

## Council Minutes

*Termly Council Hilary Term 2012*

Termly Council held at 5.30pm on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> February 2012, held in St. Peters Chapel  
Sign in from 5.15pm

If you have any questions about OUSU Council, you should feel free to contact the Chair, Adam Tyndall at any time on [chair@ousu.org](mailto:chair@ousu.org)

- i. Election of Chair of Council
- ii. Election of Returning Officer
- iii. Termly Reports of the President and Vice-Presidents
- iv. Termly Reports of the Executive and Committee Chairs
- v. Termly Reports of the Divisional Board Representatives
- vi. Termly Report of the Scrutiny Committee
- vii. Constitutional Business (Second and Final Readings of Motions to Change the Constitution and Standing Orders)

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The following positions were not elected in Council as no one stood for these positions;

### **i. Election of Chair of Council**

To serve for Trinity Term 2012. The Chair of Council compiles the agenda with the help of Steering Committee, which they also Chair. They Chair all meeting of OUSU Council, be that Ordinary, Extraordinary, Special or Termly. The Chair also has various minor roles to perform under the Rules of OUSU. For more information contact [chair@ousu.org](mailto:chair@ousu.org).

### **ii. Election of Returning Officer**

To serve for Hilary Term 2012. The Returning Officer runs all elections within OUSU, both campus wide ballots and Election in OUSU Council. For more information contact [ro@ousu.org](mailto:ro@ousu.org).

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### **iii. Termly Report of the President and Vice Presidents**

#### **President - Martha Mackenzie**

Thank you for those involved this term, stay involved, and please do email me to ask questions if you want to.

#### **VP Graduates - Jim O'Connell**

Announces the donation, hope more will follow.

#### **VP Welfare & Equal Opportunities - Seb Baird**

Launch event of Mind Your Head if you haven't been invited let me know and come along.

#### **VP Women - Yuan Yang**

All my report is in my report.

#### **VP Charities & Community - Daniel Stone**

Ethical Careers this Saturday in exams school please come along.

#### **VP Access & Academic Affairs - Hannah Cusworth**

Echo Martha's sentiments thank you for your involvement, got loads done. For those of you interested in coming to the use your feedback session was postponed but will be next term now. Thanks

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#### iv. Termly Reports of the Executive and Committee Chairs

None.

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#### v. Termly Reports of the Divisional Board Representative

**MPLS Post Graduate Divisional Board Representative - Jack Matthews**

Trying to keep down fees for international students and we are trying to ensure more grads at Oxford.

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#### v. Termly Report of the Scrutiny Committee

##### Report of Scrutiny Committee

##### Council Notes:

1. The Report of the OUSU Scrutiny Committee, Hilary Term 201.

##### Council Resolves:

1. To accept the report and its recommendations.

**Proposed:** *Charlotte Baker (St Catherine's College)*

**Seconded:** *Alex Cibulskis (Wadham)*

Charlotte Baker (St Catherine's)

Here in orange feedback on everyone, overwhelmingly positive fee areas of concern which are in the recommendations focus on Communications. Apologies to Chidi as referred to incorrectly. Any questions please email.

No opposition passes.

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#### k. Constitutional Business (Second and Final Readings of Motions to Change the Constitution and Standing Orders)

##### Motion to grant Divisional Board Representatives Votes in Council

##### Council Notes:

1. Divisional Board Representatives represent us to the University's 4 Academic Divisions.
2. Each Board has one undergraduate and one graduate student representative.
3. Key decisions relating to students' academic experience are made at the Divisional Boards.
4. Divisional Board Reps therefore have a great responsibility to represent a lot of students.
5. Academic Representation is important for all students but particularly graduate students, who are taught and supervised within departments.
6. The Review of Academic Representation is working on extending and integrating representation across the University.

##### Council Believes:

1. Academic Representation is vital to securing students' interests.
2. Our academic representatives should be able to contribute to policy making at OUSU Council, in the same way that Common Room Officers do
3. Granting votes to Divisional Board Reps will encourage them to share their work through OUSU Council, as well as raise the issues facing their Divisions at Council.

##### Council Resolves:

1. To add '(v) Undergraduate and Graduate Divisional Board Representatives' to Section B 2.1 of the OUSU Rules/Bylaws.
2. To bring Divisional Board Representatives under the remit of Scrutiny Committee.
3. To request Divisional Board Representatives to report to Termly Council and make appropriate provision in the agenda.

**Proposed:** *Jim O'Connell (Univ)*  
**Seconded:** *Martha Mackenzie (St John's)*

Passed in MT11 has to be passed again to become part of constitution.

Read by Adam Tyndall Chair as was not on agenda.

No opposition - Passes.

### **Mind Your Head Campaign**

#### **Council Notes:**

1. According to a study by the mental health campaign Time to Change, 60% of people with mental health problems perceive the stigma to be as bad or worse than the symptoms of their mental illness
2. That within the current institutional memory of OUSU, there has been no sustained and widespread student activity to increase mental health awareness and promote emotional wellbeing
3. That 16 students have attended meetings to establish the 'Mind Your Head' campaign in the University of Oxford and several more have indicated an interest in being involved.
4. That awareness-raising campaigns cost money to run, and that OUSU's autonomous campaigns are each given £500 every year from OUSU's budget.

#### **Council Believes:**

1. That mental health and mental illness are subjects of considerable importance in higher education and at the University of Oxford in particular
2. That stigma surrounding mental health and mental illness is still considerable, even in a progressive environment such as ours
3. That efforts to combat stigma and increase awareness of mental health and emotional wellbeing are deemed necessary and commendable.

#### **Council Resolves:**

1. To create a Permanent Committee called the Mind Your Head Campaign
2. To add to SOs 3D) (Health & Welfare Officer) "To provide support to the Mind Your Head Campaign."
3. To donate £300 from the discretionary campaigns fund for the campaign's operation for the rest of the academic year
4. To mandate the VP (Welfare and Equal Opportunities) to ensure that the Campaign is accounted for in next year's budget.

**Proposed:** *Seb Baird (Corpus Christi)*  
**Seconded:** *Georgina Kay (The Queen's)*

No opposition passes.