



c o u n c i l m i n u t e s

5th week Council at 5.30pm on Tuesday 9th November 2010, held at St Hugh's.

- 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

none, deemed passed

b. Matters Arising from the Minutes

none

d. Elections in Council

The following positions will be elected in OUSU Council of 5th week. To nominate for any of these positions please e-mail a completed nominations form to motions@ousu.org as soon as possible, as the deadline for nominations is midday on Monday, November 8th

4 Divisional Board Representatives (2 for each Division – 1 graduate & 1 undergraduate). Divisional Board Reps are responsible for representing their peers directly to the heads of faculties and division. Successful candidates will serve for **ONE YEAR**, and further information can be obtained from Alex Bulfin, VP (Access and Academic Affairs) at access@ousu.org.

Vacancies still available: Postgraduate Humanities Rep
Postgraduate Maths, Physical and Life Sciences Rep
Undergraduate Medical Sciences Rep

Complaints Committee (1 vacancy) Complaints board deals with any complaints raised through OUSU's statutory complaints procedure. Successful candidates will serve for **ONE YEAR**, and further information can be obtained from Jack Matthews, the Common Room Support Officer, via commonrooms@ousu.org.

Nominations Committee (1 vacancy) Nominations Committee is responsible for nominating candidates for the post of External Trustee. Successful candidates will serve for **ONE YEAR**, and further information can be obtained from David Barclay via president@ousu.org.

JCCSM Representative (2 vacancies; minimum 1 postgrad). JCCSM is the University's committee responsible for overseeing the work of OUSU. Successful candidates will serve for **ONE YEAR**, and will be responsible for representing the views of students on the activities of their student union. Further information can be obtained from David Barclay via president@ousu.org.

Budget Committee (2 vacancies). Budget Committee is responsible for overseeing OUSU's budget, and for discussing and scrutinizing any changes to it. Successful candidates will serve for **ONE YEAR**, and further information can be obtained from David Barclay via president@ousu.org.

Rules Committee (2 vacancies; matriculation requirement). Rules Committee usually meets once each year, during Hilary Term, to set the Regulations for Student Members. This includes rules on trashing, student societies, and rowing times. Candidates must have been matriculated for **THREE TERMS** (not including the current one), and may not have previously served on Rules Committee, and will serve for **ONE YEAR**. The Returning Officer is happy to discuss this role, and can be contacted via ro@ousu.org.

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Please read the election booklet and fill in your ballot papers
Put a one for your first choice, then 2 for your second choice, then 3 for your third, don't need to use all votes

If you are interested in running for a position there many left. If interested please send an email to ro@ousu.org. We will also be electing a new chair of council and returning officer for next term.

Divisional Board Rep (Postgraduate Medical Sciences)
Elected – Eric Chen LIU

Nominations Committee – Fabian Neuner Elected

JCCSM Representative - Fabian Neuner Elected

e. Reports from the Sabbatical Officers

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Please take a minute to read the booklet. Would any of the Sabbatical Officers like to add to their report?

David Barclay (President): Hi everyone. You have heard me going on and on about education funding, Vince Cable etc. The other side of the job you haven't heard much about is OUSU fun. A few changes are happening. One is the assembly of a Trustee Board. Next OUSU Council the nominations committee will be presenting candidates for the Trustee Board. In the long term this is going to provide us with lots of expertise on hand from the Trustee Board.

Today we approved a new CEO, Brona O'Toole. Just by way of background Brona has been the Chief Executive of a number of small charities before working for Oxford University running the first ever Alumni weekend and Wadham College's 400 year anniversary celebrations

I'm hoping by implementing these new changes that in 10 or 15 years time OUSU will be in a strong position

Q: How many applications for external trustee?

David Barclay (President): About 10. I sent out emails to the alumni network. I then sent out criteria to those that expressed interest. Those that replied wrote in expressing why they are interested. These will be taken to nominations council

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Would any of the other Sabbatical Officers like to add to their report?

Tom Perry (VP Welfare and Equal Opportunities): CRAE working group is up and running. Meeting at the end of the month. Contacted them all to get more input. If you want more info it is in the minutes of the last meeting, or email me. It would be great to get your input.

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Any questions for Sabs?

Lukas: How is the funding for buses going tomorrow? Have you managed to raise enough money?

David Barclay (President): Huge number of people have said they want to come. We needed to book 2 more coaches. There is an emergency motion to get extra funding, and we will be asking those colleges that haven't given money if they can. We didn't want to turn away students. Couldn't think of anything that would be better use of OUSU money this year, as this is something that will affect students many years to come.

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

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Would any of the part-time Executive like to add to their report or give a report?

Yuan Yang (Women's Officer): Could you do a quick favour for me? Think of a friend, it doesn't have to be close friend. Someone you can talk to about gender equality. Please give your friend a flyer. Tonight we have an event from a leading Chinese journalist.... And we have many more events in the coming week. I'm going to hand out flyers. Please take one for you and your friend

Q: Is it for men and women?

Yuan: Yes, that's why it is called the Gender Equality Festival, not the Women That Hate Men Festival

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Any other reports?

Jasper Minton-Taylor (LGBTQ Officer): Sorry I didn't make a report. I just wanted to say that we had a LGBTQ rep meeting which was very successful. We now have a database to make it easy for people to set up meetings and do mail outs

h. Emergency Motions

1. Allocation of Discretionary Campaigns Budget

Council Notes

1. Its policies in favour of a graduate tax, condemning the Browne review etc.
2. A large contingent of OUSU students are attending the National Demonstration, travelling on coaches booked and paid for by OUSU.
3. The turnout of people signing up for the demonstration exceeded initial estimates and extra coaches have had to be ordered.
4. The extra coaches cost more than the early booked coaches as they must be bought in from elsewhere - every coach in Oxfordshire is booked by either OUSU or Oxford Brookes SU.

Council Believes

1. Everyone who signed up for the coaches in time is entitled to a place.
2. OUSU should allocate a portion of its discretionary campaigns budget to make up the costs of coach hire.

Council Resolves

1. To allocate £300 of the discretionary campaigns budget towards paying for travel to the National Demo in

London.

Proposed: Daniel Lowe (St Edmund Hall)
Seconded: David Barclay (Worcester)

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): I have put on the agenda an emergency motion that was submitted for consideration after the deadline for motions, and I am required, under Standing Order B.1.2.d, to rule on whether the subject of the motion has "substantially arisen" since the aforementioned deadline. The subject of the motion in question is allocation of the Discretionary Campaigns Budget to fund coaches for the National Demo on Wednesday. This motion meets the requirements laid down in Standing Order B.1.2.d, and I therefore order that it be added to the agenda.

Can we please have a speech in proposition of this motion.

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): Because of the way we fund our campaigns, we have a pool of money that people can campaign for. We need £300 for the coaches for the National Demo. We believe it is best to ask for it before rather than in retrospect. Please say yes otherwise up to 100 people won't be able to go

Tom Scott (New College): How much is in the pot?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): £500

In the first quote the coaches were £345 each at 50 seats per coach (we ordered 8 coaches). Originally we told them we may need more coaches and they said this was fine, but they neglected to tell us that they would be £100 more per extra coach

Q: Why £300?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): We thought that it was best not to take it all as we don't know what could happen in future.

Q: Will the £300 be enough?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): Assuming all colleges that have pledged money do pay, we will still have a shortfall of £500.

Q: What is the plan to make it up?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): We hope other colleges will submit a motion to donate

Q: It is fairly cheap to go to London. Couldn't people just go by train?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): The cheapest students can go is £11. On the coaches it is about £7 per person. We promised we would take people, and we want to keep that promise

Q: Is it just boiling down to if it is not coming from here... then where..?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): It would come from staff training, money that hasn't been spent on training Sabs. Hopefully we will get more money from commercial ventures, like the sale of NUS cards. Hopefully some of shortfall will be made up by better commercial activity

Q: How many people?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): 550 people have signed up. Expect 500

Q: Have you organised 550 or 500?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): 500

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Any speeches in opposition? None. We will move to vote. No votes against.

Motion passes

n. Other Motions

I. Environmental and Ethical Policy Motion

Returned from E&E Committee

Council Notes:

1. The proposed Environmental and Ethical policy (Appendix A)
2. OUSU has made a variety of environmental and ethical commitments in individual council policies such as Minimisation of OUSU Environmental Impact (TT09), Support for Fairtrade (MT03, renewed HT08) and Campaign Against the University Using Sweatshop Labour (HT04, renewed TT09)
3. These motions are often passed without any opposition and very few questions.
4. Council policy lapses after three years and must be re-debated in order to continue to be binding.
5. The NUS Sound Environmental Impact Awards and People and Planet Green League penalise student unions who do not have environmental policies.

Council Believes:

1. OUSU should have an environmental and ethical policy.
2. This policy should be placed in the regulations, firstly to affirm OUSU's commitment to being a greener, more ethical organisation, secondly to collect all the related policies in one place for easy access and ease of use, thirdly to minimise time wasted in council policy lapse discussions.

Council Resolves:

1. To create OUSU Schedule 5 – Environmental and Ethical Policy, and insert the proposed policy document (Appendix A)

Proposed: Daniel Lowe (St. Edmund Hall)

Seconded: Ben West (St. Anne's)

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): This motion has been returned from E&E committee. Any opposition to the motion passing? I see opposition. Can we please have a speech in opposition of this motion.

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): OUSU has a variety of motions in support of E&E motions. We have to vote them through every 2 years. We want to put in them in the governing documents so we don't have to keep debating stuff we already agree with. When taken to the Committee we had only one comment, that it is very good, very comprehensive.

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Any SFQ?

David Townsend (St John's College): If you put it in governing documents then how can you change it later?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): You just need to have a majority vote in council

Hannah Cusworth (Academic Affairs Campaigns Officer): How do we make people stick to the policy?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): These issues will only come up with OUSU staff and exec. If we break them then complaints will go to the standing committee.

Q: How far away are we from being a living wage employer?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): OUSU staff are "living wage employees", but cleaners are not employed by us. However if we move to a new building then we could potentially be Living Wage Employers.

Yuan Yang (Women's Officer): How are we going to be implementing this?

Daniel Lowe (VP C&C): We can implement all these things nearly straight away. The parts involving the building will be if we move. Recycling, we do most of this already except for glass. We just need to speak to council or organise something else. Fairtrade we do already.

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): Any opposition speech? None

Motion passes

o. Any Other Business

Chair, Joseph Wales (St Hugh's): On the green paper is a motion regarding the Adoption of a Meat Free Day in colleges. This will be discussed at the next meeting E&E Committee meeting before coming to Council

Everyone that stood for a position has been elected

Appendix A – OUSU Environmental and Ethical Policy

A - Preamble

Oxford University Student Union recognises that it has a duty to mitigate its environmental impact by as great a degree as possible. Whilst it does not engage in highly polluting or energy-intensive activities OUSU affirms to lead by example to reduce its carbon footprint to a minimum.

This policy shall be reviewed *ad hoc* by the Vice President (Charities and Community) and Environment and Ethics Officer and annually by the OUSU executive. Changes to this policy require a motion passed by simple majority in OUSU council.

B - Energy

1. Electricity

OUSU sources its electricity from 100% renewable sources as part of the Collegiate University's single energy client. Should the single client break up; OUSU resolves to maintain purchasing 100% of its electricity from renewable resources, furthermore, if the single client reviews its energy tariff or provider OUSU resolves to campaign to the university to remain on a tariff where 100% of the energy supplied is from renewable sources.

Office lights shall be fitted with the latest generation of energy efficient lightbulbs and all lights and appliances shall be switched off when not in use.

2. Gas

Thomas Hull House uses gas boilers to provide heating and hot water. It is OUSU's intention to leave Thomas Hull House at the earliest convenience. Until that time all building users are encouraged to use act responsibly and sustainably with respect to heating. Heating policy shall be

1. To keep the office heated to no higher than 19°C
2. To keep all windows closed when the heating is on
3. To keep the office boiler insulated

C - Transport

OUSU is committed to a Green Transport Strategy to encourage the use of carbon efficient public and communal transport by its staff. Staff are encouraged to walk and cycle where possible and discouraged from driving to work. Where no convenient public transport facility exists for staff members, staff are encouraged to use Oxford Park and Ride services to minimise congestion and pollution within the city.

From time to time OUSU staff members need to travel for business reasons. It shall be OUSU policy that those travelling on OUSU business shall travel by train, where possible and where finances allow. OUSU shall aim to minimise costs by booking trains as far in advance as possible. Where travel is necessary to places without adequate train links, or matters arise once train prices have become too high, other forms of public transport shall be investigated, as well as car sharing and use of the Safety Bus before private transport is used.

In the case of international travel, it is important to factor in both the costs of low carbon travel as opposed to budget flights as well as the opportunity cost of engaging staff in lengthy journeys. It shall be OUSU policy to travel by international train or coach where finances and time constraints allow, but from time to time, air travel will be used. When this is the case, the carbon footprints of flights must be offset.

D - Purchasing

I. Food Purchasing

OUSU purchases very little food in comparison to most student unions as it runs neither a bar nor café. However, the small amount it does purchase can often be carbon-intensive as such products are often heavily packaged, industrially processed cakes and biscuits for refreshments and social activities of committees and campaigns.

OUSU commits to a Fairtrade policy, and as such, a Fairtrade option must be available whenever food or drinks are served. Sustainability is one of the key principles of the Fairtrade foundation and as such the Fairtrade policy harmonises well with the Food Purchasing Policy.

OUSU commits to buying fresh, locally produced products over long-life commercially produced options, such as cakes and cookies baked in-store from supermarkets, or as individual committees and campaigns decide, from local businesses. A Fairtrade option must always be available, except when wine is served, where the priority shall be placed on wines sourced within Europe, to minimise food miles. The use of organically grown products is encouraged, where it has been shown that such products have a smaller environmental impact than their non-organic counterparts.

2. Non-Food Purchasing

OUSU commits to using only biodegradable cleaning products throughout the building and biodegradable soap in washing facilities. Printer and photocopier paper shall be 100% post-consumer recycled where finances and quality control measures allow. When a higher quality of paper is required, all paper used must be 100% FSC certified. Any OUSU branded clothing shall be Fairtrade where possible, or if the required designs are not available with Fairtrade certification OUSU shall purchase WRAP accredited apparel.

E - Water

OUSU uses very little direct water, mostly for washing and drinking. Users of the building are encouraged not to waste water and all toilets are fitted with water saving devices. There is very little scope for introduction of water recycling measures in Thomas Hull House, however, should OUSU move premises, all avenues such as recycling of greywater, rainbarrels, etc. shall be explored.

F - Buildings

Thomas Hull House is not an energy efficient building. As it is the intention of OUSU to move premises at the earliest convenience, the energy efficiency of potential new locations shall be noted as part of the consultation process and those of greater efficiency shall be looked upon favourably. If OUSU finds itself unable to move offices by the end of the 2010 academic year, the VP (Charities and Community) and General Manager shall explore ways of investing in the energy efficiency of Thomas Hull House.

G - Waste

OUSU currently recycles paper, cardboard, cans and plastic bottles through Oxford City Council. Batteries are collected and delivered to public collection points by a member of staff and ink and toner cartridges are recycled by a for-profit company. Household waste in Oxford is currently recycled using a comingled system and includes more types of plastic as well as glass. OUSU shall lobby the Council to upgrade its Trade Recycling to include glass and more types of plastic. OUSU believes it is best to encourage change from within, thus will remain using the City Council as its waste collector, but if by January 2012 the required upgrades have not been implemented, OUSU shall seek to find another contractor to provide for its needs.

By January 2012 OUSU shall recycle

1. glass
2. plastics
3. cans and tins
4. paper
5. cardboard
6. batteries
7. ink and toner cartridges

H - Fairtrade

OUSU supports the Fairtrade movement and aspires to achieve Fairtrade status. As a Student Union it is currently unable to do so and will only achieve certification alongside the University. In the mean time OUSU shall continue to maintain a Fairtrade policy, providing Fairtrade options at every available opportunity, including staff meetings, promoting Fairtrade within the university, running at least one Fairtrade event a term and reviewing its policy through a Fairtrade steering group.

The Fairtrade steering group shall consist of

1. The VP (C&C)
2. The General Manager
3. The administrative assistant
4. The Environment and Ethics Officer
5. The Community Outreach and Charities Officer

Meetings shall be open and occur no less than once per term.

OUSU shall support individual common rooms and students in encouraging their colleges to attain Fairtrade status.

I - Living Wage

OUSU shall be a living wage employer and pay all its staff a Living Wage. What OUSU considers to be a living wage shall be set annually by Standing Committee, on advice from relevant experts, organisations and campaign groups such as the Oxford Living Wage Campaign and Citizens UK. OUSU shall support individual common rooms and students in encouraging their colleges to become living wage employers.