

JCSU COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the JCSU Committee held on Thursday 10th March 2016 at 5PM in the Library Court Seminar room.

MINUTES

Present: the President (Daisy Eyre), the Vice-President (Ellen Parker), the Treasurer (Anand Sharma), the Secretary (Jamie Sandall), the Services Officer (Christina Lane), the Communications Officer (George Thompson), the Access Officer (Amelia Oakley), the Green Officer (Tim Lennox), the Ents Officers (Niall Devlin & Harrison MacNeill), the Women's Officer (Abigail Smith), the Welfare Officers (Joe Hamilton & Rebecca Lewis), the Mental Health and Disabilities Officer (Eddie Conway), the International Officer (Man Hon Ding), the LGBT+ Officer (Andy Burnett) and the Racial Equalities Officer (Ore Ogunbiyi).

Absent: CL, HMcN, ASH

1. Committee reports of actions since last meeting

EC – Bought diaries and coloured overlays. Sent emails.

MHD – Organising potluck, formal (Churchill), and an international team for the 5-aside

TL – Focusing on recycling bins (likely next term) and positive investment with Senior Bursar (slower progress)

RL/JH – Puppies, Bouncy Castle – term scheduled. Welfare walks. Been to training. Survive and succeed run at brunch.

GT – Engaged in discussion regarding data protection. Reviewing website designs. Usual actives. Snapchat filter will be sent out in a email in the next week.

ASm – Coordinated with AB and OO with a view to organise discussion groups. Sending out bulletins still.

AB – Replied to ASm. Bought condoms as CUSU not open.

OO – Discussion group with Islamic society in the work (after exams). Most will be under points in 'Matters arising'.

AO – Access tours to North East and London. Looking ahead to getting new SLO and supper residential. Prose written for alternative prospective, images and design to be sorted. Sat in on interviews for college photographer.

JS – Society and team photographs (24/04/16).

ND – Tried to organise formal in West Court (no suitable dates). BOP last night.

EP – Meetings with DE. Looking into new bits of stash.

DE – Caesarean Sunday discussions. Publishing new caff and café initiatives. Emailing Librarian about desk hogging. Most in matters arising.

2. Suggestion form report by CL

n/a

3. Matters arising

(a) NUS – OO

DE – received letter from campaign (Jack May) about holding a referendum over disaffiliating from NUS. Whether we support the motion going to NUS

OO – new NUS President received letter from large group of Jewish Students about concerns of theirs. Issue is having a referendum due to inability to represent Jewish students adequately. She did respond to the letter. Support a referendum on the issue

JH – I do not believe she is an anti-Semite, however the rhetoric she uses is unnerving and doesn't belong in modern day discourses. Her apology was unsatisfactory as she did not say sorry. She endorsed violent resistance. This discredits those perusing non-violent means. Many Jews I know are unnerved by this, emailed by Joel Collick. He asks the JCSU supports the move for a referendum

DE – unsure whether we have the ability to come to a conclusion on the matter. Issue of whether the NUS as a whole is unfit, as these concerns were raised before

RL – when I spoke to Joel, he stressed that the fact she was elected demonstrates there are anti-Semitic ripples throughout the whole organisation

OO – important to note she has done a lot of work representing black students. It is concerning what she's said and that doesn't make it ok

ASm – friend wrote an article, very supportive of staying in NUS

AO – last month NUS asked SU to ban gay men representatives within LGBT+ roles. Wider lack of confidence in NUS, we only sent 3/5 delegates

GT – are there any other options on the table?

ND – seems like the nuclear option is being used

DE – issue is that it's being called for. Motion already written for CUSU meeting, vote of no-confidence an option?

GT – important to not conflate. Could be problem leaving long-term

JH – oxford didn't support her before the election. Now going to have a similar debate

ASm – give people the opportunity to voice concerns

JH – these are not people who represent the majority of students. More moderate candidates are deterred

ND – what does NUS do for us? What is life after NUS?

OO – all this will be raised during a referendum

GT – difference between conditional/unconditional referendum e.g. 'if she doesn't resign

JH – Is not just her, wider problem

GT – not a fan of NUS but support unionisation

ASm – the fact there is a referendum will show a lack of faith

DE – happy to raise these issues at CUSU council

GT – if it is stay in/leave people tend to vote conservatively, and will not appear to condemn

ND – need a middle option

RL – given there is a significant call for it means disaffiliation should be an option

GT – think you have to condemn first, and then escalate to disaffiliation

DE – by condoning a referendum seriously opening up possibility that we would stay in NUS and then nothing would happen. Would we support a different form of referendum?

JH – don't need a referendum to condemn

DE – this could be done at CUSU

JH – at the very least this should happen

ASm – gives them the opportunity for them to do nothing

RL – act of having a referendum implicitly condemns

AO – big issue, people care how Oxbridge act on this (national press attention)

GT – more pragmatic issues that could be conflated by immediately pushing for disaffiliation referendum

DE – agree, important CUSU condemn first will attend to this. Before lobbying for a referendum, that is the extent of our mandate

GT – disagree with bringing to a vote so swiftly. Like Thatcher brushes over subtleties of debate

DE – Agree, need to condemn before

(b) Circulation of bank statements – ASH (via EP)

(c) Stash – EP

EP – reusable coffee cup and water bottle, customised for Jesus colours and logo

DE – ensure use correct logo

EP – having a meeting with Helen Harris on Tuesday

DE – onesies?

EP – not currently in catalogue, ordering from a different company. Need to meet minimum orders (60/100). Estimated costs of £4/£5 for both. Should give profit for enterprise account (for Garden party)

Committee - approves

(d) Garden party – DE

DE – show of hands who isn't going to Murray Edwards (50/50 split). Might have to draft other people in to help

AO – lots of people went to Medward's last year, but others left free Garden parties to help out

DE – if you're not going to Medward's then you really need to be there. Need a hand with clear up

ND – can use friends, previous committee etc.

DE – will still need help organising. Had a sub-committee last year. Preferably those that are going to be there. Sub-committee (ASm, ND, HMcN, DE, AO, CL, ASH, GT, EP, EC, MHD)

AO – need to have meeting with Duncan and suppliers

ND – disagreement over glass/plastic bottles last year

GT – could have a keg?

AO – will have to be able to get electricity there

(e) Name change – OO

OO – asking for support to change to BME from Racial Equalities. Open to BAME. Used in studies etc. does better than racial equalities. Would make clear who I actually represent, those groups that are historically marginalised groups. There is an argument for reverse racism, but I will counter this at OGM. Same reason ASm is Women's not Gender officer, should show role is reserved as a space for minorities. Keen to get through so changes before next election.

GT – important to change for self-identifying debate

DE – has to be top OGM. Possible to have a discussion group before?

OO – yes will organise

Committee – support OO in raising this motion at OGM

(e) Self-defining voting

DE – will be agenda on next OGM, needs to be discussed.

ASm – clarify which roles

DE – any officer who things it should be put forward

JS – separate motions?

DE – yes, good idea. Three separate motions

GT – issue of liberation campaign means it comes down to representation

AO – how planning on doing consequent subscriptions? Problems with asking people to officially list these identities

OO – have to have faith that people don't cheat system (as with CUSU)

GT – don't think there should be a list or any enforcement

DE – people do this already, they are aware they don't have a mandate to vote on certain issues. At OGM broad explanation as to who it will work, non-specific

OO – from a position of neutrality (JS or chair)

DE – who to chair?

GT – I volunteer

DE – GT does it

EC – any way to make some statement as to why I'm not?

JS – can include in explanation at start

DE – should we have pre-OGM discussion group and combine motions being put forward? Don't want massive argument during OGM

(f) College Counsellor – DE

DE – email from college about counsellor. Anna starting next week. Think we need to do more JCSU advertisement of

JH – if she wants to maintain boundaries could go through Welfare?

AO – shouldn't second-guess don't know her reasons for this

RL – worth seeing how first week goes

GT – will we have access to data on how many people are going

DE – sure she'd mention this

EC – will do an anonymous survey

(f) Fresher's week – DE

DE – want to make you aware we have to start planning towards the end of term

MHD – when is it?

DE – first week of October. Want to confirm that I will be there for Fresher's week.

4. Any other business

(a) Cutting Women's hour – ASm

ASm – due to severe lack of usage, will reduce to four times a week

GT – could do with generally publicising it more

DE thanked the members of the Committee for a very helpful and successful meeting.

The meeting closed at 6:10PM.