

UCS Committee 2013-2014

18.05.2013

Godwin Room, Old Court 16.45- 18.00

Present

- Harry Peto
- Kiri Koumi
- Ollie Russell
- Jenny Boddy
- Ben Fraser
- Anna Ritchie
- Cleodie Swire
- Robin Elliott
- Aimee Hesketh
- Clare Lewis
- Fingal Plumpton
- Rebecca Harris

In attendance

1. Women's Council Feedback (Anna and Ben)

- **Proposal:** That the JCR ban support the CUSU motion to ban 'The Sun' newspaper in JCRs.
- **Discussion:** The UCS does not currently buy in The Sun newspaper for any of the common rooms. The committee agreed that under this committee 'The Sun' will not be supplied in the LCR or JCR.
- **Proposal:** Creating the position of a 'CUSU Women's Rep' when the amendments to the Women's Officer role are brought in.
- **Discussion:**
 - a) The CUSU women's forum requires a point of contact within the college. This is a large role which needs to be fulfilled. When the changes to the 'Women's Officer' role are made the 'Welfare and Women's Officer' may not wish to be as involved in the women's forum/campaign. Therefore, an optional Women's rep needs to be created to supplement the amendment.
 - b) Concerns about outside interference with the structure of the UCS were raised. Everyone did, however, appreciate that the creation of a Women's rep was required.
- **Action:** Supplement the constitutional amendments to the Women's Officer role with an optional Women's Rep.
- **Proposal:** Provide a talk about consensual sex to the 2013 freshers during Freshers Week.
- **Discussion/Action:** All of the committee liked the proposal. The discussion will be given by both Ben and Anna in the same session as the STI talk.
- **Proposal:** Pairs, two people of different genders, should run for two 'Welfare Officer positions'
- **Discussion:**

- a) The proposal was tabled as an alternative to the 'Welfare and Men's Officer', 'Welfare and Women's Officer' roles.
- b) It was sparked by concerns from the LGBT+ community that people who do not identify as a cisgender may be discriminated against when applying for the roles.
- c) This issue will only affect a small number of people but it is a big concern for those people.
- d) The original amendments were tabled because there was a problem with insufficient support for male specific welfare issues. Changing the amendment to accommodate an issue faced by a tiny minority could derail a solution to problems faced by the majority.
- e) If people ran in pairs, college members might choose not to vote for a pair because one of the candidates was weak. This would prejudice the chances of the other member of the pair and could result in a weaker welfare team.
- f) Some people might not be able to find a partner to run or might not want to run in a pair.
- g) Conversely, the advantage of pairs is that they will know each other and should, therefore, work well as a team.
- h) CUSU are backing a campaign for welfare roles not to be gendered.
- **Proposal 2:** Create a 'gender rep' to accommodate the welfare interests of the LGBT+ community and to provide a position which they feel comfortable running for.
- **Discussion:**
 - a) The LGBT rep may not be interested in gender issues.
 - b) The LGBT rep could, however, be trained in gender issues thus removing the problem.
- **Action:** The original amendments will be the ones that will be put to the UCS for a referendum/open meeting. However, there will be no stipulation as to the gender or sex requirements for each role. Thus, a self-identifying woman could apply for the 'Welfare and Women's role'.

2. Ents Committee Feedback (Harry)

- **Discussion:**
 - a) The President, Vice-President, Treasurer met with the Ents Committee and members of senior college staff to discuss the financial position of Clare Ents.
 - It was agreed that Clare Ents will show the treasurer their figures once a year.
 - The Clare Ents committee also stated their commitment to ensuring that Clare Ents remained at capacity or under.
 - An Ents 'sinking fund' will be created. The limit before it must be used will be agreed between the Treasurer and a member of Ents Committee. The proceeds of the sinking fund will remain as 'Ents' assets but may be spent by the UCS with Clare Ents permission. Money spent on expanding capacity of cellars will reduce likelihood of old court renovation. Can look into cheap solutions to expand.

3. Working Party Old Court Committee (Kiri)

- The Vice-President expressed an interest in sitting on the committee. It was agreed that Robin will continue to sit on the committee but Kiri will be as involved as he wishes.

4. CUSU Council Feedback

- CUSU council votes:
 - a) **Colleges to boycott The Sun**- supported.
 - b) **Motion to require 50% of NUS delegates to be female** - against.

5. Matters arising:

- **Condoms at Clare Ents**- The idea was floated that condoms could be provided at the entrance to cellars on Clare Ents nights. Everyone supported the idea.
- **Website**- Include a 'Reps Page' on the new website. The information on the new website's home page needs to be updated.
- **Role of Services Officer**: The role of the Services Officer has become one of maintaining services rather than improving things. The role of 'LCR rep' will be advertised in the LCR in order to remove some of the operational pressure on the Services Officer so that she can concentrate on making improvements to services in college.
- **Planning Freshers Week**: There will be UCS meetings post-exams to plan Freshers week.

Meeting Concluded