

CUSU Elections Committee

Thursday 13th February 2020, 10:45am

1. Welcome and apologies

* Present: Alex Roberts, Aisha Sobey, Edward Parker Humphreys, Isabella Copplestone.

1. Meeting with Peter McLaughlin

* Christy McMorrow presented information on the administration of the decision-making process.
* Peter McLaughlin asked why it had not been made clear that a discretionary decision had been made about the count process.
* Edward Parker Humphreys responded saying that this was due to an unintentional lack of clarity, not a deliberate elision.
* Peter McLaughlin asked why a student had been sent answers to questions that they had not asked in a response from Elections Committee.
* Alex Roberts stated that this is an attempt to respond to the type of questions students are asking with answers approved by the whole committee.
* Edward Parker Humphreys stated that decisions may have been made too fast, and that this means the process has been slow in the aftermath.
* Peter McLaughlin argued that his frustration is based on a lack of transparency, not the speed.
* Peter McLaughlin presented his appeal.
* Members of the Elections Committee apologised to Peter McLaughlin for the lack of transparency and committed to improving procedure in the future.
* Alex Roberts apologised for the late notice of the meeting.

1. Evaluation of appeal

* Edward Parker Humphreys argued that looking at the ERS97 rules, the wrong decision may have been made, but that there are some inaccuracies the appeal itself.
* Edward Parker Humphreys stated that over the next 24 hours we should issue a statement clarifying EC’s decision and position on other elements of the appeal.
* The Elections Committee decided to count Peter McLaughlin as elected on the first count and to run another count with Howard and Zachary counted as eliminated, in order to ensure that their voters’ votes are counted. The winners under this count will be counted as elected. This count will be run before the announcement of results.
* The Elections Committee also recommends putting a Conduct guideline for candidates in place for the Lent Elections. The initial drafting of this shall be done by CUSU staff and presented to Elections Committee for editing and/or approval.

1. Contact from student members

* Elections Committee agrees to send student inquirers the statement produced tomorrow, with a tailored reply to Laurence, Luke and the anonymous student.
* Alex Roberts to draft an initial response to these students.

1. Elections Committee Communications Officer

* Edward Parker Humphreys appointed as EC Communications Officer.

1. AOB

* EC approved telling Martin-Lucas Smith (CUSU Webmaster) to take down the block on results.