UCS Committee 2013-2014

Colony Meeting Room 1

02.11.2013

Present

* Harry Peto
* Jenny Boddy
* Ollie Russell
* Robin Elliott
* Cleodie Swire
* Fingal Plumpton
* Aimee Hesketh
* Clare Lewis
* Dylan Pritchard
* Kiri Koumi

Apologies

* Rebecca Harris

1. **Society Funding (Ollie)**

* **Objective**: Update the committee about the society funding allocation and process
* **Discussion**:
  1. Ollie has sent out the initial allocation to the societies
  2. No complaints about the initial allocation have yet been received.
  3. The constitution requires that a stand alone open meeting is held discuss the allocation.
  4. Ollie hopes to book an open meeting for the 10th November 2013
  5. The open meeting will be held in the Colony Meeting Room
  6. On average each society is getting 80% of what they requested when they sent in their budget.
* **Action:** Ollie to book an open meeting

1. **Fresher Rep Election (Harry)**

* **Objective**: To discuss the need for a Fresher Rep to be elected
* **Discussion:**
  1. CUSU would like a fresher rep to be elected by Week 5 of Michaelmas term.
  2. Constitution requires that a fresher rep be elected in week 6 of Michaelmas.
  3. Agreed that the election will take place towards the end of week 6 of Michaelmas so as to maximise the time that freshers have to get to know the candidates before they vote.
* **Action:** Harry will send an email out announcing the election this Wednesday and asking for manifestos. The candidates will be announced and manifestos will be sent out a few days before the election.

1. **CUSU Relationship (Harry)**

* **Objective:** To discuss the relationship between CUSU and the UCS
* **Discussion:**
  1. Harry and Kiri will be meeting with the CUSU President on Monday to discuss the relationship between CUSU and the UCS
  2. This meeting arose on the back of a personal conversation between Harry and the Corpus President about the pros and cons of not being affiliated with CUSU.
  3. The UCS exec has not itself discussed the idea of disaffiliating with CUSU.
  4. The disadvantages of disaffiliation are that: the CUSU voting system cannot be used, cannot get free condoms through CUSU and the loss of welfare training that they provide.
  5. The main advantage of disaffiliating would be not having to pay membership costs.
  6. If the UCS ever did affiliate with CUSU each individual student would remain a member of CUSU.
  7. Lots of other Cambridge colleges affirm their affiliation to CUSU each year by means of a vote. One view in favour of this system is that it promotes accountability. Another view, against this system was that it was inefficient and could lead to the loss of something that is needed. Moreover, it would be harder to rejoin after disaffiliation.
  8. The Committee overall did not feel that there would be any need to reaffirm the UCS’ membership of CUSU every year.

1. **Emails (Kiri)**

* **Objective:** To let the committee know that if they are sending out a UCS email it should begin with ‘UCS:’

1. **Constitution (Ollie)**

* **Objective:** To inquire about the progress of the constitutional amendments to the roles of women’s officer and welfare Officer.
* **Discussion:**
  1. Harry and Anna attended a meeting with the senior tutor and a representative from the women’s campaign to discuss the proposed reforms of welfare and women’s officer roles.
  2. From that meeting it was felt that abolishing women’s officer and replacing the role with a welfare and women’s officer were two separate issues. It was also felt that these specific amendments should be made separately from the other constitutional changes to be enacted. Therefore, there should be separate referenda as to the first set of constitutional changes and the reforms to the welfare and women’s roles.
  3. An open meeting to discuss the proposed reforms with the undergraduate body needs to be held. This can take place at the same time as the open meeting about balloting and Blurred Lines.
  4. Anna would like a permanent women’s rep, responsible for promoting feminism within college, to be constitutionally required if the UCS vote in favour of replacing Women’s Officer with a Welfare and Women’s Officer. This Women’s Rep can be a contact for the CUSU Women’s campaign.
  5. The committee are still in favour of enacting the changes
* **Action:** Organise an open meeting to discuss the issue further.

1. **LCR Microwave (Harry)**

* **Objective:**  Discuss the possibility of having a microwave in the LCR
* **Discussion:**
  1. Would be likely to increase mess in the room
  2. The LCR’s function would change- it isn’t a lunch room
  3. The Services Officer would not be prepared to clean a microwave if one was purchased
* **Action:** No action needed.

1. **Charity Status (Ollie)**

* **Objective:** Give feedback as to whether the UCS needs to register as having charity status.
* **Discussion:**
  1. The UCS does not have to register to have charity status, this is because it used to be exempt and because it is a sub charity of the college.

1. **Matters Arising**
   1. **Refreshers Week**- QCOEF are happy to do a quiz in the week. The first year rep will suggest to the first year that they organise Clare v Clare swap. Staircase meals will also be encouraged.
   2. **Hot Chocolate**- Idea put forward to buy in hot chocolate for the ‘week 5 blues’. This will definitely be for week 5 only and people will be informed that this is the case.For week 5- Week 6 everyone will moan that hot chocolate not continuing. Will specify that it’s a week 5 treat.
   3. **Bop-** The UCS made approximately £200 from the bop.
   4. **Week 5 Blues**- KICK evenings are being organised. Dylan is getting in touch with two masseuses. A welfare event will be organised by the welfare team in cellars. It will feature cake. The welfare team must remember to inform the bar manager that they will be holding an event in cellars.