Objections to the Order of the Agenda
None

Corrections to Last Meeting’s Minutes & Matters Arising
None

Sabbatical Updates

**Helen Hoogewerf-McComb** (CUSU President)
- GU President Elections not yet finished due to ongoing complaints but all CUSU positions and University Councillor position closed. Thanks given to college reps for running ballot boxes. Drop in paper voting. Change in standing orders means most likely we plan to cease paper voting in future elections.
- £10,000 awarded by NUS to CUSU to promote voter registration through the Vote Race initiative. CUSU ran registration drives at the Oxford Cambridge Boat Race and in around 50% of Colleges at start of term.
- Working closely with the Coordinator and relevant staff to develop the budget for 15/16
- Final location of building announced – space in and around Graduate Union. In future CUSU should be able to hold CUSU Council in our own building. Expected to move around June.
- Student workload working group – following mandate to push for a mid-term break, and other options to reduce work-related stress.

**Rob Richardson** (CUSU Education Officer)
- Student led teaching awards held for the second year, recognising excellent Supervisors/lecturers. Raising profile of high quality, student-focused teaching. Awards ceremony on Tuesday 12th May 2015.
- Government consultation on post-graduate funding following announced government policy of loans up to £10,000 to Taught Masters. Possibility of extending to PhD students – up to £25,000 loans. Questionnaires sent to MCRS

**Helena** (CUSU Access and Funding Officer)
- Attending Oxford Cambridge Conferences
- Consulting on implications of A-Level reform and the changes to University admissions that might be made in response
- Developing new Alternative Prospectus web platform after securing University funding
- Evaluating Shadowing Scheme and keeping in contact with this year’s shadow students

Amelia Horgan (CUSU Women’s Officer)
- Designing consent workshops and training officers wishes to run them
- Mind the Gap survey into gender and learning experiences
- Drafted letter to senior tutors regarding consent workshops
- Attended NUS National Conference

Announcements by Committees, Campaign Teams and the Executive

The Big Cambridge Survey is the biggest University wide survey in Cambridge, covering a broad range of areas of student experience. College and faculty reps were asked to fill in the survey and promote it to their students and informed of the prize money that could be won by individual students and by colleges with high turnout. Report from last year is now up online - college specific info available on request.

Questions to Committees, Campaign Teams and the Executive

Brendan Mahon, CUSU LGBT+ President: How did NUS Delegates to National Conference vote on the motion for full-time trans officer?

Response: CUSU President and Women’s Officer were both delegates and both voted for a full-time trans role to be created.

Damien Sogaro, VP Fitzwilliam JCR: How has the Reading Week campaign been received by the University/Colleges?

Response: CUSU President explains that a lot of push back has come from Colleges in the past. For a change of this magnitude, a vote would be called of all University Staff (the Regent House) and a significant amount of engagement with members of Regent House would be required for the vote to pass far from that stage yet, but looking at options to research and trial it in particular situations. The formation of the Student Workload Working group created is a step in the right direction.
Robert Corbyn-Smith - CUSU DSC Co-Chair: What disabled access will there be in the new building?

Response: CUSU President explains that current plans lack of acceptable wheelchair access to majority of site, and some parts have no access at all. CUSU and GU presidents appealing to University to correct this – CUSU President warns improvement may be a lengthy process but will continue to raise this as a top priority for the move.

Announcements by the Council

Brendan Mahon, CUSU LGBT+ President: Attended NUS LGBT Conference. LGBT+ Campaign launched campaign called Make No Assumptions.

Motion to Increase Student Input into CUSU’s Budget

Proposer: Helen Hoogewerf-McComb (CUSU President)

Seconder: Jemma Stewart (CUSU Coordinator)

Motion Proposed: Following reform of CUSU’s Part-Time Executive structure to increase student input into policy setting, and sabbs have worked to develop a participatory budgeting mechanism to increase the democratic input into campaign spending.

Question (Brendan Mahon, CUSU LGBT+): Are Autonomous Campaigns separate to this?

Response: Yes, Autonomous Campaigns still have protected budgets but could now bid for more money from this central pot if they were planning a big campaign.

Question (Damiano Sogaro, Fitzwilliam JCR): How was the amount available in the participatory budgeting process decided?

Response: £6k campaign spend expected, found from making savings in other areas, such as allocated Officer budgets. Proposal leaves £1k for spending over rest of year - based on spending patterns of previous years.

Votes on the motion:
For: 25
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

Motion to Alter the Women’s Campaign Constitution
Proposed: the CUSU Women’s Campaign

Speech proposing the motion: Changes approved by the Women’s Campaign. Changes broadly relate to membership of the campaign (to include those who self-define as women, including (if they wish) those with gender identities which include ‘woman’, and those who feel they experience misogynist oppression’), campaign structure, committee membership and procedures for accountability.

Question (Robert Corbyn-Smith, CUSU DSC Co-Chair): Will those running for committee roles representing minority/marginalised groups need to be a self-defining member of that group?
Response: Yes.

Question (Damiano Sogaro, Fitzwilliam JCR): Why is there a different threshold for initiating accountability procedures for committee members and ordinary members?
Response: Committee members, being more aware of the inner workings of the campaign, will be more likely to pick up on issues and less likely to initiate proceedings for personal or malicious reasons. Threshold for ordinary members is low, so barrier to initiating proceedings is low, if a little higher than for committee members.

No speeches against

No questions

Votes on the motion
For: 24
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

To be Ratified: Motion to Approve Sabbatical Officer Contracts for 2015-16

Proposed: Helen Hoogewerf-McComb (CUSU President)
Seconded: Jemma Stewart (CUSU Coordinator)

Motion Proposed: Ratification of motion passed through inquorate CUSU Council Lent III – needs to be ratified at a quorate Council.

Votes on the motion:
For: 22
Against: 0
Abstentions: 2

*To be Ratified: Motion to Alter the Disabled Students’ Campaign Constitution*

*Proposed: Robert Corbyn-Smith*
*Seconded: Calista Winstanley*

**Motion Proposed:** Ratification of motion passed through inquorate CUSU Council Lent III - needs to be ratified at a quorate Council.

**Votes on the motion:**
For: 24
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

*To be Ratified: We Support Women in Sport Project*

*Proposed: Brooke Longhurst*
*Seconded: Anna Parker*

**Motion Proposed:** Ratification of motion passed through inquorate CUSU Council Lent III - needs to be ratified at a quorate Council.

**Proposed Amendment:** in CUSU Notes 3, replace text starting “attitudes towards...” with “attitudes toward women and women aligned people, in particular transgender women and trans-feminine non binary people in sport”

**Amendment taken as friendly**

**Proposed Amendment:** in CUSU Resolves 2, to add “and non-binary people”

**Amendment taken as friendly**

**Votes on the motion:**
For: 24
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0
Election of CUSU Chair

Members of Council were asked if they would like to nominate themselves for the vacant position of CUSU Chair – chair must be a current or past member of CUSU Council or the CUSU Executive. Brendan Mahon (CUSU LGBT+ President) stood.

Brendan Mahon was duly elected as CUSU Chair

Emergency Motion: Motion to Appoint Farhan Samanani and Ellen Quigley as CUSU SRI Officers

Motion Proposed: Appointment by Council required for attendance at important University meeting.

Votes on the motion:
For: 21
Against: 0
Abstentions: 0

Any Other Business

No AOB.