



CUSU Council

Lent I

Small Exams Hall, 19th January 2015

Objections to the Order of the Agenda

None

Corrections to Last Meeting's Minutes & Matters Arising

None

Sabbatical Updates

Helen Hoogewerf-McComb (CUSU President) Voter registration: we were out on NVRD and now have resources to give out. If you want us to come your college and register students, please get in touch! CUSU Elections are coming up - nominations open this week! Spread the word. Monetary update: the University has supported increased funds which we'll be finding out about on the 25th of February. Reading week: Helen has worked with Uni & Colleges to form a working group on student workload and work-related stress looking at ways to reduce WRS. This is comprised of the PVC for Education, the Secretary of the Senior Tutor's Committee, the head of student policy & CUSU Pres. Not just talking about reading week!

Helena Blair (CUSU Access and Funding Officer) Helena is currently in Yorkshire taking rest from what turned out to be the biggest Shadowing Scheme ever. She's now wrapping up the Shadowing Scheme, meeting individually with JCR/MCR Access Officers to offer them support in their roles, recruiting more volunteers for #CambTweet and looking into holding an Access for mature Students Forum as the beginning of a larger project concerning Mature access.

Jack Wright (CUSU Welfare and Rights Officer) Jack's been working super hard on putting together a program of talks, workshops & even a craft session for Mental Health Week this week

Amelia Horgan (CUSU Women's Officer) Reviewing the Women's Campaign constitution - get in touch if you want to feed back into it, working more to involve women in STEM subjects in the Women's Campaign and tackling problems facing them, ran the Anti-Valentine's Day Party & is now focussing on Reclaim the Night

Rob Richardson (CUSU Education Officer) held the first Faculty Forum of the year! He's writing a report on faculty reps for General Board, and meeting to plan SLTAs.

Jemma Stewart (CUSU Coordinator) is working on sanitary products - meeting with welfare officers on Friday to discuss how to implement the scheme cross-college.



Planning how to research JCR/MCR funding, and is hoping to run a focus-group by the end of term.

Announcements by Committees, Campaign Teams and the Executive

None

Questions to Committees, Campaign Teams and the Executive

Do other colleges have tampon dispensing machines?

- Trinity Hall, Queens, Emmanuel, Jesus, Lucy Cav & Homerton have them, but they don't always dispense tampons

Announcements by the Council

Richard Jones is looking into how Graduate Fees are being used - get in touch if you want to work on this.

Motion to Provide Information & Resources for Ending Abusive Relationships

Proposed: Joanna M. Lawrence

Seconded: Amelia Horgan (CUSU Women's Officer)

Speech proposing the motion: Relationship abuse is prevalent and encompasses not just physical abuse, but also involves emotional abuse - equally/more damaging to victim. Wants CUSU to produce & distribute posters to colleges via reps/welfare officers, to be posted primarily in bathroom stalls. Posters include information about what relationship abuse is but also contact information to seek support, in the hopes that these posters become permanent fixtures. Provide Porters and Tutors with same information

No speeches against

Question: Where is money coming from?

- Asking CUSU for money, will be provided centrally

Question: Welfare officers might want similar training to Porters and Tutors

- This is a good idea and has been well-received.

Question: What's the poster and where is the information coming from?

- Previously published info & literature online
- Won't just be 'if you're being abused, call for help' - will include examples



Question: Who are you referring victims to?

- UK Helpline
- Referring to professionals
- National and local Cambridge branch of Women's Aid

Question: Great idea - wondering about whether there'd be more posters around - how can we communicate to students as well?

- Wouldn't be appropriate in student housing toilets - more personal space.
Talking about creating an online version of the poster to be circulated
- Will be giving posters to college officers to put in the most appropriate places

Point of Information: Including gender neutral pronouns as this is not just a problem in heterosexual relationships

Votes on the motion

For: 18

Against: 0

Abstentions: 0

Motion Passes

Motion to Fight the Use of Unpaid Internships

Proposer: Helen Hoogewerf-McComb (CUSU President)

Seconder: Rob Richardson (CUSU Education Officer)

Motion Proposed: 1 in 3 grads are in unpaid internships, and it's now time that access to careers starts to be something they're paid for whilst interning. Has been contacted by national organising group called internaware about legislation going through parliament with the opportunity to lobby house of lords to offer an amendment - Cambridge have a lot of influence in the House of Lords where a lot of Cambridge alumni care about us.

No speeches against

Question: Do you know if the total number of internships being offered would have to reduce if they were being paid?

- Unpaid internships is modern - not internships during degree, but targeting graduate students
- Issue is the use of unpaid internships as 'paying your dues' to get into a career
- Historically, it's been fine for people having been trained on the job.
- Might decrease the number of internships, but should increase the number of people being paid on entry to their jobs



- Might result in the loss of some unpaid work, but students might be able to progress more in the job by being let in on merit
- Companies get value from internships - industry sees interns as adding value to an organisation, but entire industries can become entirely dependent on free labour so students get told you need to pay into the industry to get into a paid position

Question: What about those not being paid, but being given free meals, accommodation & transport?

- Issue is that 1 in 3 not being paid as graduate interns is people not being provided with benefits or in kind meeting minimum wage requirements

Question: Would you be lowering opportunities for funding

- E.g. six month internship gives 4-5000 euros
- To prevent minimum wage volunteers

Question: Most other European countries are much worse ?

- Competitiveness in terms of graduates
- International student did a placement in UK and was paid. Although it is attractive,
- We campaign for the living wage - we think when people are working they should be being paid
- By having LW as minimum wage, the job market becomes more competitive
- Problems in other countries shouldn't be the things that leave us with poverty wages or for no money

Point of Information: What's the definition of long-term?

- 1 in 3 statistic - in terms of graduate interns. Any length of unpaid internship
- Is there a term-basis? 3-6 months?
- For 1 month.

No speeches against

More questions? No

Votes on the motion:

For: 17

Against: 1

Abstentions: 1

Motion passes

Motion to Provide Information & Resources for Ending Abusive Relationships

Proposed: Amelia Horgan (CUSU Women's Officer)

Seconded: Jemma Stewart (CUSU Coordinator)



Motion Proposed: NUS can be boring and bureaucratic but they have money and are fighting for sex education in schools. We thought we should tell them to include education about sexual consent, sexual violence and partner abuse - there was an oversight in the motion, and they only talked about the general sexual education. Idea to make sure that people in schools (KS2 onwards, age appropriate) would receive information on signs of abuse, what consent looks like, talks through the motion. Wants NUS to carry on supporting Sus providing more info on

Friendly amendment: change title to 'Consent is SRE-ous Business'

Friendly amendment: remove erroneous 'which' in Conference Believes 2

Question: How does this affect religious schools?

- Gone from a position where everyone got the basic stuff, but now free schools don't have to give anything.
- Calls for basics to be reinstated, but we want to include more things about consent and abuse

Question: How old is KS2?

- Year 3 upwards - education will be age appropriate

Votes on the motion:

For: 17

Against: 0

Abstentions: 1

Motion passes

Motion to Approve Sabbatical Officer Contracts for 2015-16

Proposed: Helen Hoogewerf-McComb (CUSU President)

Seconded: Jemma Stewart (CUSU Coordinator)

Motion proposed: Final motion - approve sabbatical officer contracts

Question - summary of contract?

- Sets out a standard
- Contracted to work 36.5hr minimum, be in office 10-4
- Salary currently £17.5k with annual uplift each year
- Student advice service sabb agrees to certain terms
- Allows all sabbs to be removed from certain functions
- Sets out line management structure

Votes on the motion:

For: 17



Against: 1
Abstention: 0

Any Other Business

Next Council is Chris's last Chairing sesh!