CUSU Council Easter I 

7pm, Monday 30th April 2018

Mill Lane Lecture Rooms, Room 2

AGENDA

1. Objections to the order of items on the agenda
2. Corrections to the minutes of the last Council Meeting
3. Matters arising from the minutes of the last Council Meeting
4. Date, time and venue of upcoming Council meetings:
	1. To be confirmed via email and the CUSU Council Facebook page.
5. Announcements by Committees, Campaign Teams and the Executive
6. Questions to Committees, Campaign Teams and the Executive
7. Announcements by the Council
8. Discussions
	1. Exams and Welfare
9. Ordinary Policy Motions from Previous Council
10. Proposed Ordinary Policy Motions
11. Proposed Ordinary Action Motions
	1. Motion for the University of Cambridge to compensate students for cancelled contact time during industrial action
	2. Motion for Student Strike
12. Any other business
	1. Questions from Press

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

# OBJECTIONS TO THE ORDER OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

# CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

# MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

# DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

To be confirmed via email.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS BY COMMITTEES, CAMPAIGN TEAMS AND THE EXECUTIVE

DAISY EYRE – CUSU PRESIDENT

To update at CUSU Council

MARTHA KRISH – CUSU EDUCATION OFFICER

* Ran judging panels and planned ceremony for SLTAs
* Attended meeting on Camsis-Self Service updates
* Attended Degree Classification and Ranking Working Group
* Attended Board of Exams
* Attended General Board
* Ran Access Focus Group w/ students and Graham Virgo
* Organised and chaired open meeting with the Vice Chancellor
* Judged 3 minute thesis competition
* Made a presentation and spoke on a panel at the CCTL Teaching Forum
* Prepared for the Pharmacology Learning and Teaching Review
* Liaised with the Vice-Chancellor's Office to arrange second Vice Chancellor Open Meeting

FLORENCE OULDS – CUSU DISABLED STUDENTS’ OFFICER

* Supported UCU strikes & student solidarity work
* Elections committee
* Began work on handover
* Finished and published Healthcare & Services Survey
* Planned events & projects for Easter term
* Continued work on the Uni 4
* Attended Computer Based Exams committee and Lecture Capture Project Board
* Worked on paper for Equality & Diversity committee
* Held Disabled Students' Forum
* Hosted NUS Disabled Students Political Education Day
* Spoke at Amnesty International meeting

LOLA OLUFEMI – CUSU WOMEN’S OFFICER

* Trained incoming MCR Women's Officer
* Attended the NUS National Conference and Women's Conference and was elected onto National Executive Council
* Gathered speakers for the Senate House Discussion May 1st
* Created and released women's campaign term card
* Met with representatives from Decolonising Curriculum Campaign
* Spoke on a panel chaired by Graham Virgo at the university wide teaching forum
* Spoke at the University of Keele about decolonial work
* Did an interview with Varsity about reforming the Disciplinary procedure

MICHA FRAZER-CARROLL – CUSU/GU WELFARE AND RIGHTS OFFICER

To update at CUSU Council

OLIVIA HYLTON-PENNANT – CUSU ACCESS AND FUNDING OFFICER

To update at CUSU Council

CUSU LGBT+ CAMPAIGN

* New committee working hard
* Rainbow ball tickets first release have sold out
* Garden party is being planned
* Welfare campaign is shaping up well and the 'why gender-neutral' campaign is starting to take up shape
* We have intersectional events planned too

CUSU BME CAMPAIGN

To update at CUSU Council

CUSU DISABLED STUDENTS’ CAMPAIGN

To update at CUSU Council

CUSU INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS’ CAMPAIGN

To update at CUSU Council

CUSU WOMEN’S CAMPAIGN

To update at CUSU Council

CUSU ETHICAL AFFAIRS CAMPAIGN

To update at CUSU Council

# QUESTIONS FOR THE COMMITTEES, CAMPAIGN TEAMS, AND THE EXECUTIVE

# ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE COUNCIL

# DISCUSSIONS

a. Exams and Welfare

# 9. ORDINARY POLICY MOTIONS FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL

Policy requires approval at two consecutive Councils. The approval of the ‘starred’ motion at the second Council will be deemed to be automatic unless this ‘star’ is removed by a single member at the second Council wanting to revisit the motion for further discussion.

Please find the starred policy motions that were passed at the last Council listed below:

* MOTION TO MANDATE CUSU TO WORK WITH CRSC TO LOBBY THE UNIVERSITY TO CREATE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR FUTURE REFUGEE STUDENTS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE\*
* MOTION TO ENCOURAGE THE UNIFORMIZATION OF LGBT+ RIGHTS ACROSS THE UNIVERSITY\*

# 11. PROPOSED ORDINARY POLICY MOTIONS

MOTION FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE TO COMPENSATE STUDENTS FOR CANCELLED CONTACT TIME DURING INDUSTRIAL ACTION

Proposer: Oliver Jones – Christ’s JCR Vice President

Seconder: Ben McGuigan – Homerton’s JCR Vice President External

**CUSU Notes:**

1.That the education of students at this university has been adversely affected by the mass cancellation of contact time on strike-days.

2. There are numerous local and national student petitions calling for compensation for missed contact hours, and in a recent survey of 259 students ~90% of those surveyed approved of proportional refunds.

3.Other universities, such as Kings College London, have agreed to refund tuition in relation to the UCU strikes.

4.The UCU has agreed “agreed that docked pay [of striking lecturers] will go into [sic] the student hardship fund”

**CUSU Believes:**

1.That students are entitled to fair compensation in the form of financial reimbursement proportional to the hours they have missed and the nominal value of their fees of tuition.

2.That affected students should be the direct recipients of compensation.

3.That demanding refunds demonstrates to the university that marketisation is a flawed system for the institution as well as the student.

4.That contact time with lecturers/supervisors is a valuable and fundamental source of academic information highly relevant to the attainment of a successful university education by students.

**CUSU Resolves:**

1. To lobby the University to recognise this claim for financial compensation and act accordingly to fulfil it.

2. To mandate CUSU sabbatical officers to work with University management, Faculties and other relevant institutions to see to the implementation of financial compensation.

3. To the best of its ability, publicise efforts to gain financial compensation as well as rally and mobilise students in favour of financial compensation such to put additional pressure on the University to recognise these demands and execute them.

MOTION FOR STUDENT STRIKE

Proposer: Keelan Kellegher

Seconder: Khaled Malachi

**CUSU Notes:**

1. The UCU strike is the most powerful threat to the marketization of education since the anti-tuition fees movement.
2. That CUSU council resolved to support the strike on 22nd January 2018.
3. That in the first week of the strike national polling demonstrated huge support (61%) from students. The greatest support (66%) is from students in striking universities (<https://www.ucu.org.uk/article/9345/Poll-shows-students-support-pension-strikes-and-blame-universities-for-the-disruption>).
4. That administrative HE staff in Unison are being balloted for strike action, indicating that this strike is due to escalate.
5. That it is not just university staff who are suffering the effects of austerity in Higher Education. Tuition fees, rising rent and other living costs, are a huge burden on students.
6. That whilst workers are asked to tighten our belts, big business is sitting on cash stockpiles worth billions.

**CUSU Believes:**

1. That this is an vital opportunity to launch a mass national student movement, in tandem with the workers’ struggle, to resist marketization of Higher Education and to fight for free, accessible education for all.
2. That students are an important auxiliary in the workers’ struggle, and that our intervention on a mass scale can prove decisive.
3. That the nationalisation and socialisation of the commanding heights of the economy without compensation, with profit going back into society rather than to the capitalist class, is a necessary precondition to a free and accessible education system.

**CUSU Resolves:**

1. To ballot our members for a student strike and mass occupation of key buildings (e.g. Senate House, the Old Schools) for the following demands:
	1. Hands Off USS! No changes to be made to the USS pension; for defined benefit to be maintained.
	2. Free and accessible education now! We demand an immediate end to course fees for both national and international students; we demand full living grants to all students; we demand the cancellation of all student debt.
	3. To pay for this with the nationalisation of the 100 biggest banks and businesses in Britain, to be run under the democratic control of their workforces.
2. To campaign for a Yes vote to student strike action
3. To campaign for the NUS to ballot all of its members for a student strike and a wave of mass occupations on the demands above (under Resolves 1).

# 12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

1. Questions from Press