

## **Wadham SU meeting – Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> week HT18**

**Apologies received: access, class, tech**

**Officers absent:**

**Officers' reports**

- President: college are putting together a consultation on a smoking ban. Don't think it will happen but look out for it. Queerfest to have cocktails limited to half pints. Have meetings with college about divestment and where to put the temporary bike sheds, to be put up sometime next term. Me and some other students are looking into the possibility of a Foundation Year, like LMH.
- Vice President: planning on running all term's elections in 5th week, this will be a lot of positions including Freshers team and hopefully have a big hust with high turnout. Please let me know if you have any objections
- Treasurer: CB Fry the sporting fund is taking applications until 4th week
- Academic and Careers: had well attended workshop on academic stress, hoping to run cv workshop in near future
- Access:
- Amenities:
- Arts: have an Arts committee formed and will have a life drawing set of four sessions starting in a couple of weeks
- The almighty Bar and Social team: college cocktails will now be served in half pints at festivals, and no more 3 for £10 deals. This was reported in the Telegraph
- Charities, Environment, and Ethics: the raffle has raised about £80, gone very well.
- Class:
- Communications:
- Disabilities: ran drop in session this week with good turnout
- Domestic:
- Entz: having discussions with college about what college bops will look like next year
- Food: of 100 people who did the food survey, only 20 people entered draw. Will be discussing meeting pizza, this might be your last
- Housing:
- International Students: will bring a discussion point about doing something in freshers week for international students
- LGBTQ+: college will fly rainbow flag for LGBT history month in Feb
- PoCRE: joint social with class next week
- Sarah Lawrence (Exchange Program):
- Sports Officer:
- Staff Liaison:
- Suspended Students:

- Tech:
- Trans: have spoken to Treasurer and so will be able to pay transition expenses. Will be putting constitutional amendment formalising my role next meeting
- Welfare: busy week with Mental Health awareness week, thanks for help with that. Buy more raffle tickets before draw at end of meeting! Talking with Women's officer about maybe having basket of pregnancy tests and sanitary products available in snug 24/7
- Women: will have women's social next week and would like any thoughts on where to distribute pregnancy tests

## Motions

- **Motion to donate £250 to Heat for the Homeless Oxford**
- Proposed by Jack Wands, seconded by Keir Mather
- Proposer: I went to an On Your Doorstep session. This initiative would provide rough sleepers with water bottles and allow them to fill them at night
- They needed £300 for 100 bottles which should cover all rough sleepers in Ox
- Already raised £40, but they needed the money quickly so I gave them £260 personally
- I have trust in Wadham SU to pass this, but this is up to them
- Clarified this was a personal donation, and this is constitutional
- Will provide receipts ahead of reimbursement
- Treasurer: we can only expedite payments from general account, not charities
- Can we make sure this is a one off?
- What are you planning on spending the £250 on?
- Charities: charities can only donate funds via special account as charities like SU cannot donate to other charities
- Can we have a mechanism to put quick donations straight to reimbursement?
- Treasurer: I think we should
- There is about £4,000 available in the charities account
- VP: banner polls and referenda should be kept to a minimum as turnout falls if too frequent
- Suggestion there could be a clause in a constitutional amendment allowing for emergency donations, as deemed by Treasurer, Chair, Charities and President
- Move to vote
- **Motion passes**
- **Motion to fund purchase of match shirts & training equipment for the college hockey team**
- Proposed by Claire H Evans, seconded by Emma Flint

- Proposer: Wadham used to have a hockey team but it fizzled out, have restarted in partnership with Trinity
- Hockey is an expensive sport due to kit, and we don't want that to be a barrier to trying the sport
- Have you applied for college funding?
- Amalgamated clubs won't cover it
- Have you tried the new third branch of college funding, 'new initiatives'?
- Treasurer: we should pass this now but ensure future applicants are moved in that direction
- If it gets taken up, college will keep funding so it would be good to keep those up
- **Motion passes**

### **Discussion points**

- Welfare space at bop
- Want feedback on welfare spaces, as some weeks we get plenty of volunteers for these and sometimes we get none. College says we can't have bops without them
- How can we make volunteering more attractive?
- We are thinking of splitting the shifts into two two hour halves?
- Only problem is ensuring second slot team are sober
- Can't imagine many people would get drunk if they don't want to go to bop
- Would like to see more radical change to the system if it isn't working
- Worried that calling for more volunteers might increase emails
- We don't like the fact that most people who do volunteer don't enjoy bops or drinking, there is a bit of a lack of give and take
- Maybe longer term incentives than pizza?
- Could we just pay people?
- This would work out at roughly £100 per bop
- VP: but SU constitution is clear you can't be remunerated for SU work
- Treasurer: we definitely couldn't pay welfare reps for doing exactly the same job
- Pizza is implicit payment isn't it?
- So why not give the money that goes towards pizza, maybe alcohol in next bop
- Probably everyone in the room would volunteer from time to time if confident of what needed doing. Paying wouldn't raise volunteer numbers substantially
- Each committee member could have to do a mandatory bop space?
- Guilt tripping people into doing it as we are kind of doing isn't reasonable, the MCR employs students so what's wrong with that
- Entz: bemoaning lack of community spirit and help with Queerfest or bops

- Could we encourage people to not get messy drunk, or these people to help with welfare spaces
- Officer: I already work a lot to help the SU, if I were forced to work welfare spaces too I would resent the SU. Other officers agree
- It can be a not particularly nice job, even if it's a good thing. Appreciating people are giving up valuable time isn't a bad thing, we should consider payment
- I do find the idea of missing all of bop deters me from volunteering
- Draws contrast between interview days and bop welfare space, the latter is not at all altruistic
- We are using the goodwill of people who generally a) don't go to bop and b) don't give SU positions to work, what's wrong with paying them
- Isn't the distinction between food paid by the SU and money from the SU pretty trivial?
- While not having to pay or emotionally blackmail would be nice, it's not the reality
- Not sure paying people is a good idea, but it would work. I used to do a lot of welfare shifts, and we had two people, one relieving the other to go to bop for half an hour
- We feel this wouldn't be adequate staffing
- Welfare: our conclusions are atm reluctant to pay, but for next bop we can trial two shift system, encouraging those who don't enjoy bopping to take latter shift
- Asking for four volunteers rather than two might be problematic
- Wouldn't want to encourage those on low incomes to give up bop
- We could offer payment in drinks at college bar to the early shift?
- Not possible for various reason
- Entz: if payment happens, could we pay volunteers to help clean up after festivals
- Could we further split the latter shift into one hours, and the latter shift does more of the work
- That many handovers might be detrimental to welfare
- What about the option to share a two hour shift with a friend?
- Still involves a complicated handover
- Plenty of people work in the holidays because it's expensive to go to uni, what's wrong with helping them by paying them for a valuable job?
- Next year Old Refec and JCR will both be gone. Where can we have the new welfare spaces?
- Will be discussed later
- Welfare: we have also been considering trialling an alternative trip at bop times. Possibly to G&D Would this be popular? Very
- Is there not a possibility of this discouraging potential volunteers?

- Welfare: we do see the same names that welfare space frequently, but we don't want them not to have a good time
- It does seem people in the welfare space are either very drunk or those who find bops stressful. It is important to be aware of the later group, and volunteering there is not about endless vomit,
- Welfare: this alternative event to bop stemmed from the temptation to run two separate spaces for these different groups but this would be difficult
- **UCU strike**
- The trade union most of the tutors and lecturers have balloted for strike action as their pension scheme is being cut with lower matched contributions. There would be no lectures and teaching for three days towards the end of February, escalating if they get no concessions
- Want to review our recent motions to ensure consistent policy
- I support the strike and want a motion to note disapproval with Oxford SU for not backing the strike fully
- We should consult with MCR
- UCU represents mostly academic staff and maybe high up administrative staff
- They are not asking for money
- Agree with Oxford SU's regret about disruption of teaching
- Oxford SU will decide policy at Council on Wednesday
- Can we note disappointment that lecturers are forced into this position, rather than blaming them?
- Don't think this is a university decision, this is Universities UK
- The strike is amongst several universities
- The cuts are really harsh, ending pension security. Please read about it.
- Are there pickets?
- Don't know yet
- Pres: plans to bring motion about strike before next SU meeting
- **Telethon**
- Advertises telethon opportunities to raise for access

## **Oxford SU**

- UCU strike
- Deadline for NUS motions is on Tuesday

## **AOB**

- Uncontested elections
- Feel that if elections are uncontested, we should run them into next week, to encourage people to run
- First reading of a constitutional motion could be now, with short factual questions

- Nothing in constitution to say VP can't run elections over
- Perhaps we can just do that in next set of elections, and constitutionally mandate the VP in future
- Why don't we just turn this into first a first reading on a constitutional amendment to require this
- But there'll be existing officers standing down to run, triggering a second round of election
- Important to clarify there won't actually be any more elections as a result of this, just maybe more emails.
- What about welfare and entz?
- Maybe same principle will apply if there are only four candidates for four posts
- In general, a lot of people are discouraged to run for various reasons. Could we run workshops like Oxford SU?
- The procedure can be daunting to those feeling unfamiliar with this. Can we encourage people to meet existing officers
- One reason people don't run is people collecting ten signatures and posting them on the board, and end requirement to publicly notify who's running. Can we scrap 10 signature rule?
- Suggestion taken as friendly, were this to form a motion
- Summary of motion, proposed by Ivy Manning
- **Motion to alleviate uncontested elections and remove signature requirement for standing to election**
- If an election is uncontested, there will be another election in next week
- Move to vote
- **Motion passes first reading**
- If any ideas about what new JCR should look like, contact President
- Raffle draw
- Meeting ends