewish students are afraid. Reconsider this motion as it stands.

Henry Watson

Anyone can boycott Israel goods just by boycotting Israeli goods this isn't just targeting those occupying. This is going back to idea of book burning, say shouldn't buy books written by an Israeli academic, this is insidious, shouldn't leave it hanging over students of Oxford. BDS movement is scary. They are labelled, as Anti-Semitic won't be lectured on violence by white people. This isn't a movement about assigning blame this is about potentially aligning ourselves with an anti-Semitic movement. Fringe radical movement and we would be on fringe of the movement. Is insidious and dangerous.

Jack Matthews (Univ)

Context about NUS policy. Observer in meeting about discussion of this. A boycott of Eden Springs, but amendments voted down and rejected by NUS president, NUS leadership rejects affiliation with BDS movement. Our name will be on paper if we support and support the NUS motion.

Dialogue rather than debate. Safe space on campus. NUS don't even want debate on this.

Commitment to two state solution quite clear. Won't just be seen as wanting a discussion at NUS. This will be seen as OUSU supporting BDS movement and I don't want this.

Nathan Akehurst (Lincoln)

Should discuss this as global citizens, tyranny of silence conceal our views in name of safe campus. In fact the best way forward is to have discussion. Student union is a representative of democracy. Apartheid in South Africa Desmond Tutu said situation in Gollum heights is worse than South Africa. When we boycotted South Africa, we had a goal of stopping apartheid. BDS is a tactic, so if we think that Israel is in abuse of human rights, then if we think wrong then lets have a discussion of the form this boycott takes. On South Africa boycotted football team even though not directly involved. It's about finding a way that this can be done.

Andrew Rogers (Jesus)

Remind people that we are voting on whether to delay. I haven't spoken to my JCR's we asked for delay but stated don't want to hear your opinion. We need to come back and debate again in 2 weeks.

What an academic and cultural boycott is like. 50% of these children were from Palestinian authority were being treated in an Israel hospital. BDS founder has rejected the two state solution and by targeting academics who are in support of the peace process.

Procedural motion move to vote.

Vote on this motion. If vote yes now will have another debate in 7th week. If vote no won't come to 7th Week and will be thrown out completely.

Emily Cousens (Wadham)

Good points raised on both sides. Not entirely talking about a boycott entirely in the same way as BDS. We are an important position as we can take to NUS and they are in a good position,

Eylon

Discriminatory targets one country alone, heard why motion that targets academic. The BDS jeers on Shylock, don't let it go on for another two weeks. Strike down now.

Motion passes we will discuss this again in 7th Week.

Procedural Motion to move all other motion to next council.

Nobody objects remainder of motions moved to 7th Week.

[Motion 1 is a DEBATE on policy for the NUS Conference]

1. PROPORTION OF FEMALE DELEGATES

OUSU COUNCIL NOTES

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OUSU COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To debate the following component of the draft agenda, for an amount of time deemed appropriate by the Chair, so as to help inform NUS delegates' views on the matter:

Motion 703 (The size, structure and rules governing of [sic] NUS Conference),
Conference resolves 8:

Insert rule 333 [into the NUS Rules] "All delegations to National Conference must include at least 50% women, rounded down. Where a union is only entitled to send one delegate and this not delegate is not a woman, the union's free observer place must be taken by a woman"

Proposed: David J Townsend (St John's College)
Seconded: Eleanor Davidson (New College)

[Motions 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 are PROPOSALS on policy for the NUS Conference]

2. ANTI-EARLY RELEASE CAMPAIGN

Passed Nem Con

3. SEX AND RELATIONSHIP EDUCATION

OUSU COUNCIL NOTES

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OUSU COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To submit the following motion for inclusion in the agenda for the NUS Conference 2013:

“Conference believes

1. That comprehensive Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) is more important than ever with high levels of domestic and sexual violence in Britain, with two women a week being killed by a former or current male partner and one in three women experiencing sexual violence in their lifetime, and many men also being victims of domestic abuse.

1. That current SRE in schools is wholly inadequate, with a quarter of pupils receiving none, and this problem is compounded by government cuts to citizenship and PSHE education funding.

2. That reports of ideologically-driven organisations delivering inaccurate presentations in schools are worrying, and that all SRE education should be impartial and promote tolerance of all sexualities.

Conference further believes

1. That current Government policy on SRE is not sufficient, with no requirement upon schools to provide SRE in the curriculum. The problem is often exacerbated in free schools and academies which receive even greater freedom on what to teach.

2. That it should be compulsory for schools to provide SRE which emphasises a zero-tolerance approach to violence and abuse in relationships, as well as the need for safe sex and SRE that covers all types of relationships including same sex relationships.

Conference resolves

1. To lobby political parties and MPs to support compulsory comprehensive SRE in schools, and oppose cuts to SRE and PSHE funding

2. *To support the ongoing campaign by MPs to pass legislation to make SRE education compulsory in schools, and pressure the Government to implement the measure in full should it pass Parliament”*

Proposed: *Helena Dollimore (St Hilda’s College)*

Seconded: *Aled Jones (Corpus Christi College)*

4. TAX AVOIDANCE

OUSU COUNCIL NOTES

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OUSU COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To submit the following amendment for inclusion in the agenda for the NUS Conference 2013:

For Motion 404 (Tax Avoidance), add to Conference resolves:

“To work with relevant organisations to shift the media focus from the proportionately low cost of benefit fraud to the scandalous expense of tax avoidance and the impact it has on public services including education.”

Proposed: *Aled Jones (Corpus Christi College)*

Seconded: *Helena Dollimore (St Hilda's College)*

5. CHILD POVERTY

OUSU COUNCIL NOTES

6. That OUSU is affiliated to the National Union of Students.
7. That the policy of the National Union of Students is set in its annual Conference, which will occur in April 2013.
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OUSU COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. To submit the following amendment for inclusion in the agenda for the NUS Conference 2013:

For Motion 405 (Child Poverty), add to conference believes:

** “Child poverty reduced dramatically between 1998/9-2010/12 when 1.1 million children were lifted out of poverty. This reduction is credited in large part to measures that increased the levels of lone parents working, as well as real and often significant increases in the level of benefits paid to families with children.*

** Under current government policies, child poverty is projected to rise from 2012/13 with an expected 300,000 more children living in poverty by 2015/16. This upward trend is expected to continue with 4.2 million children projected to be living in poverty by 2020.*

** That the current government signed up to the Child Poverty Act 2010, which aimed to abolish child poverty by 2020.”*

Add to conference further believes:

** “Child poverty imposes costs on broader society - estimated to be at least £25 billion a year. Governments forgo prospective revenues as well as commit themselves to providing services in the future if they fail to address child poverty in the here and now.”*

Add to Conference resolves:

** “To condemn the current government for reversing the reduction in Child Poverty achieved by the last government and its failure to comply by the Child Poverty Act 2010.”*

Proposed: **Emily Cousens (Wadham College)**

Seconded: **Eleanor Davidson (New College)**

11. BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT AND SANCTIONS

OUSU COUNCIL NOTES

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OUSU COUNCIL RESOLVES

2. To introduce the following motion:

“Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions

Conference believes

1. *Since 1948 hundreds of UN resolutions have condemned the government of Israel's colonial and discriminatory policies as illegal.*
2. *On the 31st January 2013 the UN Human Right's Council said the government of Israel was in violation of article 49 of the fourth Geneva Convention, which forbids the transfer of civilian populations to occupied territory.*
3. *The Israeli government practices a policy of collective punishment and killing against the people of Gaza. This has included an illegal siege on Gaza in November 2012 which created a devastating humanitarian crisis for the 1.5 million people trapped there. Contrary to media reports this is not a proportionate response of self-defence.*
4. *Palestine is also responsible for violence and the killing of innocent civilians.*

Conference further believes

1. *All forms of international intervention and peace-making have until now failed to convince or force Israel to comply with humanitarian law, to respect fundamental human rights and to end its occupation and oppression of the people of Palestine.*
2. *We have a moral responsibility to fight injustice.*
3. *Palestinian civil society, including organisations in Gaza, has called for a campaign of boycotts, divestment and sanctions (BDS) against Israel until it complies with international law. Compliance is understood as follows: 1) Ending its occupation and colonization of all Arab lands and dismantling the Wall 2) Recognizing the fundamental rights of the Arab-Palestinian citizens of Israel to full equality; and 3) Respecting, protecting and promoting the rights of Palestinian refugees to return to their homes and properties as stipulated in UN resolution 194. More information about this movement is available here: <http://www.bdsmovement.net/call>*
4. *These are non-violent punitive measures.*
5. *Supporters of the campaign include Archbishop Desmond Tutu, the UK Green Party and filmmaker Ken Loach, and motions in support of BDS initiatives have been passed*

at universities across the UK, the National Union of Students, the University of London Union (ULU) and by the Trades Union Congress.

Conference resolves

1. *Condemn violence and successive breaches of international law by both Israel and Palestine*
2. *Join the global movement for Boycott, Divestment, and Sanctions (BDS) against Israel until it ends the occupation and complies with international law.*
3. *Conduct Research into Higher Education institutions' contacts, relations, investments and commercial relationships that may be implicated in violating Palestinian human rights as stated by the BDS movement."*

Proposed: *Emily Cousens (Wadham College)*

Seconded: *Sarah Pine (Wadham College)*

Directs to amendment. This does not decide OUSU's policy it is specifically for NUS.

Sarah Pine

This isn't a motion about Israel and Palestine it is for opening up debate. Important thing for NUS to have conference about. Accepted amendment as friendly common rooms need to discuss. It is about NUS having a conversation.

Context passed motions in this area before.

This amendment can be considered part of motion, so now will be considered in 7th Week.

Brasenose

Don't know how many people turn up good to see so many people. They not taking a stance. Half the motion cut off saying propose NUS boycott one country or not. We are proposing NUS join a trade and academic boycott. If OUSU endorses this motion, will boycott Israel students and universities. Many Israel academia pro peace, will shut off dialogue. Should debate today, not 7th week. It is divisive and controversial, part of the reason 20 JCR's are abstaining or not voting on, is because don't want to create poisonous atmosphere. 20 JCR's have already decided on how voting and have had formal ways or have consulted in other ways with them. We have a lot of people planning to abstain. Would like to have constructive debate and instead of it becoming fragmented. We want to trust the judgement of the delegates from colleges that are in attendance today.

James Newton

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Natasha Bassett (Oriel)

Have tacked on to emergency meeting.

Have to submit by 1st of March, will we still be able to submit to NUS conference or is it too late.

David J Townsend

Will submit electronically.

Jacob Worcester

Are there tensions in colleges.

We are aware of Wadham were there has been tension. Wadham will support this boycott and we are concerned as it marginalises students.

Jack Matthews

Are we debating motion as a whole?

Eylon

Doesn't want to accept amendment as friendly.

Procedural motion. So we are debating whether to accept.

Straw poll on how many colleges have already discussed this motion in a CR meeting.

18 common rooms still require a steer.

Now we are voting on whether we can accept green amendment as a friendly.

The amendment has been passed. So we are now debating on whether to have debate now.

Have had a move to vote, which would mean we would only debate in 7th week.

Jack Matthews

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Jonathan Metzger

Jack right about waiting to vote, but think useful to discuss so that presidents can go back to their common rooms and give them more information. Think it's good to debate now and in 2 weeks good for council.

2/3rds majority.

Council has not passed a move to vote. So we will debate now.

Each person will get 2 mins. We will do it in blocks of 4 we will continue until no more time.

Emily Cousens

Think important to discuss. A lot of people don't understand what is in motion, last year passed freedom for Palestine motion. They support two companies involved in occupation. NUS able to take action. In terms of the boycott, lot of misunderstanding it is only people that are involved in the occupation those who are involved in anti human rights.

Balliol

Through extraordinary general meeting. Didn't have enough time to call it and therefore support the move to speak

Max New College

Nothing wrong with debating this motion, but these weeks will be full of conflict. We don't have to support NUS policy just because already have. We need to use the right means to move forward to a future with no war. Israel is trying to secure its future. Areas around Israel are not secure, not saying what Israel is doing is right. Israel is continue doing what doing as sees Jordan as a threat, we shouldn't push Israel into a corner, we have to be realistic and understand why Israel

Jacob Haddad

This is a wrong motion now it is just wrong, wrong because what it does to have our campus atmosphere. Have already received information that news organisations around the world that are following this, proposing a boycott of Israel a lot of other JCR's have been debates which have gone hostile want to depoliticize campus. This isn't the first time this has come up, have experienced before and a Jewish student got knifed in London. When table keeps atmosphere hostile and stops freedom of academic expression.

At NUS Conference can people introduce motions to NUS conference without this.

No can't just turn up and propose. NUS delegates can put on agenda but is put before council to decide if should.

Sarah Pine

Think you should pass and we debate in two weeks. If some common rooms haven't debated yet this is wrong. Lots that we can learn if discuss in two weeks.

Henry Brasenose

Follow through logic, this will hit the lower parties who are peace loving but will become receptive to right wings who feel can't trust Europeans. If don't want two state Middle East. In 2010 went to a Prom by Israelly Sym orchestra every single one of the 4 pieces was interrupted by Palestine professors. Think throug logic an oppose.

Jonathan (Brasenose)

Questionable legal aspects. This motion has devastating effects, if you read it. It is important to know as stated by BDS movement, boycotting guidelines, like academic organisations, so will boycott University's and societies, Jewish WJS is an organisation based in Tel Aviv will threaten Jewish Society in this University. JS have been banned in other Universities, the University may have to threaten ties with religious organisations. Intentions noble possible effects devastating and illegal and jewish students are afraid. Reconsider this motions as it stands.

Henry Watson

Anyone can boycott Israel goods just by boycotting Isreal goods this isnb't just targeting those occupying. This is going back to idea of book burning, say shouldn't buy books written by an Israely academic, this is insidious, shouldn't leave it hanging over students of Oxford. BDS movement is scary. They are labelled as Anti-semitic won't be lectured on violence by white people. This isn't a movement about assigning blame this is about potentially aligning ourselves with an anti-semitic movement. Fringe radical movement and we would be on fringe of the movement. Is insidious and dangerous.

Jack Matthews

Context about NUS policy. Observer in meeting about discussion of this. A boycott of Eden Springs, but amendments voted down and rejected by NUS president, NUS leadership rejects affiliation with BDS movement. Our name will be on paper if we support and support the NUS motion.

Dialogue rather than debate. Safe space on campus. NUS don't even want debate on this.

Commitment to two state solution quite clear. Won't just be seen as wanting a discussion at NUS. This will be seen as OUSU supporting BDS movement and I don't want this.

Nathan Akehurst

Should discuss this as global citizens, tyranny of silence conceal our views in name of safe campus. In fact the best way forward is to have discussion. Student union is a representative of democracy. Apartheid in South Africa Desmond Tutu said situation in Gollum heights is worse than South Africa. When we boycotted South Africa, we had a goal of stopping apartheid. BDS is a tactic, so if we think that Israel is in abuse of human rights, then if we think wrong then lets have a discussion of the form this boycott takes. On South Africa boycotted football team even though not directly involved. Its about finding a way that this can be done.

Andrew Rogers (Jesus)

Remind people that we are voting on whether to delay. I haven't spoken to my JCR's we asked for delay but stated don't want to hear your opinion. We need to come back and debate again in 2 weeks.

What an academic and cultural boycott is like. 50% of these children were from Palestinian authority were being treated in an Israel hospital. BDS founder has rejected the two state solution and by targeting acamedics who are in support of the peace process.

Procedural motion move to vote.

Vote on this motion. If vote yes now will have another debate in 7th week. If vote no won't come to 7th Week and will be thrown out completely.

Emily Cousens

Good points raised on both sides. Not entirely talking about a boycott entirely in the same way as BDS. We are an important position as we can take to NUS and they are in a good position,

Eylon

Discriminatory targets one country alone, heard why motion that targets academic. The BDS jeers on Shylock, don't let it go on for another two weeks. Strike down now.

Motion passes we will discuss this again in 7th Week.

[Motion 7 is has NOTHING TO DO with the NUS Conference]

12. SAME SEX MARRIAGE

OUSU COUNCIL NOTES

1. The second reading of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill was passed in the House of Commons on Tuesday with 400 MPs voting in favour and 175 against.
2. Oxford East MP Andrew Smith voted for the proposals, while Oxford West and Abingdon MP Nicola Blackwood did not vote at all.
3. The passing of the second reading is only one stage in a long process to bringing the bill into law.

OUSU COUNCIL BELIEVES

1. Equal marriage for same-sex couples is a fundamental right and it is right of the government to try to introduce it into law.
2. Because the bill will not force any religious institution into conducting a same-sex marriage, the bill will not restrict the freedom of anyone, only serving to increase the freedoms of many people in the UK including many people here at Oxford, and as such, MPs should support the bill.

OUSU COUNCIL RESOLVES

1. Declare its public support for equal marriage and for the principles of the Marriage (Same Sex Couples) Bill.
2. Thank Andrew Smith MP for his support, and encourage both him and Nicola Blackwood MP to support the proposals at all further stages.

Proposed: *Christopher Pike (St Edmund Hall)*

Seconded: *Tina Walsh (Hertford College)*

Procedural Motion to move all other motion to next council.

Nobody objects.