

CUSU Council Lent III  
7pm, Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February 2018  
Cormack Room, University Centre

## 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:
  - a. 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
  - a. UCU Strike action
9. Ordinary Policy Motions from Previous Council
  - a. Motion to Support Sustainable Ball Movement
10. Proposed Ordinary Policy Motions
  - a. Motion to set the wage of the Welfare and Rights Officer
  - b. Students not Suspects
11. Proposed Ordinary Action Motions
  - a. Motion for funding for solidarity with UCU action
12. Any other business

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### 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

### 5. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY COMMITTEES, CAMPAIGN TEAMS AND THE EXECUTIVE

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#### DAISY EYRE – CUSU PRESIDENT

- Liaison with UCU representatives on the strike, planning our support for the strike including a rally and open letter to the VC (over 200 signatures and counting)
- Met with representatives of 13 J/MCRs to discuss their plans for the term and how CUSU can support them
- Committees: Senior Tutors' Committee, EU Advisory Group, Resource Management Committee, Prevent Committee, Alumni Advisory Board, Council Committee for the Supervision of the Students' Unions, first meeting of the Chemistry Learning and Teaching Review
- Met informally with University staff about: access after admission, Prevent, intermitting students, the University Disciplinary Procedure, student empowerment and much more
- Attended student events: CDE meeting about the UCU strike, St Catharines' College JCR meeting, iCUSU students in Brexit Forum
- Met with elections committee on a number of occasions to plan Lent elections
- Organised and attended 3rd meeting of the Council Inquiry into CUSU Finances
- Attended a CUSU Trustee Board Finance Committee meeting
- Written a number of bulletins
- Launched a survey about Intermission for our intermission forum with key University players next term

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#### MARTHA KRISH – CUSU EDUCATION OFFICER

##### Attended:

- Language Centre Committee of Management
- Part Time Masters Working Group
- Conference in Leeds about Subject-Level TEF
- General Board Education Committee
- Senior Tutors Education Committee
- Initial meeting of the Physics Learning and Teaching Review
- Meeting with Graham Virgo
- General Board
- Time Management Training

As well as this Martha filmed and edited the sabbatical election video and promoted Student-Led Teaching Awards.

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#### FLORENCE OULDS – CUSU DISABLED STUDENTS’ OFFICER

- Attended Equality & Diversity committee, Health & Wellbeing committee, and Computer Based Exams committee
- Began work on improving gendered language and categories in University equality work
- Continued work on Healthcare & Services survey, hosted a workshopping event
- Worked on promotion and materials for upcoming sabbatical elections
- Co-hosted chronic illness support group
- Hosted talk on disability & the law
- Worked as the student representative on the Mathematics learning & teaching review

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#### LOLA OLUFEMI – CUSU WOMEN’S OFFICER

To update at CUSU Council

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

To update at CUSU Council

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#### OLIVIA HYLTON-PENNANT – CUSU ACCESS AND FUNDING OFFICER

- Back from post-Shadowing Scheme break - catching up on emails/admin
- Met with parents from King's College London Parent Power group
- Attended Target Oxbridge Working Group meeting to plan upcoming residentials
- Attended Gonville & Caius College's inaugural BME Conference
- Ran a social for Shadowing Scheme volunteers

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#### CUSU LGBT+ CAMPAIGN

- History Month events are still going strong,
- The Rainbow Ball Facebook page has gone up and we’re counting down to the theme announcement
- we’re in the run up to the lent elections
- we voted on several motions during our open meeting including:
  - to enable most roles to run in pairs,
  - an alteration to the standing orders that means committee members who are unable to fulfil their duties can become general committee members and another member of the committee can take on their responsibilities
  - to create another trans and non-binary rep positions

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#### CUSU BME CAMPAIGN

To update at CUSU Council

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#### CUSU DISABLED STUDENTS’ CAMPAIGN

To update at CUSU Council

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## CUSU INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' CAMPAIGN

To update at CUSU Council

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## CUSU WOMEN'S CAMPAIGN

To update at CUSU Council

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## CUSU ETHICAL AFFAIRS CAMPAIGN

To update at CUSU Council

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

### 7. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE COUNCIL

### 8. DISCUSSIONS

a. UCU Strike action

### 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 Support More Sustainable Balls\*

### 10A. MOTION TO SET THE WAGE OF THE WELFARE AND RIGHTS OFFICER

Proposers name: Nikita Harri (Vice-President, Graduate Union)

Seconders name, Hugo Larose

#### CUSU Notes:

1. That the Welfare and Rights Officer is a joint position, shared between the University of Cambridge Graduate Union and Cambridge University Students' Union
2. Consequentially a member has to be in their 3<sup>rd</sup> year of residence of an Undergraduate or above to stand for this position, or a Postgraduate to stand for this position
3. That they are paid employees of CUSU, so are paid at the CUSU sabbatical rate
4. That the Graduate Union pay their Officers on a slightly higher wage to reflect that generally they possess a higher degree
5. That the Trustee Board of the Graduate Union have previous elected to pay the increased rate for time the Welfare and Rights Officer works for the Graduate Union.

#### CUSU Believes:

1. That as the Welfare and Rights Officer is expected to spend 50% of their time on Graduate Union business, that they should be on the Graduate Union pay rate 50% of the time

2. That the remaining time be paid at the CUSU rate
3. That the increased cost should be borne by the Graduate Union.

**CUSU Resolves:**

1. To pay the Welfare and Rights Officer on the Graduate Union pay scale 50% of the time
2. To pay the Welfare and Rights Officer on the CUSU pay scale 50% of the time
3. To include the increased cost in the annual invoice to the Graduate Union

## 10B. MOTION FOR STUDENTS NOT SUSPECTS

Proposer: Daisy Eyre, Seconder: Stella Swain

**CUSU notes:**

1. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 places a statutory requirement on public bodies and 'specified authorities' – including universities – to 'prevent people being drawn into terrorism' and to implement the 'Prevent' Duty.
2. That, under the Prevent duty, Cambridge University interfered with the composition of a panel, in a way they now admit was wrong
3. The Prevent Duty, as part of the Government's 'anti-extremism' work has been used to create an expansive surveillance architecture to spy on the public and to police dissent, systematically targeting BME people and Muslims.
4. That this architecture has been part of the further criminalisation of Muslims and BME people and comes amidst a campaign of fear and demonization from the government - Muslims had an approximate 1 in 500 chance of having been referred to Prevent last year, approximately 40 times more likely than someone who is not a Muslim<sup>1</sup>.
5. Under Prevent, lecturers have been known to report students as being 'at risk of radicalisation' for merely taking an interest in political affairs in class, or for observing their religion more closely, whilst politically active students have found themselves visited by counter-terrorism officers.
6. The Government's counter-terrorism/security policy is fundamentally flawed in its approach; its operant concepts of 'extremism' and 'radicalism' are ill-defined and open to abuse for political ends.
7. That the National Union of Students (NUS) and University and Colleges Union (UCU) have both passed motions at their conferences opposing the Act and Prevent.

**CUSU believes:**

1. That students are not suspects.
2. That the Prevent duty fundamentally undermines Human Rights and Freedom of Speech.
3. That the Prevent Duty consistently targets Muslim people and BME people, being structured in ways that encourage increased suspicion of these groups.
4. That the Prevent agenda discourages free expression and analysis of ideas. Academics, as well as anyone in a public-sector job, should not have to be part of this surveillance.
5. That the Prevent agenda is based on flawed research<sup>2</sup> and hasty legislation.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2017/nov/10/prevent-strategy-statistics-independent-review-home-office-muslims>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2016/sep/29/academics-criticise-prevent-anti-radicalisation-strategy-open-letter>

6. That the Prevent training used by the University undermines its commitment to taking a “light touch” to the duty.
7. That the implementation of the Prevent duty undermines the University’s commitment to accessibility and openness.
8. That universities and colleges are places for education, not surveillance.
9. That the implementation of the Prevent duty not only isolates Muslim students but undermine the civil liberties of other groups such as environmental, political and humanitarian activists.

**CUSU resolves:**

1. To oppose the Prevent Agenda and its implementation at the University.
2. To encourage the University to take a rights-based approach to Prevent, similar to that of Oxford University<sup>3</sup>
3. To work to reform the University’s Prevent Training.
4. Not to implement the Prevent Duty in our capacity as the Students’ Union.
5. To survey students about the impacts of Prevent on their education and wellbeing, thereby gathering data about the chilling effect of the duty.
6. To work with students to take action on Prevent, including writing a report on the workings of Prevent in Cambridge, and gathering information (action plans, risk assessments) from the University and Colleges

## 9. MOTION FOR FUNDING FOR SOLIDARITY WITH UCU ACTION

Proposer: Daisy Eyre, Seconder: Stella Swain

**CUSU notes:**

1. That in CUSU Council of Jan 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, CUSU resolved:
  1. To give full and public support to UCU on any industrial action that follows the ballot result;
  2. To lobby the University to oppose the changes to USS;
5. To engage in an educational campaign for our students explaining why the strike is happening and why we should all show solidarity. Staff working conditions are our learning conditions.
2. That since then, students have become increasingly mobilised and engaged with this cause
3. That the rally in solidarity with UCU on February 22<sup>nd</sup> that is currently set to be “attended” by over 100 students, with 200 more “interested” on Facebook.

**CUSU believes:**

1. That Cambridge University has so far been reluctant to take a public stance on the issue of the cuts to pensions
2. That behind closed doors, Cambridge seems to be one of the few Universities taking a hard-line approach to the USS deficit, defending the proposed change to a “defined contributions” model rather than “defined benefits”
3. That student activism has already had some impact on the university’s attitude
4. That we must re-double our efforts in order to do as much as we can to show our solidarity with university workers and oppose cuts to pensions which will affect everyone from professors to porters to PhD students

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/councilsec/prevent/approach/>

**CUSU resolves:**

1. To allocate £100 of the Council Free Budget to actions that will support our resolutions in Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan

£60 for printing information leaflets that will be handed out at Sidgewick (based on price estimates for vistaprint.co.uk)

£40 for materials for the rally on 22<sup>nd</sup> Feb (a bedsheet, coloured paints, purple felt and safety pins to make badges, cardboard)

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**