

OUSU council minutes

5th week Council held at 5.30pm on Tuesday 10th November in the Magdalen Auditorium

- 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

a. Minutes of the Previous Meeting

No matters arising

c. Ratifications in Council

- l. Emergency ratification of Stephen Goodman (New) to Elections Committee

RO advised that would like Stephen to be on Elections committee.
There were no objections.

This was therefore ratified

d. Elections in Council

I Postgraduate Social Sciences Divisional Board Representative

RO:

Advises Sarah Hutchinson is running for this position.

3 students to sit on the Joint Committee of University Council with Student members, 1 of whom must be a graduate

RO:

Alex Priest has advised that he would like to run for the open places, but he is unable to attend due to illness.

Ben Britton is running for the Graduate position.

I student to sit on a working group between OUSU and the university to review the OUSU complaints process

Alex Priest would again like to run for this position

2 students to sit on the Strategic Review Group created in OUSU Council of 3rd week Michaelmas 2009

RO:

Will need husts for this. Two mins hust and then questions, electing two positions. Two of five, unless RON wins.

Jonny Medland (The Queen's)

This group set up 3rd week remit to look at what activities student union should be doing. Please take time to listen

Jesse Harber (St Hilda's):

Answer to standard questions no, none.

Two weeks ago had a conversation with someone running for OUSU President. They asked me what St Hilda's thought of OUSU, I said we quite like it, but we recognize parts are broken and should be turned around, need to figure out what students like, and stop giving what they don't need. I would like to be part of this.

Ben Britton (St Catherines):

Answer to standard questions no, no.

Good evening I stand before you hopefully running for a position that gets to the heart of what the student union means for the benefit of all students. Known as a critic, but I am pro student union, am common room president. We make up a third of the student union, encourage you to vote, hope whoever elected gives their best to this project.

Jason Keen (St John's)

Answer to standard question, no, and a member of Oxford students for Liberty and OULC

Running for because believe that because of the implementation of charity act OUSU is at cross roads, not a fan of committees, but we really need this to be a good committee. OUSU should be the instrument of change the banner we unite under not the focus of the debate itself. I think that everything has to be on table, has to be effective consultation with common rooms and common room leaders, need a good mix of people to do this, to begin properly planning needs a five year plan so can campaign effectively in the long term. Will address real issues of students at Oxford.

William Hartshorn (Hertford):

Answer to standard questions no, and a Member of Labour party.

Last Sunday in JCR meeting debated affiliation. 140 people voted, people seriously questioned whether we get value for money from OUSU. This committee really matters, need to be realistic and imaginative about how we can get funding. Need to make sure this review results in impacts, because otherwise a wave of disaffiliations could happen. Not afraid to ask tough questions, need to sort, am really bothered about getting actions and results.

Alex Priest not here.

Questions:

Kat Wall (LMH):

Just wondering considering the range of activities OUSU does, what experience you can bring to this committee.

Jesse Harber (St Hilda's)

I think it's very important that OUSU is careful that it caters for all its constituents shouldn't let people down even if the money it's spending is for a small amount of people as long as effective. I am St Hilda's president, and represent a large proportion of women think shows that I can represent all minorities.

Ben Britton (St Catherine's):

OUSU to represent majority and minorities working with predecessors, various aspects that I can touch home with, need to consult widely, we need to sort through and keep people interested whilst ensuring we can come up with something palatable to those high up in the University must be realistic that the university funds us.

Jason Keen (St John's):

Consultation crucial can't be 10 people. One part is graduates, in my experience have to represent everyone, I have also been co-leader to G8 summit had to take opinions from a number of students.

William Hartshorn (Hertford):

Good listener, consult with a large number of people, what OUSU must, should and could do. Fund core activities first

Daniel Lowe (St Edmund Hall)

Will you have any specific agenda items that you will push for?

Ben: Britton (St Catherine's):

Important question, my issues are graduate focused but have also been an undergraduate. Would love to see the financial government structure and finance structure looked after in the first place. But must also listen to opinions.

Jason Keen (St John's):

Type of consultation, big motions through common rooms not the way to go. Engage people and discuss things, get common room officers engaged. Agree with Ben financial model key, if can't move to a viable one then maybe a problem.

William Hartshorn (Hertford):

Really think finances is the thing we need to focus on.

Jesse Harber (St Hilda's):

Think everyone has said about finances, only need sorting, but my bias is common because I come from South Africa think equal opportunity important and welfare those are OUSU's bottom line.

James Nation (Merton):

Strong college identity separate and different college practices. Work with or against?

Jason Keen (St John's):

OUSU most effective when a federation, when all around the table about student concerns, colleges should not be at war with the SU.

William Hartshorn (Hertford):

Difference between colleges, depends on what students of those colleges want. OUSU supposed to represent, if want uniformity facility if not not.

Jesse Harber (St Hilda's):

Key to turning around is that we are not able to impose, key is making OUSU present such a set of services that JCR will want to be involved.

Ben Britton (St Catherine's):

OUSU our student union currently one in five students are disenfranchised, current model broken, interests of student union and common room shared but not from same perspective. We have to tread carefully on this issue, celebrate, and encourage students to get involved on all levels.

Madeline Stanley (LMH):

Some people contend that OUSU is not a political body, how do you view this?

William Hartshorn (Hertford):

OUSU is a representative student body, need to consult and ask them what they want to be represented on.

Jesse Harber (St Hilda's):

Students for students, think terrible idea. A SU is nothing if not a political organization, students should not be sticking their heads in the sand about issues in the wider world. Important that OUSU and JCR take a stand on this.

Ben Britton (St Catherine's):

Got guidance from Wes. To promote educational needs can apply whatever remit we want to this, have to be careful that student voice is raising what is important to its members.

Jason Keen (St John's):

Students for students difficult debate. Ultimately two merge together, if take political stand can't express all points of view. If big enough constituency within organ should support.

Dani Quinn (Merton):

This is about purpose of committee, shouldn't feel constrained by financial models, are you able to think about without the financial perspective?

Jesse Harber (St Hilda's):

I think if we decide that there is something that OUSU should definitely be providing then we should definitely make a plan as to how this can be done.

Ben Britton (St Catherine's):

Need to think outside the box, unique point, really value a certain position need to get a 100% funding. These clearly have to be addressed.

Jason Keen (St John's):

Must, should, could Jason will kill me for using his line. Set our goals and then look at how we can actually move there. Need a five year plan, need to look at current situation but should look forward.

William Hartshorn (Hertford):

If something in the must or should but not financially viable now need to look at how we can get there in the future. Might not be impossible need to be imaginative about how to get there.

e. Reports from the Sabbatical Officers

President – Stefan Baskerville

My report is in the yellow booklet.

Question:

Are the Student Unions net liabilities greater than its net assets?

The financial report that I presented to you two weeks ago states that the deficit is £58,000 and the current liabilities are £38,000.

Who are trustees?

No answer at this time need to seek advise. Right now the exec liable, one of the most imp reasons for us to incorporate before we become a charity.

VP Access & Academic Affairs - Jonny Medland

Hi council all in booklet, university has set up a review of its complaints and appeals procedures if you have views on this please get in touch.

VP Welfare & Equal Opportunities - Dani Quinn

Most people in report, have been emailing officers, a lot have responded but lots not making any use of service that is there for them.

VP Women – Kat Wall

All in booklet, questions please ask.

VP Graduates – Sarah Hutchinson

Went to grad committee. One thing want to say is sad that we don't have anyone standing for VP grads, but am working on getting people to stand and often

f. Reports from the Executive Officers wishing to give Reports

Common Room Support Officer – Jack Matthews

Next meeting OUSU reps 5.15 Friday of 6th week. Hoping to redo OUSU how to be an OUSU rep guide. The database CRIS is up and running, sorry if few problems with log ons sorting. If you have elections in common room and using mi-vote, please let me know asap and if any others in future terms give me notice, so I can give ad training.

Environment & Ethics Officer - Daniel Lowe

24.5 hours Lights Climate action will be awesome.

Women's Campaign Officer – Portia Roelofs

If you are a man or interested in masculinity please come and talk to me.

LGBTQ Officer – Jasper Minton-Taylor

Queer week happening in 6th week organised by Wadham, great week includes Queer fest tickets being sold at Jolly Farmers tonight.

h. Emergency Motions

1. Student Representation at Conference of Colleges

Council notes:

1. That Conference of Colleges is the twice termly meeting of Heads of House and the more regular meeting of its several sub-committees.
2. That Conference and its committees take decisions on a range of issues that affect student interests, including academic discipline and appeals, accommodation, college fees, library provision, teaching quality, admissions, embedding graduate studies, and environmental sustainability, among many others.
3. That OUSU already represents students at Graduate Tutors' Committee, Senior Tutors' Committee, and the Admissions Executive, a joint committee of Conference and the University.
4. That students are currently excluded from meetings of Conference of Colleges.
5. That on 27 May 2009, then OUSU President Lewis Iwu submitted a paper to Conference for its consideration, proposing student representation at meetings of Conference along the same lines as that at University Council (Appendix A). The annex to which it refers is the same as Appendix B attached to this motion, a summary of those University bodies on which students are already represented.
6. That discussions on the matter are to be held this term at college governing bodies in either 5th or 8th weeks and at Conference in 5th week, with a decision likely to be taken at Conference in 9th week.

Council believes:

1. Student representation on Conference would be a step forward for student interests in Oxford, as we would become more able to influence the decisions that affect us.
2. OUSU is the right and legitimate body to represent students at Conference of Colleges, being as it is both a representative body of the generality of all Oxford students and an association of common rooms.

Council resolves:

1. to encourage common room representatives to raise with their Head of House the issue of student representation at Conference of Colleges and to voice their support for the proposal that students gain representation on Conference of College, as outlined in Appendix A.

Proposed: Stefan Baskerville (University)

Seconded: Jason Keen (St John's)

Speech in Proposition

Stefan Baskerville (Univ):

Two parallel decision making ways through council University Council and conference of colleges, takes decision about a number of things, conference of colleges led to changes in student representation in colleges. OUSU already sits on a number of committees that lead into this, but we don't actually sit on this at this time. Last year before I took office. Lewis took paper on this to rep views of common rooms and students, was submitted in trinity term now going to be considered by Conference of Colleges on Thursday. Reason bringing so you can formally say that you want OUSU to have representation, so you can feed back to your heads of colleges.

Speech in Opposition

Ben Britton (St Catherine's):

I am an MCR President from a disaffiliated colleges so I have no vote. First time common room officers were informed was last week and find this disturbing as we are supposed to represent our colleges. Would be much happier if MCR PresCom and JCR PresCom elected from within their own number. We are talking about our colleges, often our governing bodies have no idea what OUSU does within this university. The vote will happen in 9th week. Hope you consult with your colleges and see what they want, should be from our own number either by election or rotation.

Rob Shoarer (Linacre)

I am the President of Linacre College which is also disaffiliated, I endorse what Ben said, this is were all the colleges get together, if you think you have a closer relationship with the OUSU president.

Jason: Keen (St John's)

I never thought, I'd see an elected student argue against this, should have representation on this regardless of whether your colleges are disaffiliated, as your students are affiliated. Should work with the sabs, is in our interest if they can take these to big university bodies and express our concerns. Know it has been spoken about that it could be in PresCom's, the idea that as a Common room president I could also take on this, is ludicrous. Wider issue we do want a seat.

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds Hall):

Summarise what I agree with. In 1970's voted for student union, this is what OUSU is for.

Sarah Burton (Hertford):

Staggering experience different across colleges speak to us so that we can know what happens across the full range, some colleges I don't what standards are need to gain a wider student voice. We also have cross campus elections.

Jason Keen (St John's):

Draw attention, I sit on Senior Tutors committee; a lot of you may have heard about as I am taking a policy to this. Idea we don't represent goes against what we do at the moment. We represent as best as we can, please email me more so I can know more and represent more. We have a level of understanding because we work full time, you do this whilst doing degree etc point of SU is because we are paid and do it all the time.

Alice Heath (Univ):

No way as a JCR president I would have time to do this, Conference of Colleges more likely to vote through if JCR president as already think we do too much.

Stefan Baskerville (Univ):

We are an association of all students, more representation would be a good thing and would enhance our ability to rep students.

Ben Britton (St Catherine's):

Sure SU are doing a good job representing us to University but you have no mandate from disaffiliated colleges. I will be presenting a counter paper and their will be consultation and will present at MCR PresCom. I therefore urge you to vote against this motion

Move to vote

Motion passes 54 for with 2 abstentions.

Kat Wall takes over chair.

2. Carnage Oxford

Council notes:

1. Carnage, an entertainments company that runs fancy dress pub crawls for students, is holding an event in Oxford on November 12th (Thursday, 5th Week).
2. Although Carnage claim to promote safe drinking (i.e. they have a link to the DrinkAware website), their events are set up in such a way as to encourage excessive drinking
3. One result of a recent event was that a student is now facing criminal charges
4. 17 Student Unions across the country have already prohibited the sale of Carnage tickets and publicity for their events
5. There is typically a surge in police and medical resources on nights when these events are held, in anticipation of the serious problems that can and do arise

Council believes:

1. Students should not feel pressured to drink excessively or behave in ways they otherwise wouldn't
2. The themes and activities for the Oxford pub crawl are degrading and sexist (the theme is doctors and nurses, and challenges include 'get a naughty nurse check up') and set unfair expectations of behaviour
3. The set-up of the events is such that it poses a real danger to students' health and well-being
4. The event poses a serious threat to already fragile relations between students and the permanent residents of Oxford
5. As the Thames Valley Police are allowing the event, through the granting of a licence, it's reasonable to expect extra assistance on a night when lots of people - especially women - will be especially vulnerable

Council resolves to:

1. Encourage JCRs and MCRs not to promote Carnage to their members. For example, not to send emails advertising it, and not to display posters in College
2. Mandating the VP (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) to send information to CR Presidents and Welfare Officers with practical advice for nights out, regarding well-being and staying safe
3. Encourage Presidents and Welfare Officers to pass the information and advice on to their members
4. Mandate the VPs (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) and (Women) to promote the Safety Bus, and other options for getting home safely, to students. This should happen as a general night safety campaign, as well

as for this specific event

5. Mandate the OUSU VP C&C contact the Thames Valley Police outlining our concerns and requesting that they have extra officers on duty.

Proposed: Dani Quinn (Merton)

Seconded: Eorann Lean (St Hugh's)

Speech in proposition

Dani Quinn (Merton):

One mistake don't have a happy precedent. There is little that is good. Just to encourage you not to promote and also put in provisions for us to communicate with police and ensure welfare provisions put in place.

Katherine Terrell (St Hildas):

How are tickets sold?

Dani Quinn (Merton):

Online by a t-shirt.

Attendance of 1500 to 2000 people

Tom Perry (St John's):

Are you liaising with Brooke's?

Dani Quinn (Merton):

They have policy against.

Katherine Terrell (St Hilda's):

Why is our policy not against?

Dani Quinn (Merton):

Can't ban because, the events are not taking place on Oxford University premises.

William Hartshorn (Hertford):

I want to oppose because want to strike council resolves 1. Don't think good but will be perceived as OUSU telling colleges what to do, don't think good for OUSU's stability.

Move to debate.

Jesse Harber (St Hilda's):

I disagree entirely with Will if only to his last point. If carnage does represent a threat to students. Don't think should let OUSU's stability should outweigh this.

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds Hall):

First thing I got is a call from the Times, we shouldn't be afraid from making representations, don't think threat to college autonomy.

Katherine Terrell (St Hilda's):

We are here to represent our students, shouldn't fear what OUSU is telling us.

Sarah (St Cross):

If you strike one, three will remain is still the same don't think amendment will do anything.

William Hartshorn (Hertford):

Don't think linked. JCR's can always recommend this.

Amendment.

Proposed Will and seconded Sarah

Strike Council Resolves I

William Hartshorn (Hertford):

As said before common room autonomy will be perceived badly

Dani Quinn (Merton):

Think not helpful, OUSU council represents students, this isn't Dani says this is common rooms saying this. I think this is just encouraging you, we think its bad, think about it. Toothless unless action coming out of it.

Move to debate

Sarah:

Think what Dani says is true but other people might not think this.

Rob Shoarer (Linacre):

We are basing this on a small amount of info provided by OUSU sabs let colleges debate it themselves.

Jesse Harber (St Hilda's):

This isn't a binding decision, we are telling JCR's and MCR's what we think and encourage them to do what best.

Move to Vote on Amendment.

In favour of striking council resolves I.

Against 2 people.

Majority vote to keep council resolves I.

Any more points on whole motion

Move to vote

Summary speech.

Dani Quinn (Merton):

Please vote for it.

No opposition passes automatically.

k. First readings of Motions to Amend the Constitution or Standing Orders

I. Policy-Making Structure and Scrutiny

Council Notes:

1. The 2008 review of OUSU's policy-making structure which identified several problems with OUSU's policy-making.
2. That these problems included lack of scrutiny of the OUSU Executive, proposed changes to the OUSU Constitution and Standing Orders and the OUSU Budget.

3. That a further problem which was identified was Council struggling to properly consider complex issues involving detailed policy.
4. The paper circulated via the Council mailing list, the OUSU website and in print copy today explaining OUSU's proposed new policy-making structure.

Council Believes:

1. That the problems above should be rectified in any changes which are made to the OUSU policy-making structure.
2. That any changes to the OUSU policy-making structure should take into account the fact that OUSU only has one member of administrative staff who works four days per week.
3. That Council would be empowered in scrutinising the Executive, debating the Budget and considering changes to the OUSU Constitution and Standing Orders if there were specific scrutiny committees in these areas.
4. That it is important that Council not become a forum for rubber-stamping decisions taken in preparatory committees of Council, both because this would be needlessly bureaucratic but more importantly because Council is the sovereign body of the Student Union.
5. That this proposed new policy-making structure is designed to ensure that debate on complex policy issues in OUSU Council is informed by prior discussion but not biased by prior decisions being made.

Council Resolves:

1. To strike:

Standing Order A.1.2,

“Any specified part or parts of Section B of these Standing Orders may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of Council as prescribed herein. Nothing laid down herein other than in Section B may be thus suspended, nor shall any suspension under this Clause be deemed to have retrospective effect.”

And insert,

“Any specified part or parts of Sections B.4, B.5, B.6, B.7, and/or B.8 of these Standing Orders may be suspended by a two-thirds vote of Council as prescribed herein. Nothing laid down herein other than in Section B.4, B.5, B.6, B.7 and B.8 may be thus suspended, nor shall any suspension under this Clause be deemed to have retrospective effect.”

2. To strike Standing Orders B1,

And insert,

“B. Meetings Of Council and its Preparatory Committees

B 1. Notice

1.1 (a) The President shall give not less than fourteen days' notice of each Ordinary Meeting of Council, of each Termly Meeting of Council; and not less than five days' Notice of each Extraordinary Meeting of Council.

(b) Within five days of the receipt by the President of a petition, request, or motion necessary for the convention of a Special Meeting of Council under G1(b) of the

Constitution, the Executive shall determine the time at which the Special Meeting of Council shall be convened, which time shall be not less than fourteen days nor more than twenty-one days from the date of the said receipt; and the President shall give not less than seven days notice of the said Special Meeting of Council.

- (c) *Any failure by the President to give notice of a Meeting of Council as required by these Standing Orders shall be remedied by the Executive as quickly as possible but shall not affect the holding of the said Meeting or the validity of anything done at it, provided that copies of the Agenda for the said Meeting are sent out at least 48 hours in advance of the said Meeting.*

1.2

- (a) *Notice of all Motions other than Emergency Motions and Motions proposing to amend the Constitution and/or Standing Orders shall be required by noon on Thursday in the week before that in which the Meeting of Council is to be held, except that Notice of all Motions for the First Ordinary Meeting of Council in each term shall be required by 9am on the Friday in the week before that in which the Meeting of Council is to be held.*
- (b) *Notice of all Motions proposing to amend the Constitution and/or Standing Orders shall be required by noon three working days before the day on which Notice of all other Motions other than Emergency Motions shall be required as laid down in (a) above.*
- (c) *Emergency Motions may be proposed after the deadline specified above on any matter which has, in the ruling of the Chair, substantially arisen since that deadline, so long as they are submitted not less than three hours before the scheduled start of Council.*
- (d) *Notice of a Motion shall be deemed to have been given where the text of that Motion and the name and college of its proposer and seconder, has been handed into the OUSU office by the relevant deadline as laid down above.*
- (e) *Notice of an Amendment shall be deemed to have been given when the text of that Amendment, and the name and college of its proposer and seconder, has been handed in to OUSU by the relevant deadline as laid down above. Amendments may also be submitted during the debate on the Motion to which the Amendment is proposed. All Amendments must refer to the same substantial matter as the original motion. The Chair of Council may rule against any amendment she/he believes to be of such magnitude as to require the same notice as a Motion under (a) above.*
- (f) *No Motion of No Confidence shall be proposed as an Emergency Motion later than noon on the second weekday before Council. Where such a Motion is proposed, the Democratic Support Officer shall make all reasonable effort to ensure that written notice of the content of that motion shall be given at the earliest opportunity and at least 24 hours before Council to its subject.*
- (g) *Each motion and Each Amendment shall be required to be proposed by one full member of OUSU, and seconded by one full member of OUSU; and shall not stand in the name of more than one proposer and seconder, nor any collective body. The Agenda shall indicate after each motion the name and college of the proposer and seconder of that motion, but no other information relating to the proposer and/or seconder and specifically not any*

title they may hold.

- (h) After the passing of the relevant deadline for submission, no Motion or Amendment may be withdrawn without the permission of the Chair and of Council, except as provided for under 5.2.c(ii).*
- (i) The restrictive provisions of this Clause shall not apply to procedural motions as provided for below.*
- (j) Where, either under the Constitution or under Standing Orders, a Motion, having been passed by Council by the required majority, requires a further Reading or Readings before taking effect, it shall, notwithstanding any of the foregoing, be automatically entered onto the Agenda for the next Meeting of Council competent under the Constitution and Standing Orders for its consideration; but the proposer and seconder at different readings of the same motion need not be the same persons.*
- (k) If a motion to amend the Constitution is amended at its second reading, this reading shall be deemed its first reading.*
- (l) No Amendment may be proposed to Amend the Constitution and/or Standing Orders at its final reading.*

B2 Preparatory Committees of Council

2.1

- (a) The Steering Committee shall consist of the Chair of OUSU Council, the OUSU President and three members of OUSU elected in the last ordinary meeting of Council to serve for one term. The Chair of Council shall chair the committee.*
- (b) The Steering Committee shall hold a meeting on the same day as the motion deadline outlined in B.1.2.a. Notice must be given of the time and place of Steering Committee via the OUSU website.*
- (c) The Steering Committee shall compile the Agenda for Council. All motions submitted in line with the deadlines above shall appear on the agenda, unless the committee believes that a preliminary discussion of any motion would aid consideration of the motion by Council.*
- (d) The Steering Committee may refer such motions to any Permanent Committee of OUSU. If the committee believes that there is no suitable permanent committee, the committee may create an ad hoc committee to consider the motion in the same manner as a permanent committee. Any such ad hoc committee shall be chaired by the Chair of Council.*
- (e) In the circumstances of (d) above the motion in question shall not appear on the Agenda of the Council to which it was submitted.*
- (f) The decision of Steering Committee to refer any motion to a Permanent or ad hoc Committee of OUSU shall be overridden and the motion in question shall appear on the Agenda for the Council to which it was submitted on the receipt of a petition to that effect signed by 50 full members of OUSU by midday on the Monday before OUSU Council takes place.*
- (g) Motions considered by permanent or ad hoc committees must be considered at normal or*

extraordinary meetings of these committees before the motion deadline for the next Ordinary Meeting of Council as laid down in 1.2(a) above. Notice of the time and location of these committees and the motion to be discussed must be given via the OUSU website.

(h) Proposers and seconders may, after their motion has been considered by a permanent or ad hoc committee, give notice of an amended version or that they wish to withdraw their motion at any point before the motion deadline for the next meeting of OUSU Council (as in 1.2(a) above). If no such notice is given the motion shall automatically appear on the Agenda for the next Ordinary meeting of Council.

(i) Steering Committee may not refer any motion to any permanent or ad hoc committee more than once.

(j) Steering Committee may, for any motion, lay down by ruling, printed below the text of the motion on the agenda, which part or parts of the OUSU policy book the passage of the motion in question by Council would repeal. This ruling may be challenged in Council by means of a procedural motion in line with 5.2 (c) xii . If a motion is amended during debate on that motion and due to the passage of this amendment the President believes that all or part of the ruling of Steering Committee no longer applies, when updating the Policy Book or determining OUSU Policy, s/he shall do so in such a manner as s/he believes complies with the motion, as passed by Council. The President's decision in such a matter may be reversed or amended upon the passage of an ordinary motion of Council and should be made subject to any existing Council mandate.

(k) Any member of OUSU may attend and speak at meetings of the Steering Committee.

2.2

(a) The Internal Affairs Committee shall consist of the OUSU President and four members elected in the First Ordinary Meeting of Council in Hilary Term. Elected members of the Internal Affairs Committee shall serve for one year.

(b) The Internal Affairs Committee shall elect a chair from among their own number in the first meeting after the Committee has been elected.

(c) The Internal Affairs Committee shall hold a meeting up to 24 hours after the deadline for Notice of Motions proposing to amend the Constitution and/or Standings orders as laid down in 1.2 (b) above, only if Notice has been given of any Motion proposing to amend the Constitution and/or Standing Orders. All such motions shall be referred to the Internal Affairs Committee.

(d) The Internal Affairs Committee may give advice and feedback on any Motion proposing to change the Constitution and/or Standing Orders and the committee may also function as a forum for discussion of the motion in question.

(e) Meetings of the Internal Affairs Committee shall be advertised at least twenty-four hours in advance via the OUSU website. Any member of OUSU may attend and speak at a meeting Internal Affairs Committee-

(f) The quorum for the Internal Affairs Committee shall be two.

(g) When a motion has been considered by the Internal Affairs Committee, the proposer and seconder may after their motion has been considered by the Committee give notice either of an

amended version of their motion or that they wish to withdraw their motion at any point before the motion deadline laid down in B.1.2.a. If no such notice is given the motion will automatically appear on the agenda of the Council for which it was submitted.

2.3

No motion to be considered by Extraordinary Council or Special Council shall be considered by any preparatory Committee of Council. No motion automatically entered onto an Agenda under the provisions of 1.2(j) above shall be discussed in any preparatory Committee of Council

B3 Papers

a) The Democratic Support Officer shall, after the passing of the deadline for Ordinary Motions under 1.2(a) above, give notice of an Agenda for the Meeting of Council in question containing the full text, and the names of the proposer and seconder, of each valid Motion and Amendment already submitted by that deadline, and containing also notice of any Elections in Council as required under C10 below.

(b) The Democratic Support Officer shall, before each Meeting of Council, prepare an Amendments Paper for distribution at the Meeting itself, which shall include the full text, and the names of the proposer and seconder of each valid Emergency Motion and each valid Amendment not already circulated.

(c) This clause shall not impose a requirement that OUSU ensure receipt of Papers distributed, nor mean that any inaccuracy in the Council List or any minor clerical error in the normal course of administration shall render invalid any Meeting of Council.

3. To strike from Standing Order B.2.2, *“There shall be no smoking during Council”*.

4. To strike from Standing Order B.3.1.g *“No such points shall be offered during any summing-up speech under f below”* and insert *“No such points shall be offered during any summing-up speech under k below”*.

5. To strike Standing Order B.3.2.b.iv and insert *“To suspend a specified part or parts of B4, B5, B6, B7 and/or B8 of Standing Orders for a specified time”*.

6. To insert Standing Order B.3.2.c.xii which shall read *“To overturn a specified ruling of Steering Committee”*.

7. To strike Standing Order B.5.1.c,

“It shall be the duty of the Chair of Council to ensure that any motion submitted to Council does not amend or overturn policy submitted by an equal opportunity campaign and ratified by Council, unless it specifically addresses that policy”.

8. To strike from Standing Order B.5.3.b, *“but the holder of the Chair under 5.4 below and insert “but the holder of the Chair under 7.5 below”*

9. To strike from Standing Order B.5.3.c “*under 56 of the Constitution*” and insert “*under article B.6.1 of the Constitution*”

To renumber Section B and all internal references accordingly

10. To strike Standing Order D.5 and insert

“D 5. Scrutiny of the Executive

5.1 The Executive shall be scrutinized through questions at Council and through termly reports to Council from the Scrutiny Committee.

5.2 Scrutiny Committee shall consist of 4 full members of OUSU elected in the first Ordinary meeting of Council of Hilary Term. They shall elect a Chair from among their own number.

5.3 Each member of the Executive shall at the request of the Chair of Scrutiny Committee supply him/her with such documents as they may reasonably require, subject to provisions of confidentiality. No member of the Executive shall serve on Scrutiny Committee.

5.4 Each member of the Executive shall in consultation with the Chair of Scrutiny Committee attend such meetings as the Scrutiny Committee may reasonably require.

5.5 Scrutiny Committee shall submit a report to the Termly Meeting of Council on the work of the Executive.”

11. To insert Standing Order E:

“E. Committees and Campaigns

E1 Permanent Committees

1.1 Permanent Committees shall campaign in line with OUSU Policy and/or support Representatives of Constituent Organisations

.1.2 Permanent Committees shall act as forums for preliminary discussion of any motions referred to them by Steering Committee. Permanent Committees are expressly prohibited from taking a stance on all or part of any motion referred to them.

1.3 Permanent Committees may elect an executive. Any full member of OUSU, and no other persons, may stand and vote.

E2 Charities Committee

2.1 Charities Committee shall be a Permanent Committee of OUSU. All provisions relating to Permanent Committees shall as such apply to the Charities Committee.

2.2 The Charities Committee shall further be responsible for assisting the Vice President (Charities and Community).

2.3 The Charities Committee shall elect an Executive at the end of Hilary Term. The following positions may be filled:

- i. The President (who shall in all respects fulfill the role of Chair)*
- ii. The Vice-President*
- iii. The Secretary*
- iv. The Events Coordinator*
- v. The Publicity Officer*
- vi. The Raids Officer*
- vii. The Sponsorship Officer*
- viii. The Webmaster*
- ix. The Representatives Social Secretary*
- x. The Non-Portfolio Officers*

E 3 Environment and Ethics Committee

3.1 Environment and Ethic Committee shall be a Permanent Committee of OUSU All provisions relating to Permanent Committees shall as such apply to the Environment and Ethics Committee.

3.2 Environment and Ethics Committee shall further be responsible for promoting good environmental and ethical practice within OUSU, the University and the Colleges.

3.3 The Environment and Ethics Committee shall elect an Executive. The Vice President (Charities and Community) shall decide when these elections shall take place in consultation with the Environment and Ethics Committee. Any member of the committee who is unhappy with the timing of the elections may appeal to the OUSU Eexecutive. The Executive may include, but shall not be limited to:

- i. The Chair*
- ii. The Secretary*
- iii. The Press and Publicity Coordinator*

The Environment and Ethics Executive shall be responsible for maintaining the internet presence of the Environment and Ethics Committee.

12. To strike Section F5 of the Standing Orders and insert:

G5 Budget

“5.1 A Budget shall be drawn up by the President and General Manager. It shall contain details of

projected income and expenditure for the following financial year. No new Budget Heading shall be introduced without first having created a corresponding Heading in the accounts.

5.2 There shall be a Budget Committee consisting of the President, General Manager, three members of the Executive elected by the Executive in Hilary Term and three full members of OUSU elected in Council in Michaelmas Term.

5.3 The President and General Manager shall submit the Budget to Budget Committee at least 48 hours before the deadline for motions for the Council to which the President and General Manager intend to present the Budget. Budget Committee shall discuss and scrutinize the Budget. The President shall then give notice of the Budget to Council in the manner laid down in Standing Order B.1.2.a. The President and General Manager may but are not obliged to submit the same Budget to Council as they did to Budget Committee.

5.4 Any Amended Budget shall be submitted to Budget Committee in the same manner as the annual Budget as laid down in 5.3 above.

5.5 Budget Committee shall also receive financial reports as and when the President and General Manager deem it necessary.

5.6 In Council the Budget shall be accompanied by a report explaining where the projected income and expenditure deviates substantially from that which was budgeted for the financial year currently in operation.

5.7 The Budget shall be submitted to the first meeting of Ordinary Council in Hilary Term.

5.8 The Budget shall be amended by a motion passed by a simple majority in Council.

5.9 All motions authorising expenditure not covered by the Budget currently in force must be framed in the form of an amendment to the Budget stating where a corresponding cut is to be made. Total expenditure shall be increased if, in the judgement of the President and General Manager, it would be prudent to do so; under these circumstances the increase in expenditure shall come from the budgeted surplus or deficit.

5.10 No OUSU committee or any other body allocated money under the Budget shall make separate appeals to JCRs, MCRs, SUs or university committees without having first received authorisation from either Council or the Executive.

5.11 The General Manager shall be responsible for ensuring that the Budget is followed as strictly as possible.”

And thereafter renumber accordingly.

Proposed: Jonny Medland (The Queen’s)
Seconded: Madeline Stanley (Lady Margaret Hall)

Speech in Proposition

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):

What it does explained in green document. Principles behind it is the fact that there are problems in the governing documents. What this motion does is set up budget committee, scrutiny committee. Scrutiny committee, four members of OUSU present report at end of every term. Budget committee describes goal look at draft and ask questions and make suggestions so have feedback before presented to council. Can inform debate in council. 3rd committee Internal Affairs to look at draft constitutional and standing order changes, think that there is a real need for it.

2nd part to do with new policy making structures, examples about admissions policy. What view should OUSU council have on higher education, etc. What motion basically does, is set up a series of groups which can discuss this before motions brought to council, using the existing systems that are in place. Can't make decisions but can have discussion, then come to council so that council can be informed.

Jason Keen (St John's):

Do these changes completely overall the referendum changes?

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):

The university has a legal position to review the changes university not made aware until after we took office that they found out. Me and Madeline large amount of work, then university nullified. Tried to create a better structure from the one's already there. Greatest problem was the creating of 10 standing committee, all would have to be minuted would be unworkable only one member of staff to take minutes.

Alice Heath (Univ):

Can they amend motions?

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):

No they can take motions referred to them, can discuss the motion, then would come to council, leading to an informed debate.

Speech in opposition

No speech in opposition

Passes

2. Constitutional Changes to enable the proposed new policy-making and scrutiny structure of OUSU.

Council Notes:

1. The previous motion 'Policy-Making Structure and Scrutiny'
2. That in order to implement the proposed new policy-making structure and the Internal Affairs Committee it is necessary to change the OUSU Constitution.

Council Believes:

1. That the proposed Policy-making and scrutiny structure should be implemented.

Council Resolves:

1. To Insert into the Constitution Article B

7. Preparatory Committees of Council

7.1 (a) *There shall be a Steering Committee responsible for compiling the agenda for Council, the workings of which shall be laid down in Standing Orders.*

(b) *There shall be such other preparatory committees of Council as laid down in Standing Orders.*

And to renumber accordingly thereafter.

Proposed: **Jonny Medland (The Queen's)**

Seconded: **Madeline Stanley (Lady Margaret Hall)**

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):

Everything we are making is a standing order change. Also need a committee that is capable of sending motions back to council. Have given power to steering committee, as this requires a change in constitution as needs to come into action before next term. Sets up steering committee.

Passes

3. Student Advice Service in the Governing Documents

Council Notes:

1. That the OUSU Student Advice Service is described in the OUSU Constitution & Standing Orders.
2. That the Student Advice Service Management Board is outlined in the OUSU Standing Orders but has not been created owing to technical problems with its structure.
3. That the OUSU Equal Opportunities and Harassment Policy is outlined in Schedule Six of the OUSU Standing Orders.

Council Believes:

1. That the definition of the Student Advice Service could be improved on what is currently contained in the OUSU Standing Orders.
2. That while there is a need for clearer management of the Student Advice Service, the Student Advice Service Management Board is not the method by which this should be done.
3. That the OUSU Equal Opportunities and Harassment Policy could be improved on the current version contained within Schedule Six of the Standing Orders.

Council Resolves:

1. To strike Section E of the Standing Orders and insert,

F. Student Advice Service

F 1. Nature of the Student Advice Service

1.1 The Student Advice Service is a confidential information, advice and representational service for students. It shall abide by a code of confidentiality as outlined in 'The Review of Confidentiality Policy and Working Procedures' compiled by the Vice President (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) annually.

1.2 The Student Advice Service will consist of the Vice President (Welfare and Equal

Opportunities), the Vice President (Women), the Vice President (Access and Academic Affairs), the Vice President (Graduates) and the Student Advisor.

F 2. Student Advice Service Procedure

2.1 It shall be the responsibility of the Vice President (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) to co-ordinate the day-to-day work of the Student Advice Service and be the Data Protection Officer for the Student Union.

2.2 The Student Advisor shall annually submit a report to the Vice President (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) appraising the role and making recommendations as to the future development of the post.”

2.3 The Student Advice Service shall not be bound by OUSU policy in relation to individual casework with students and shall always provide confidential and non-directional advice and support.

2. To strike Schedule Six of the OUSU Standing Orders.
3. To mandate the OUSU Vice-President (Welfare & Equal Opportunities) to work with the University on developing a clearer management procedure for the Student Advice Service and to keep Council informed of developments in this area.
4. To mandate the OUSU Vice-President (Welfare & Equal Opportunities) to bring an improved Equal Opportunities and Harassment Policy to the first OUSU Council of Hilary Term 2010. This policy shall be appended in the OUSU Schedules.

Proposed: **Dani Quinn (Merton)**

Seconded: **Jonny Medland (The Queen's)**

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):

Essentially student advise services lists who consists of tidies up description, takes out schedule of standing orders which is out of date and incoherent. Mandates Dani to bring a new one back. Also takes out management board, but can't work below trustee board. Dani to talk about this and find out what works. What we have functionally unworkable.

Taking out description that it listening service.

Dani: Quinn (Merton):

Not like nightline.

Passes

4. Tidying up the OUSU Governing Documents

Council Notes:

1. That there are inaccuracies, mistakes, anachronisms, inconsistencies and contradictory provisions contained within the OUSU Governing Documents.
2. The explanatory notes on the changes below which have been circulated via the Council mailing list, the OUSU website and in print copy at Council.

Council Believes:

1. That the OUSU Governing Documents are important.

2. That inaccuracies, mistakes, anachronisms, inconsistencies and contradictory provisions contained within the OUSU Governing Documents should be removed.

Council Resolves:

1. To Strike

Constitution B 4.1 *Any member of OUSU shall be entitled to attend and speak at any meeting of Council, and to propose/second motions for Council, except when Council resolves otherwise in a manner laid down in the Standing Orders. Only members of Council qualified under 2 above shall be entitled to vote at Council.*

To Insert

Constitution B 4.1 *Any member of OUSU shall be entitled to attend and speak at any meeting of Council, and to propose/second motions for Council. Only members of Council qualified under 2 above shall be entitled to vote at Council.*

2. To Strike

Constitution B 7.1 (b) *Immediately prior to the fourth Ordinary Meeting of Council in each term there shall be held a Termly Meeting of Council, which shall confine itself to Constitutional Business, the Election of the Chair of Council, and the receipt of Termly Reports as provided for in Standing Orders.*

To Insert

Constitution B 7.1 (b) *Immediately prior to the fourth Ordinary Meeting of Council in each term there shall be held a Termly Meeting of Council, which shall confine itself to Constitutional Business, the Election of the Chair of Council, the Election of the Returning Officer and the receipt of Termly Reports as provided for in Standing Orders.*

3. To Strike

Constitution C 3.1

(b) The Part Time Executive Officers shall serve part time for one year from the end of the academic term of their election. All Part Time Executive Officers shall be of equal status.

(c) A Part Time Executive Officer shall be removed from office only where a motion of No Confidence in her/him is passed by a two thirds vote of two successive Ordinary Meetings of Council.

To Insert

(b) The Executive Officers shall serve part-time for one year from the end of the academic term of their election. All Executive Officers shall be of equal status.

(c) The Graduate Officers shall serve part-time for a period of one year from the end of the academic term of their election. All Graduate Officers shall be of equal status.

d) An Executive Officer shall be removed from office only where a Motion of No Confidence in her/him is passed by a two-thirds vote of two successive Ordinary Meetings of Council.

(e) A Graduate Officer shall be removed from office only by the means prescribed above for the removal of an Executive Officer.

4. To Strike

Constitution D 4.1 Only full members of OUSU and, except as laid down herein and in Standing Orders, all full members of OUSU, shall be eligible to stand for election to, or be co-opted to, a Sabbatical Office; or to stand for election for the post of Part Time Executive Officer; except that only full members of OUSU and, except as laid down herein and in Standing Orders, all full members of OUSU, who are women may stand for election to, or be co-opted to, the posts of Vice-President (Women) and Women's Campaign Officer. Only full members of OUSU and, except as laid down herein and in Standing Orders, all full members of OUSU who are graduates may stand for election to, or be co-opted to, the posts of Vice-President (Graduates), Graduate Academic Affairs Officer, Graduate International Officer and Graduate Welfare Officer.

To Insert

Constitution D 4.1 Only full members of OUSU and, except as laid down herein and in Standing Orders, all full members of OUSU, shall be eligible to stand for election to, or be co-opted to, a Sabbatical Office; or to stand for election for the post of Executive Officer; except that only full members of OUSU and, except as laid down herein and in Standing Orders, all full members of OUSU, who are women may stand for election to, or be co-opted to, the posts of Vice-President (Women) and Women's Campaign Officer. Only full members of OUSU and, except as laid down herein and in Standing Orders, all full members of OUSU who are graduates may stand for election to, or be co-opted to, the posts of Vice-President (Graduates), Graduate Academic Affairs Officer, Graduate International Officer and Graduate Welfare Officer. Only full members of OUSU and, except as laid down herein and in Standing Orders, all full members of OUSU who are both graduates and women may stand for election to, or be co-opted to, the post of Graduate Women's Officer.

5. To Strike from Constitution Article D

12. Filling of Vacancies for Part-Time Executive Office

12.1 A vacancy for Part Time Executive Officer shall be filled by a by-election in council.

13. Filling of Vacancies for Graduate Office

13. 1. A vacancy for a Graduate Officer shall be filled by a by-election, unless the date of the vacancy arising precludes the holding of such a by election before Thursday 4th week of Trinity Term, in which case it shall be filled by an election in Council.

14. Filling of Vacancies for NUS Delegate

14.1 A vacancy for a Graduate Officer shall be filled by a by-election, unless the date of the vacancy arising precludes the holding of such a by-election before Thursday of 4th week of Trinity term, in which case it shall be filled by an Election in Council.

To Insert into Constitution D

12. Filling of Vacancies for Executive Office

12.1 A vacancy for an Executive Officer shall be filled by an election in council.

13. Filling of Vacancies for Graduate Office

13.1. A vacancy for a Graduate Officer shall be filled by an election in Council.

14. Filling of Vacancies for NUS Delegate

14.1 A vacancy for NUS Delegate shall be filled by a by-election.

6. To Strike

Constitution Article E.1, E.2, E.3, E.4 E.6, E.7 and E.8.

To Insert into the Constitution

E1. Permanent Committees of OUSU

1.1 Council may establish and dissolve Permanent Committees the workings of which shall be laid down in Standing Orders

E2. Chairs and Co-Chairs

2,1 Each Committee shall elect a Chair or Chairs, who shall in all cases be full members of OUSU, to serve for one year.

E3. Rights of Attendance and Voting in Committees

3.1 At all Permanent Committee meetings any member of OUSU, and no other persons, shall be entitled to attend and vote.

E4. No Confidence Votes

4.1 Except as is provided herein regarding Sabbatical Officers and members of the Executive, any person holding any office under OUSU, including that of Chair of any Permanent Committee or a member of any Permanent Committee Executive Committee, may be removed from that office only where a Motion of No Confidence in him/her is passed by a two-thirds vote of Council. Nothing in this clause shall apply to any paid member of OUSU Staff

E5 The Equal Opportunities Campaigns

5.1 There shall be such equal opportunity campaigns as shall be laid down in the Standing Orders.

7. To Strike

Constitution E.5.4 *The Constitution of each Equal Opportunities Campaign shall appear in the Standing Orders of OUSU.*

8. To Renumber

E.5 Autonomy of the Equal Opportunities Campaigns as E.6 Autonomy of the Equal Opportunities Campaigns.

9. To Strike Constitution Article F.1, F.2, F.3, F.4, F.5

To Insert into the Constitution

F1. The Budget and Amended Budget

1.1 The President shall propose the Budget for Income and Expenditure in the next financial year to the First Ordinary Meeting of Council in Hilary Term each year; and shall propose an Amended Budget for the ongoing financial year whenever necessary. Council may at other times amend the Budget or Amended Budget as the case may be as it sees fit.

F2. Presentation of Accounts

2.1 The President shall each year present audited Accounts of Income and Expenditure for the previous financial year for Ratification in Council at the first Ordinary Meeting of Council to which they can be validly submitted as a motion under Standing Orders.

3. OUSU Publications

3.1 (a) OUSU shall produce publications in a manner laid down in Standing Orders.

4. The Appointments Board

4.1 (a) There shall be an Appointments Board with responsibility for appointing any non-elected positions or staff, the workings of which shall be laid down in Standing Orders.

5. Finance, Publications and the Standing Orders

5.1 The procedures governing the conduct of OUSU's financial operations shall be laid down in Standing Orders.

10. To Strike

G4. Referenda

4.1 Any matter, other than the removal of a person from office, may be referred to a Referendum, in which all members of OUSU shall be entitled to vote, upon the receipt by the President of a petition to that effect signed by not fewer than 1500 full members of OUSU, or of a request to that effect from not fewer than 15 Common Rooms; or upon the passage of a motion to that effect by Council except that any petition calling for a Referendum to be held concurrently with

the next Statutory Annual Elections shall require not fewer than 500 signatures or a request to that effect by not fewer than 5 Colleges. Provision for Affiliation Ballots on the question of OUSU's affiliation to external organisations in accordance with the requirements of the Education Act 1994 shall be laid down in Standing Orders.

4.2 For the purposes of 4.1 a “College” refers to both the MCR and JCR, such that in any College which has both an MCR and JCR, both would have to request a referendum for the College to count.

4.3 In addition, any petition mentioned in 4.1 would need to be signed by a percentage of graduates equal to their proportion of the total student membership. This quota must be announced by the RO after consultation with the University Graduate Office at the 1st meeting of Council in Michaelmas term and shall thence be set for the rest of the academic year.

To Insert

G4. Referenda

4.1 Any matter, other than the removal of a person from office, may be referred to a Referendum, in which all members of OUSU shall be entitled to vote, upon the receipt by the President of a petition to that effect signed by not fewer than 1500 full members of OUSU, or of a request to that effect from not fewer than 15 Constituent Organisations; or upon the passage of a motion to that effect by Council. Provision for Affiliation Ballots on the question of OUSU's affiliation to external organisations in accordance with the requirements of the Education Act 1994 shall be laid down in Standing Orders.

4.2 Any petition mentioned in 4.1 would need to be signed by a percentage of graduates equal to their proportion of the total student membership. This quota must be announced by the RO after consultation with the University at the 1st meeting of Council in Michaelmas term and shall thence be set for the rest of the academic year.

11. To Strike

G6. Indicative Polls

6.1 Any matter, other than the removal of a person from office, or any proposed Amendment to the Constitution or to Standing Orders, may be referred to an Indicative Poll, in which all members of OUSU shall be entitled to vote, upon the receipt by the President of a petition to that effect signed by not fewer than 1500 full members of OUSU, or of a request to that effect from not fewer than 10 Colleges; or upon the passage of a motion to that effect by Council except that any petition calling for an Indicative Poll to be held concurrently with the next Statutory Annual Elections shall require not fewer than 500 signatures or a request to that effect by not fewer than 5 Colleges.

6.2 For the purposes of 4.1 a “College” refers to both the MCR and JCR, such that in any College which has both an MCR and JCR, both would have to request a referendum for the College to count.

6.3 In addition, any petition mentioned in 4.1 would need to be signed by a percentage of graduates equal to their proportion of the total student membership. This quota must be announced by the RO after consultation with the University Graduate Office at the 1st meeting of Council in Michaelmas term and shall thence be set for the rest of the academic year.

To Insert

G6. Indicative Polls

6.1 Any matter, other than the removal of a person from office, or any proposed Amendment to the Constitution or to Standing Orders, may be referred to an Indicative Poll, in which all members of OUSU shall be entitled to vote, upon the receipt by the President of a petition to that effect signed by not fewer than 1500 full members of OUSU, or of a request to that effect from not fewer than 15 Constituent Organisations; or upon the passage of a motion to that effect by Council.

6.2 Any petition mentioned in 6.1 would need to be signed by a percentage of graduates equal to their proportion of the total student membership. This quota must be announced by the RO after consultation with the University at the 1st meeting of Council in Michaelmas term and shall thence be set for the rest of the academic year.

And renumber accordingly thereafter.

12. To Strike from Constitution Article I

I3 Rights of Attendance and Speech in PGA

3.1 Only members of Postgraduate Assembly shall be entitled to attend and speak, and to propose/second motions, and only the elected representatives of Constituent Organisations shall be entitled to vote, except where the Postgraduate Assembly resolves otherwise in a manner laid down in Standing Orders. Any graduate member is entitled to attend as an observer.

To Insert

I3 Rights of Attendance and Speech in PGA

3.1 Only members of Postgraduate Assembly shall be entitled to attend and speak, and to propose/second motions.

13. To Strike

Constitution Article J 1.1

(f) The Standing Orders of the Graduate Committee shall be included within Standing Orders, and, notwithstanding the provisions of H1(b) above, the Standing Orders of the Graduate Committee may be amended only in such a manner as shall be laid down within them and approved by Council in such manner as prescribed herein for an Amendment to Standing Orders under H1(b) above.

(g) Standing Orders shall specify the duties and responsibilities of all members of the Executive and all other officers, representatives, and appointees of OUSU, other than paid members of the OUSU

Staff; except that the duties and responsibilities of officers, representatives, and appointees of the Graduate Committee, shall be laid down in the Standing Orders of the Graduate Committee.

To Insert

Article J 1.1(f) Standing Orders shall specify the duties and responsibilities of all members of the Executive and all other officers, representatives, and appointees of OUSU, other than paid members of the OUSU Staff.

14. To Strike from Article K of the Constitution

'College' means a college or other society recognised under Title VII of the University Statutes.

And to replace with

'College' means a college or other society recognised under Statute V of the University Statutes.

15. To Strike from Article K of the Constitution

'Part-Time Executive Officer' means only one of the ten persons being members of the Executive under C3(a)ii.

And to replace with

'Executive Officer' means only one of the persons, who serve part-time, being members of the Executive under C3(a)ii.

16. To Strike from Article K of the Constitution

"Graduate Officer' means only one of the two persons being members of the Executive under C3(a)iii.

And to replace with

'Graduate Officer' means only one of the persons, who serve part-time, being members of the Executive under C3(a)iii.

17. To Strike from Article K of the Constitution

'Single Transferable Vote' means the Single Transferable Vote according to the rules laid down by the Electoral Reform Society in Newland & Britton, How to Conduct an Election by the Single Transferable Vote (2nd Edition, 1976)

and to replace with

'Single Transferable Vote' means the Single Transferable Vote according to the rules laid down by the Electoral Reform Society in Newland & Britton, How to Conduct an Election by the Single Transferable Vote (2nd Edition, 1997)

18. To strike from Standing Order C.2.c.v "£15 per council delegate candidate"

19. To strike from Standing Order C.2.f.1,

- “iv. One graduate candidates for Council Delegate*
- v. One first year candidate for Council Delegate*
- vi. One other candidate for Council Delegate”*

- 20. To strike from Standing Order C.2.h.4, *“done according to the Constitution D.13-17”* and insert *“done according to the Constitution 11-14”*
- 21. To strike from Standing Order C.3.c.1.i *“£50 per delegate candidate, NS delegate candidate or executive or graduate executive candidate”* and insert *“£50 per NUS delegate candidate or executive or graduate executive candidate”*.
- 22. To renumber Standing Order C.3.e.15, Standing Order C.3.e.14
- 23. To strike from Standing Order C.8.2.a, *“Except where a candidate is required to hust before the Executive”* and *“Where a candidate is required to hust before the Executive the deadline for applications will be determined by the President”*.
- 24. To strike Standing Order C.9.2.vii, *“In the event that the vacancy arises after Thursday of 5th week of full term, the by-election shall be postponed to the following term.*
- 25. To strike Standing Order C.9.3, *“Timetable for By-Elections regarding positions on the part-time executive*
 - ‘*
 - 1. In cases where there are places on the Part-Time executive to be filled, a notification will be sent out to members of the University at least two weeks before the election is due to take place.*
 - 1. Nominations for vacant positions will close a week before the election.*
 - 2. Elections to fill vacant positions will take place in OUSU Council.*
 - 3. Candidates may be required to give a three-minute hust, at the will of Council.*
 - 4. Following the hustings, all those who are eligible to vote in Council will cast their vote for the candidates.’*
- 26. To strike from Standing Order D.1.1, *“Vice-President (Welfare & Equal Opportunity)”* and insert *“Vice-President (Welfare & Equal Opportunities)* and rename accordingly hereafter.
- 27. To strike from Standing Order D.1.4, *“Graduate Health and Welfare Officer* and insert *“Graduate Welfare Officer”* and rename accordingly hereafter.
- 28. To strike Standing Order D.2 and insert,

“D.2 The Executive

2.1 The OUSU Executive shall:

- i. Be of equal status*
- ii. Use the vote granted to them as an Executive Officer rather than a Common Room vote, regardless of any Common Room committee positions they may concurrently hold;*
- iii Help any other members of the Executive carry out their portfolios where requested, regardless of their own specific job description;*
- iv. Help minute meetings of OUSU Council and the Executive;*
- v. Agree to send press releases relating to OUSU and their position within it only when they are in line with Policy, and only when the other members of the Executive have been informed;*

vi. *Act in accordance with the specific job descriptions contained in the appropriate Schedule.*

2.2 A member of the Executive will be deemed to have resigned should they miss three consecutive meetings of the Executive or of OUSU Council without giving apologies for their absence.”

And renumber accordingly.

29. To strike from Standing Order D.3.4.i, *“Motions to invoke the prerogative of the Executive under Article H2f of the Constitution”* and to insert *“Motions to invoke the prerogative of the Executive under Article H2g of the Constitution”*.

30. To strike Standing Order D.4 and insert

“D 4. University Committee Representation

4.1 . The Executive shall be responsible for administering student representation on University committees in line with University Statutes and Regulations.

4.2 In any case in which the university requires a member of the undergraduate or graduate student body, rather than specifically a member of the OUSU Executive, the Executive shall instruct that the vacancy be filled by an election in Council.”

And renumber accordingly.

31. To strike Standing Order D.6 Charities and D.7 Environment & Ethics and insert

“D 6. Miscellaneous

6.1 The Executive and all Committees shall hold all their open meetings, and all meetings wherever reasonably possible, in rooms accessible to wheelchair users. In the selection of rooms for their Meetings, the Executive and all Committees shall, where possible, endeavour to take into account the accessibility of those rooms to persons with other disabilities.”

And renumber Standing Order F as Standing Order G and internal references to the Standing Orders thereafter. The parts of the motion below will continue to use the existing numbering solely for ease of understanding.

32. To strike Standing Order F.3.7 and insert

3.7 The President shall be responsible for the interpretation of any expenditure which may be regarded as ultra vires. S/he shall consult the other sabbaticals before reaching any decisions under this clause.

33. To strike Standing Order F.3.9 and insert

3.9 All cheques on the OUSU accounts shall be signed by the General Manager or a member of OUSU staff nominated by the General Manager and the President or a sabbatical officer nominated by the President.

34. To strike Standing Order F.4.3 and insert *“The OUSU accounts shall be submitted to the appointed auditors for auditing as soon after the end of the financial year as possible.”*
35. To strike Standing Order F.4.4, *“The General Manager and the Advertising Coordinator shall draw up a list of creditors and debtors at the end of each financial year.”*
36. To strike Standing Order F.4.6, *“There shall be a set of virement headings that shall be used to classify income and expenditure. These shall be detailed in the budget and may be amended by Council.*
37. To strike from Standing Order F.6.2 *“publications and”*
38. To strike Standing Order F7 and insert,

“F7 Publications

7.1 *Such Publications shall be published as detailed in a Schedule appended to these Standing Orders. This Schedule may be amended in the manner specified therein.*

7.2 *Any publication which, in the opinion of OSSL board, is appropriate for OSSL publication, will be administered through OSSL. All other publications shall be administered through OUSU.*

7.3 *Responsibility for each publication shall rest with the relevant Publication Board. The remit of each Publication Board shall be the overall co-ordination of that particular publication and the determination of that publication’s strategy.*

7.4 *For each Publication there shall be a Publication Board consisting of the General Manager, Publications & Media Co-Ordinator and the Editor/s of the publication. In the case of a publication administered through OSSL the Advertising Coordinator shall be a member of Publications Board. Any relevant Sabbatical officer shall also be a member of the Publication Board.*

7.5 *All Publications shall be bound by OUSU Policy except for The Oxford Student which shall be exempt from OUSU policy and thus it shall be editorially independent under the rules and provisions of The Oxford Student constitution as laid down in these Standing Orders. Furthermore certain publications, as designated in the Schedule attached to these Standing Orders, shall also be exempt from OUSU Policy and shall be bound to provide authoritative and non-directional advice and support.*

7.6 *As far as possible, all publications shall be published in OUSU.”*

39. To strike Standing Order F9 and insert,

“F9 Charities

9.1 (a) Funds raised by Charities Committee shall be distributed to usually ten charities a year, the majority of which shall do local work in Oxford.

(b) The charities to which funds raised are distributed shall be decided by Charities Committee and ratified by Council in the first half of Michaelmas Term.

(c) The allocation of these funds raised shall take place at the end of the academic year.”

40. To rename Standing Order G, “*G. Postgraduate Assembly*”

41. To strike from Standing Order G.I.I, “*in ordinary circumstances meet on Tuesday of 3rd week of each term*” and replace it with “*meet at time determined by the Vice-President (Graduates)*”.

42. To strike from Standing Orders H and I all mentions of “*JCHC*” and replace them with “*University Council*”.

43. To Strike Standing Orders K

To Insert

“K. Appointments Board

K 1. Appointments Board

1.1 There shall be an Appointments Board consisting of the President, General Manager and 2 members of the Executive elected in the first Executive in Hilary Term. The Appointments Board shall be responsible for interviewing candidates and for selecting the successful applicant.

1.2 The Publications & Media Co-Ordinator shall sit on Appointments Board for all appointments relating to publications.

1.3 The Advertising & Entz Co-Ordinator shall sit on Appointments Board for the appointment of the Freshers’ Fair organizer and Assistant Business Managers.

1.4 In the case of each appointment made by the Appointments Board, the outgoing incumbent shall be deemed a full voting member of the Appointments Board, except where s/he is a candidate.

1.5 On such occasions when Appointments Board is considering appointing a Student Advisor, the Vice-President (Welfare & Equal Opportunities) shall sit on Appointments Board.

1.6 Other members of Appointments Board may be co-opted by a simple majority of the Appointments Board. Such co-opted members shall not have a vote.

1.7. Appointments Board shall be chaired by the President. Appointments Board shall have a quorum of 3.

1.8 The Appointments Board shall be convened by the chair in the case of a vacancy arising; or in the event of a vacancy created by Council.

1.9 Minutes shall be taken of all meetings of Appointments Board and circulated within 48 hours of the meeting to all members of Appointments Board

1.10 Decisions are to be taken by the Appointments Board by majority vote where no consensus exists. The Chair shall possess a deliberative and casting vote.

K 2. Vacancies arising

2.1 The President and General Manager shall have responsibility for the drawing up of advertising for vacancies arising among the non-elected staff of OUSU and the advertising of such vacancies. Appointments Board shall have responsibility for the interviewing of applicants for non-elected vacancies arising.

K 3. Vacancies created by Council

3.1 In the event of a non-elected vacancy being created by Council, the President and General Manager shall have responsibility for the drawing up of advertising for the vacancy and the advertising of the vacancy. Appointments Board shall have responsibility for the interviewing of applicants.

3.2 Where no job description for the vacancy exists, the President and General Manager shall draw one up, to be presented to the subsequent council in the form of an ordinary motion, or in such a way as resolved by council at the time of the creation of the vacancy.

44. To Strike

Standing Orders N- *Constitutions of the Autonomous Campaigns*

45. To Strike Schedule 3 – ‘Junior Member Representation on External Bodies’

Proposed: Jonny Medland (The Queen’s)

Seconded: Madeline Stanley (Lady Margaret Hall)

Jonny Medland (The Queen’s):

Comes with own booklet, what this does is get rid of the anomalies really wanted to tidy up no reason for them to be there. Clarifies, rationalises budget cycle. Rationalises publications, OxStu still editorially independent. Rationalises appointments board, outlines work of exec, Quick run down.

Passes.

Point of order .Standing orders suspended to clap Madeline and Jonny’s hardwork.

i. Passage of Motions Nem Com

I. Night Safety

Council Notes:

1. That night safety in Oxford is far from ideal
2. That a number of provisions are in place to ensure that students get home safely
3. The lack of awareness of these services
4. There is no CCTV camera on Magdalen Bridge, despite the presence of cameras on the High Street and Cowley Road

Council Believes:

1. All students should be able to walk home without fear
2. It is necessary to employ a variety of methods to ensure that this happens
3. All students should have access to the Safety Bus

- This runs every night from 9pm-3am (9pm-1am on Sunday) and only costs £1 to anywhere within the ring road
4. Students should have access to attack alarms

Council Resolves:

1. To publicise the Safety Bus to students – 0771445050
2. To make students in Common Rooms aware of night safety advice
3. To encourage all CR welfare officers to provide attack alarms to students and make their students aware of these alarms
4. To notify the Sabatical Team of any concerns to do with night safety, to enable the Sabbatical Officers to work with the Council and University to enact change
5. To encourage the VP (Welfare and Equal Opportunities), VP (Women) and VP (Charities and Community) to lobby the City Council, the University and the Police for a CCTV camera on the Magdalen Bridge

Proposed: Kat Wall (LMH)
Seconded: Dani Quinn (Merton)

Passes Nem Com

2. Special Council - Opposition

n. Other Motions

2. Special Council - Opposition

Council Notes:

1. The earlier motion “Constitutional Changes to enable the proposed new policy-making and scrutiny structure of OUSU”
2. Usually this motion if passed the requisite number of times would not come into effect until the end of Hilary Term 2010.
3. That under Article H.3.1.a consideration by Special Council of a motion proposing to change the Constitution may act as its second reading.
4. That if the motion mentioned in Council Notes 1 has passed today and the motion is referred to, and passed by, Special Council, the new policy-making and scrutiny structure can come into effect for Hilary Term 2010.

Council Believes:

1. The policy-making structure which has been proposed is a significant advance both for how OUSU makes policy and how various activities of OUSU can be scrutinised.
2. That as such it should come into effect as quickly as possible.

Council Resolves:

1. To refer the motion specified in Council Resolves 1 to Special Council for consideration.

Proposed: Jonny Medland (The Queen’s)
Seconded: Madeline Stanley (Lady Margaret Hall)

Madeline Stanley (LMH):
 Advises council what they are voting for.

Jonny Medland (The Queen’s):
 Needs to pass through council

Elliott Golend (Pembroke):
Will a proforma go out to common rooms?

Jonny Medland (The Queen's):
Only way able to vote is have mandate to do so. Need one common room to vote on this. Email out.

Daniel Lowe (St Edmunds Hall):
When is deadline?

Midday of 7th week.

Passes.

Election Results

I Postgraduate Social Sciences Divisional Board Representative

Sarah Hutchinson Elected

3 students to sit on the Joint Committee of University Council with Student members, 1 of whom must be a graduate

Ben Britton elected to Graduate position.
Alex Priest elected for a position

1 student to sit on a working group between OUSU and the university to review the OUSU complaints process

Alex Priest elected

2 students to sit on the Strategic Review Group created in OUSU Council of 3rd week Michaelmas 2009

Jessie Harber and Jason Keen elected

Appendix A

Proposal for OUSU to gain representation on Conference of Colleges

Trinity 2009

Context

The Oxford University Student Union represents over 20,000 students at Oxford University and since its creation has expanded considerably to not only represent students and offer them student led welfare advice outside of a college environment but also to become Europe's largest publishing house and the hub of campaigning activity through its campaigns such as the LGBTQ campaign and the Students with disabilities campaign.

OUSU has also steadily gained more representation on University and Conference committees over the years. A list of these can be found in Annex A.

Proposal

The Oxford University Student Union requests that its President is granted the status of student observer on the Conference of Colleges similar to the status of student representatives on University Council where student members leave for reserved business.

Justification

Students as key stakeholders

Students are stakeholders within the University and within the college system and therefore the need to reflect this in decision making structures is crucial. Graduates and Undergraduate are affected by the decisions and comments made by the Conference of Colleges and the presence of student representatives enhances the legitimacy of those decisions. We believe that Conference of Colleges already see students as key stakeholders through their recommendation that student representative should be accommodated on College governing bodies. We feel some representation on Conference of Colleges is consistent with that idea.

Enhancing policymaking

The inclusion of a student representative creates the provision for a point of view from a different perspective. This is not to say that the Conference of Colleges is at present unable to make informed decisions with regards to student affairs but that the student experience and student expectations changes quite quickly and student representatives who come into contact with a variety of students and their concerns and everyday of every week are in a strong position to add value to discussion as we currently do on the committees of conference such as Senior Tutors committee.

Improving our ability to help students

In order to serve the needs of students and ensure that we can provide them with accurate information our representatives need to be as informed as possible. Being present for discussions at the Conference of Colleges level will help the Student Union understand the concerns and issues faced by individual colleges and the collegiate University as a whole. Whilst it may be possible to get a feel for these issues through bilateral meetings with college representatives we believe that actually being present to see the dynamics of a discussion on a particular issue will give us a more holistic overview.

A proven track record of serving on committees

As mentioned earlier OUSU representatives sit on numerous committees and as a result our

representatives already have an awareness of the importance of respecting the confidential nature of certain papers. Furthermore feedback from numerous members of those committees regularly highlight the usefulness of student input on those committees.

Lewis Iwu
OUSU President

Appendix B

Student Representation in Oxford

OUSU has representation on a large number of University Committees and Conference of College Committees. Please get in touch with one of us if you have something you'd like to be said at a meeting or if you have a question you'd like raised. We're here to represent and convey your views.

University Council

Remit: The main decision-making body of the University, chaired by the Vice Chancellor.

Student Representative(s): The President, VP (Graduates) and VP (Access and Academic Affairs) are at Council for unreserved agenda items.

Education Committee

Remit: The main education committee of the University, chaired by the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education).

Student Representative(s): The VP (Graduates) and VP (Access and Academic Affairs) are full members of Education Committee.

Committee on Student Health and Welfare

Remit: The committee that looks at the provision of welfare to students (including the Counselling Service) and at issues surrounding student health and welfare in Oxford.

Student Representative(s): The VP (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) sit on this committee.

Consultative Committee for Health and Safety

Remit: Committee looking at health and safety.

Student Representative(s): VP (Welfare and Equal Opportunities).

Joint Committee of Council with Student Members (JCCSM)

Remit: A Joint Committee between members of University Council and OUSU and students elected at OUSU Council.

Student Representative(s): All the Sabbatical Officers, 2 members elected from OUSU Exec and 3 members elected in Council.

Graduate Committee of Conference of Colleges

Remit: The meeting of all Tutors for Graduates from Colleges, looking at colleges and graduate students.

Student Representative(s): The VP (Graduates) and a MCR president (elected from the MCR PresCom).

Senior Tutors Committee of Conference of Colleges

Remit: The meeting of all Senior Tutors from Colleges, looking at colleges and undergraduate students.

Student Representative(s): The VP (Access and Academic Affairs) attends.

Graduate Panel of Education Committee:

Remit: A specific group from Education Committee looking at graduate educational issues, chaired by the Pro-

Vice Chancellor Education.

Student Representative(s): The VP (Graduates)

Graduate Skills Advisory Group of Education Committee

Remit: A group looking at skills training for graduate students at Oxford, attended by members from Divisions, members of the Learning Institute, members of the Careers Service, and a representative from UK GRAD.

Student Representative(s): The VP (Graduates).

Undergraduate Panel of Education Committee

Remit: A specific group from Education Committee looking at undergraduate educational issues.

Student Representative(s): VP (Access and Academic Affairs).

The Socially Responsible Investment Review Committee

Remit: Chaired by a Pro-VC chosen by the university this committee looks critically at the university's investments and investment policies.

Student Representative(s): The VP (Charities and Community)

Curators of the University Libraries

Remit: The committee which deals with the Bodleian and University Libraries, chaired by the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research, Academic Services and University Collections),

Student Representative(s): The VP (Graduates) and VP (Access and Academic Affairs) sit on Curators.

Clubs Committee

Remit: A committee chaired by the Assessor which looks at the registration of new clubs and societies.

Student Representative(s): President, a Graduate member of the Exec and the VP (Charities and Community).

Committee for the Careers Service

Remit: The committee looking at the Careers Service.

Student Representative(s): The President

OUCS Management Committee

Remit: The committee looks at the services provided by the Oxford University Computing Services and its long term plans. It is chaired by the director of the OUCS.

Student Representative(s): VP (Graduates)

Committee for the Language Centre

Remit: The committee is chaired by the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education), and is attended by the Director of the Language Centre and representatives from colleges and the Modern Languages Faculty.

Student Representative(s): The VP (Graduates) and VP (Access and Academic Affairs).

Graduate Admissions Committee

Remit: It deals with graduate admission issues and chaired by the Academic Registrar.

Student Representative(s): VP (Graduates), Part-time Graduate Academic Affairs Officers

PRAC Fees Policy Group

Remit: It deals with fees for international and graduate students and is chaired by PVC (Planning and Resource)

Student Representative(s): VP (Graduates)

Admissions Executive of Conference of Colleges

Remit: A committee looking at Oxford undergraduate admissions policy

Student Representative(s): VP (Access and Academic Affairs)

Oxford University Access Advisory Group

Remit: A group chaired by the Pro-Vice Chancellor (Education) that looks at the University's access policy and initiatives.

Student Representative(s): VP (Access and Academic Affairs).

Environment Panel

Remit: A committee looking at the University's environmental policies. EP reports to the Buildings and Estates Committee.

Student Representative(s): VP (Charities and Community) and the Part-Time (Environment and Ethics Officer).

Gender Panel

Remit: A sub-committee of Education Committee the group monitors the achievements the different genders' achievements at finals and decides on practical initiatives and research to carry out or sponsor.

Student Representative(s): VP (Women)

Centre for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL)

Remit: It looks mainly at skills training and teaching for graduate students.

Student Representative(s): VP (Graduates)

On Course Steering Group

Remit: This group looks at student progression, supervision and examination processes.

Student Representative (s): VP (Access and Academic Affairs) and VP (Graduates)

Rules Committee

Remit: A committee with the Proctors, students and college representatives, looking at the University rules.

Student Representative(s): The President, 2 part-time exec members and 2 students elected in OUSU Council attend this committee.

JCC for Student Hardship and Childcare Funding

Remit: A committee looking at provision for student financial hardship and childcare funding.

Student Representative(s): VP (Welfare and Equal Opportunities), VP (Women) and VP (Graduates).

ICT Sub-Committee

Remit: The sub-committee looks at the over-all Information and Communication technology strategy of the University

Student Representative(s): VP (Graduates) and VP (Access and Academic Affairs)

Divisional Boards

MPLS Divisional Board

Medical Sciences Divisional Board

Humanities Divisional Board

Social Sciences Divisional Board

Student Representative(s): Each of these are attended by an undergraduate and graduate student, elected in OUSU Council or Postgraduate Assembly.

Administrative Steering/Working Groups

Often the committees above or people involved in the committees above set up smaller working groups or steering groups. A representative from OUSU is usually on these. Examples Below:

The Variable Fees Working Group

Remit: Group to discuss university fees models.

Student Representative(s): The President

Graduate Funding Working Group

Remit: It looks at the graduate funding including university scholarships, loans for international as well as home students.

Student Representative(s): VP (Graduates), Part-time International Students Officer.

The Gender Equality Scheme Steering Group

Remit: The group oversees the preparation of the Gender Equality Scheme and its yearly progress reports

Student Representative(s): VP (Women), VP (Access and Academic Affairs) and VP (Graduates).

Conference of Colleges - Quality Assurance Working Group

Remit: It looks at the UG and PG academic and welfare provision across colleges from the quality assurance perspective.

Student Representative(s): VP (Graduates) and VP (Access and Academic Affairs)