

# CUSU Council Michaelmas II

7pm, Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017  
Hicks 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
  - a. None
4. Date, time and venue of upcoming Council meetings:
  - a. The next Council will be held in the Cormack Room, University Centre from 7pm on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

Please draft any policy or action motions and supporting documentation that you may wish to debate at this meeting by Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> October at 6pm, and send them to [alex.cicale@cusu.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alex.cicale@cusu.cam.ac.uk).

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. None submitted.
9. Ordinary Policy Motions from Previous Council
  - a. Motion to add a staff member to the Elections Committee\*
  - b. Motion to fund a male survivors group\*
  - c. Motion to reform CUSU Council\*
  - d. Temporary renewal of lapsed policy\*
10. Proposed Ordinary Policy Motions
  - a. Combating Sexual Misconduct and Violence in Cambridge
  - b. Support the Free Education Demo
  - c. Motion to change the CUSU-GU Affiliation Fees Model
  - d. Motion to support the Living Wage Campaign
11. Any other business
  - a. Elections Committee Election

## SUPPORTING INFORMATION

### 2. CORRECTIONS TO THE MINUTES OF THE LAST COUNCIL MEETING

Please click here: [CUSU Council 9<sup>th</sup> October 2017 Minutes](#)

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

#### DAISY EYRE – CUSU PRESIDENT

- 1. Committees: University Council, Sports Syndicate
- 2. Meeting about our careers project
- 3. Meetings with key financial figures in the University Ellen Friel and Anthony Odgers
- 4. Meeting with students about the Living Wage
- 5. Visit from Nightline
- 6. Wrote the Bulletin
- 7. Social media output e.g. Congratulating the winner of the term's supply of pizza, publicising our dates for the coming week, publicising CUSU Council and michaelmas elections
- 8. "Quality Matters" Conference, Manchester
- 9. Met with the President of ISoc
- 10. Financial planning

#### MARTHA KRISH – CUSU EDUCATION OFFICER

- Met with Meg Tait from Cambridge Centre for Teaching and Learning
- Attended Senior Tutor's Education Committee and the General Board Standing Committee on Education
- Met with Adam Branch to discuss Decolonising the Curriculum initiatives
- Had two organising meetings with Cambridge Defend Education about the Cambridge Fees and Debt Campaign
- Prepared promotional materials and information for upcoming Faculty Rep Elections
- Met with Graham Virgo (Pro-Vice Chancellor for Education) to discuss the Student Led Teaching Awards
- Met with Daniela Manca from the Student Registry to discuss the yearly Learning and Teaching Reviews
- Worked on the Faculty Audit Resource
- Met with the Childcare Office
- Met with colleagues to discuss the CUSU Strategic Plan

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

- Began planning JCR/MCR Disabled Students' Officer training
- Wrote an article for World Mental Health Day (<http://www.disabled.cusu.cam.ac.uk/2017/10/10/world-mental-health-day/>)
- Attended a three-day training and collaboration event hosted by the Hearing Voices network and Action for Trans Health
- Ran 'Intermission welcome back' event with Micha & Daisy
- Hosted an 'An Accessible Tea Party' and the first Disabled Students' Forum of the term

- Finished and submitted paper on the CUSU Typed Exams survey to the Digital Teaching and Learning Subcommittee
- Attended the Equality and Diversity Council as well as the University Counselling Service Executive Committee

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

To update at CUSU Council

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

To update at CUSU Council

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

- Hosted the Access Squash
- Facilitated the first Access Forum of term with college and society Access Officers
- Worked with Medwards' SLO to select/deselect applicants for Yr 11 BME Conference
- Met with senior Admissions staff to talk about the 2019/20 Access Agreement
- Discussed the development of an outreach programme for black students
- Liaised with Admissions staff at mature colleges to agree on course of action for the upcoming Mature Students' Shadowing Scheme
- Created an FAQ sheet to help reception manage the Shadowing Scheme inbox

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#### CUSU LGBT+ CAMPAIGN

To update at CUSU Council

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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

### 9. ORDINARY POLICY MOTIONS FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL

The last Council passed a motion which stated that policy will require 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 add a staff member to the Elections Committee\*
- Motion to fund a male survivors support group\*
- Motion to reform CUSU Council\*
- Temporary renewal of lapsed policy\*

The motion regarding CUSU Council reform was subject to amendments. Please find the complete passed and amended version below:

### **MOTION TO REFORM CUSU COUNCIL**

Proposed by Daisy Eyre, CUSU President, seconded by Florence Oulds, CUSU Disabled Students' Officer

#### **CUSU Notes:**

1. That the purpose of CUSU Council is, according to Article D.1 of our Standing Orders, to:
  - a) **develop and review CUSU Policy;**
  - b) provide students with a forum to guide and scrutinise Executive and Student Officer activity;
  - c) provide guidance to the Board of Trustees and ratify proposals where required;
  - d) receive reports from the Union's representatives and Board of Trustees;
  - e) **work to widen the democratic nature of Union decision-making;** and
  - f) **provide a forum for students to raise and discuss issues that concern them.**

#### **CUSU Believes:**

1. That it would be beneficial for students to feel that they are part of CUSU governance through CUSU Council.
2. That CUSU Council is under-utilised as a space to spread information and activism between colleges and inform students about CUSU's work
3. That liberation campaigns should be better integrated into Council.
4. That it would benefit continuity within CUSU to have a defined set of policies and accountability for it.

#### **CUSU Resolves:**

1. To amend the standing order to address these concerns as follows:
  - i) To institute a distinction between long-term "policy" - such as a commitment to fight unpaid internships (2015) and short term "action" - such as a motion to postpone parttime executive elections in 2014
    1. In which policy must be passed by two meetings of CUSU Council to ensure that it is more thoroughly scrutinised
  - ii) To thereby build up a body of CUSU policy that officers are mandated to pursue in an ongoing way.

- iii) To state that policy, not actions, will require 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
2. To trial for the duration of Michaelmas Term the practice of "updates" being verbal in the form of notices which JCR and MCR Presidents and Externals would feed back to their student bodies. The success of this trial will be discussed in Lent I.
3. To trial one "roving council" if possible during Michaelmas Term 2017

## **10A. COMBATING SEXUAL MISCONDUCT AND VIOLENCE IN CAMBRIDGE**

Proposed by Lola Olufemi, CUSU Women's Officer, seconded by Florence Oulds, CUSU Disabled Students' Officer

### **CUSU Notes:**

1. The University is launching a Campaign called "Breaking the Silence: Cambridge Speaks out against Sexual Misconduct" on October 24th 2017 which aims to convey a zero tolerance approach to all forms of sexual misconduct and violence experienced by staff and students and is the first time the university has spoken publicly on the issue of sexual misconduct.
2. The Women's Campaign has consistently collected data on the impact of sexual violence on students. The Cambridge Speaks Out Survey (2014) found that 77% of respondents had experienced some form of sexual harassment in their time as students and that women were the most likely group to experience sexual violence.
3. The NUS Hidden Marks Survey from 2012 found that 68 percent of respondents had experienced sexual harassment and 1 in 7 survey respondents has experienced a serious physical or sexual assault.
4. The University has recently hired a new sexual assault advisor to be an integral part of the university wide sexual assault procedure that has been launched under the umbrella of the Campaign.

### **CUSU Believes:**

1. That sexual violence affects everyone and sexual misconduct is a serious and endemic problem in our society that must be tackled head on by all members of the university.
2. One of the benefits to tackling sexual violence is dismantling a culture of complicity and ensuring that survivors are more likely to access specific support services and receive the aftercare they need.
3. That justice looks different for every survivor and that prescribing a particular "recovery route" is unproductive.

### **CUSU Resolves:**

1. To mandate future sabbatical officers to dedicate time and appropriate resources to raising awareness about sexual misconduct and violence in Cambridge and run active campaigns where possible to tackle the issue.
2. To publicly support the University's new campaign and commit themselves to improving support services in Cambridge for student survivors of sexual misconduct and violence.

3. To publicise attempts to combat sexual violence such as Consent workshops, events and campaigns from the Women's Campaign and other relevant groups
4. To mandate future sabbatical officers with special emphasis on the women's officer, to ensure a good working relationship with the New Sexual Assault Advisor, SUAS and OSCCA.

## **10B. SUPPORT THE FREE EDUCATION DEMO**

Proposed by Martha Krish, CUSU Education Officer, seconded by Matt Kite

### **CUSU Notes:**

1. Changes to Higher Education in recent years have increased tuition fees, removed maintenance grants for the poorest students and contributed to a widespread move towards marketisation of Higher Education.
2. The CUSU Education Officer was elected on an anti-marketisation, anti-rising fees platform.

### **CUSU Believes:**

1. That the National Demo for Free Education, organised by the National Campaign for Fees and Cuts, is an opportunity to join with students across the country to voice student opposition to the changes in Higher Education
2. That it is important for Cambridge students to engage with and participate in national debates about Higher Education
3. That students should be able to attend the demo regardless of financial situation and with adequate support and information about logistics and risks

### **CUSU Resolves:**

1. To support the National Demo by publicising it and providing support and information to students who want to attend;
2. To make available £300 from the Council Free Budget to cover some of the cost of transport hire to London, with an expected student contribution of £5, allowing any remaining funds to be used for extra financial assistance for students who need, and to cover any extra costs that may occur from organisation of the trip.

## **10C. MOTION TO CHANGE THE CUSU-GU AFFILIATION FEES MODEL**

Proposed by Daisy Eyre, CUSU President, seconded by **TBC at Council**

### **CUSU Notes:**

1. That there is currently no link between personal membership and funding for CUSU
2. That individual students benefit from CUSU services even when their JCR/MCR is disaffiliated
3. That CUSU has been campaigning for years to change the current model and move to a levy model
4. That last year CUSU Council Michaelmas II resolved to support a new funding model based on this principle
5. That the colleges have agreed to support our new proposal

### **CUSU Believes:**

1. That currently some J/MCRs subsidise CUSU Services for students from other colleges
2. That the current model creates financial uncertainty for CUSU and the GU as they need to provide a fixed service with fluctuating funding
3. That currently financial questions distract from the political element of affiliation to the Unions
4. That J/MCRs have the opportunity through CUSU Council to scrutinise the financial management of the Union without needing the disaffiliation mechanism

**CUSU Resolves:**

1. To support the new funding model outlined in the main proposal attached to this agenda, in which:
  - a) A collegiate levy funds the Students Unions' Advice Service and Sexual Health Scheme (CUSU welfare functions)
  - b) The central University replaces this funding with a block grant that CUSU and the GU split appropriately between themselves
2. To keep CUSU Council informed of the progress of the bid

**10D. MOTION TO SUPPORT THE LIVING WAGE CAMPAIGN**

Proposed by Daisy Eyre, CUSU President, seconded by **TBC at Council**

**CUSU Notes:**

1. That the Living Wage is £8.45/hour.
2. That there are more than 3,000 Living-Wage employers, including the University of Oxford.
3. That some colleges are committed to paying the Living Wage (though the situation in most colleges is unknown)
4. That all directly-employed University staff are paid the Living Wage, but this may not be true of contracted workers
5. That CUSU is applying for Living Wage Accreditation
6. That CUSU Ethical Affairs are mandated to fight for the Living Wage.

**CUSU Believes:**

1. That respecting the dignity of all those who work at the University of Cambridge involves paying them a decent wage.
2. That we are part of the University of Cambridge and we have a responsibility to all who work here, whose work builds towards our educations.
3. That claims of "excellence" by the University should be well-rounded, involving not just academia, but social responsibility and values.

**CUSU Resolves:**

1. To fight for the University and Colleges to pay all workers the Living Wage, whether directly employed or contracted
2. To ensure that the living wage is implemented without any disadvantaging current staff

3. To make sure that any implementation of the living wage pay rises in accordance with the national living wage
4. To encourage the University to apply to Living Wage Accreditation.

## **11A. ELECTIONS COMMITTEE ELECTIONS**

CUSU Council is asked to elect up to three members to the CUSU Elections Committee. The CUSU Elections Committee is responsible for any Referenda, the scheduled cross-campus elections in Lent Term and any cross campus by-election. Members of the CUSU Elections Committee are in charge of putting together, publicising and running elections and referenda throughout the year.

It should be noted that no member of the Elections Committee, nor any person who was a member of the Elections Committee at any point during the period of four weeks before the opening of nominations in an election, can stand for a cross-campus election to the Executive or in a simultaneous NUS Delegation Election, nor can any member of the Elections Committee endorse or campaign on behalf of any candidate or choice in a referendum.

Any member of CUSU is eligible to stand to be a member of the CUSU Elections Committee. Please send nominations to [alex.cicale@cusu.cam.ac.uk](mailto:alex.cicale@cusu.cam.ac.uk) by 5pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> October 2017.