

Wadham SU meeting – Sunday 5th week HT18

Apologies received: Womens

Officers absent:

Officers' reports

- President: had meeting with college about divestment, have some backing but meeting not too constructive. Welfare committee raised points to discuss later. Two Oxford SU meetings, including emergency one on emergency SU strike. Met with uni proctors about UCU strike and Ken. Smoking consultation has gone out, please fill it in, it's about an outright ban. Consultation is not binding and takes a few seconds.
- Vice President: apologies for late emails. Next week's elections include Freshers committee, Entz, bar and social. Hustings on Thursday evening at 5, please go or run for something. Please make posters too, you're allowed to!
- Treasurer: I will start reporting how much is in bank account at start of each money. We have £18k, but until half way through Trinity. Can float us through Wadstock if we don't spend too much. £3k outstanding on college account
- Academic and Careers:
- Access: still some jumpers to distributed
- Amenities:
- Arts:
- The rather too pleased with themselves Bar and Social team: looking to get some mocktails
- Charities, Environment, and Ethics: got some new collection buckets for SU shop. College setting up sustainability working group inc me and another SU rep, don't know who.
- Straw poll: are we removing all previous signatories to the Charities account, adding Harry Penrose as sole signatory?
- Room votes yes
- Class:
- Communications:
- Disabilities:
- Domestic:
- Entz: run for Entz please, and we want an Arts tent in Wadstock so please come to us with any ideas
- Food: Would like discussion point about food in SU meetings
- Housing:
- International Students: sign up for international pot luck event on FB
- LGBTQ+: Crew date next week, and the uni society wants to run an event in Wadham at end of month
- PoCRE:
- Sarah Lawrence (Exchange Program):

- Sports Officer:
- Staff Liaison:
- Suspended Students: deadline for suspension passed, so let me know if you want a chat
- Tech: have sorted out inputs and outputs in tech corner, but this has partly been undone. Please stop
- Trans: LMH voted to have a trans officer, so I'm not alone anymore! See motion this meeting
- Welfare: new shift system seemed to work, with more volunteers. Will be fine tuning the pizza thing. Welfare week this week, take some time off work and look after yourself! There's a form to sign up for Valentines gifts to be pidged. Will tidy the snug
- Women: there are now packets of emergency underwear in womens room, please take if having period and do not return. Have FB page for festival, please look up

Motions

- **Motion to roll over uncontested elections, remove the signature requirement for standing for SU positions, and formalise procedure for under-contested elections (second reading)**
- Proposed by Ivy Manning, seconded by Lizzy Diggins
- Proposer: we want to increase democracy within the SU. A key provision is to automatically roll over under-contested elections. Another is to replace the nomination process with self-nomination.
- In the second week, elections would run anyway
- Self nomination would be by pidging or emailing the returning officer
- I think only controversial issues are whether uncontested elections are bad and signatures are bad
- Atm manifestos are technically optional, think most people would submit one
- But then all you need to do to run is just let your name be run, this could encourage joke candidates
- Hustings are not constitutionally required
- Proposed amendment that 10 signatures still needed but can be electronic
- If joke candidates becomes a problem, we can change in the future. But signature requirements do discourage some
- Proposed amendment that the production of manifestos are constitutionally mandated, at a specified length
- Not taken as friendly, discussion wanted
- The Vice President wouldn't publish manifestos until full set of candidates run
- Having to put up a manifesto wouldn't deter joke candidates, not voting for joke candidates deters them

- The presence of a manifesto does at least highlight whether someone is a joke candidate
- If writing a manifesto is not accessible, the role is too difficult
- While signatures are a waste of time, a manifesto ensures there is a commitment
- It isn't the VP's place to tell people to write manifestos
- Think it's more important the SU represents people well, not is democratic
- The public signatures do discourage people to run as they don't want to contest with a more popular person
- Is this about accessibility or increasing contestation?
- Popularity will always be a factor unless we have anonymous candidates. Manifestos are more sensible than a list of names to determine a vote
- While people should run manifestos, they should have the option not to
- People who vote on SU elections
- Move to vote on amendment
- Passes
- Amendment to make manifestos compulsory for election candidates, and these should not be published until election is run
- **Amendment passes**
- Move to vote on amended motion
- **Motion passes by majority**
- **Motion to give the position of trans* rep officer status (first reading)**
- Proposed by ??
- Proposer: would like to give the Trans rep equal status with other liberation officers
- But would amend option to remove asterisk
- Would like to add provision to require that LGBT and Trans reps are actually from that group
- **Motion passes first reading**
- **Motion to add blood donation reimbursements to the role description of the CEE officer (first reading)**
- Proposed by Milo Thursfield, seconded by Jack Wands
- The nearest blood donation point is the JR hospital, and as they recommend no exertion after donating you can't cycle
- It's a bus ride
- We propose reimbursing the £4ish bus fare on similar lines to prescriptions, starting now and not retroactive
- We already reimburse for necessary trips to the JR anyway
- Proof could be from screenshot of NHS website showing appointment
- Agree to have friendly amendment in second reading to make it apply from today
- This applies to all reasonable travel, not just JR
- Could direct people to send evidence to Treasurer for appointments from now

- Suggested a friendly amendment in second reading that bus fares can be reimbursed for bus trips in their home town to donate blood during vac
- NHS don't have money to run mobile collection for colleges, but are sometimes in city centre
- **Motion passes second reading**
- **Motion to support the change in pricing of vegetarian meals**
- Proposed by Mia Saunders, seconded by Harry Penrose
- Currently meals are the same price regardless of meat content
- The ingredients of vegetarian meals are cheaper, so vegetarians are cross-subsidising eaters of meat which is more expensive
- College very strongly insists vegetarian meals cost about the same, as costs are mostly staffing. We could subsidise, but not because vegetarian food is cheaper
- Is this for all meals?
- Just for dinners
- Food rep: is it ok if this is for me to deal with rather than Domestic?
- Unsure if this is to have effect of raising meat meal prices or lowering vegetarian
- Given the range of meals that need to catered, setting a precedent that different meals are cheaper runs risk of discriminating against those who are allergic
- We need to work out whether we want direct reflection of cost of meals in their price, which I think would be wrong, or to encourage certain behaviours with price
- The environmental impact is the issue here, if kitchen say costs are similar then they are
- There is a debate ongoing about veganism. For some reasons, e.g. disorders, it can be difficult to sustain vegetarian or vegan diets. People should not be tempted to behave a certain way due to costs
- How do costs differences work on Veggie Mondays? Do all meals have to be cheaper?
- Roughly one quarter of meals on normal days are vegetarian or vegan
- For every 2p you put up meat meals, you could cut veggie by 3p
- What about an opt out for the premium to avoid the health issue?
- Asking people to disclose eating disorders to college seems personal, or you might not even be aware yet
- If this were to happen you could run things by the meal booking system
- You could do more interesting things with it like opt to donate 25p with meat meals
- Comparison with rent SSO, people did display goodwill in choosing appropriate rent level
- But feelings around food aren't the same strength as housing

- Not happy with idea that you can 'buy' out the environmental damage caused by meat eating
- The subsidy would have to be significant to have any effect
- The idea of the SU deliberately raising living costs for its members seems odd, and we can't cut vegetarian food prices without raising meat costs
- Would emphasise the vegetarian food probably costs the same
- Part of reason food at Wadham is more expensive is because college spends that subsidy money on welfare, as opposed to other colleges
- Though it would be nice if everyone went vegetarian, whatever we voted on today would be mediated through extensive discussions
- We are keen that the money would only come from raising the cost of meat
- If motion is justified on environmental grounds, why not just have two Veggie Mondays
- Or Veggie Mondays plus a pescatarian day
- Or simply encourage your meat eating friends to not book meat more often
- Isn't there a bursary that will give £300 to each student who is vegetarian
- Just publicise this heavily
- Proposer: I think this is more justified by costs. Not the environment
- Could we introduce an opt-in for meat?
- While people support the spirit, we can't work out how to achieve the aims of this motion. We should have a discussion point
- Suggestion to move this to a discussion point in the next meeting, discussing how best to encourage vegetarianism
- Agreed by proposer
- Correction: if any vegetarian under 26 is struggling with money, they can apply for this grant from the vegetarian charity
- Food: offers to discuss the true costs of food and options with college
- Debate as to whether to vote on the motion
- Suggestion to vote down original motion and get commitment from food officer to collect information
- **Motion fails**
- **Motion to donate to Oxford Nightline**
- Proposed by Harry Penrose, seconded by Alice Cutbill
- Nightline provide vital, anonymous help to Wadham and Ox students
- This would make £100 annual donation
- Q. Would this be a direct debit?
- Would be bank transfer, could put it in the handover doc to ensure not lost
- Or ask college to do it on our behalf from charities account invoice?
- Can set up regular bank transfer
- Q. Is a policy book happening?
- A. Yes
- Q. How does Charities account?

- I think we've been technically using the main account illegally because we've found access to the charities account difficult. The funding comes from levies collected by college via battels
- However future donations come from Charities account as they should
- There is more in the charities account than needed to fund charities week
- ATM there's £4,600 available
- The idea of the charities elections is to distribute surplus from charities account
- **Motion passes by majority**
- **Motion to donate to Cancer Research UK**
- Proposed by Harry Penrose, seconded by Alice Cutbill
- A lot of JCRs are donating to them to mark World Cancer Day
- Q. How many?
- Don't know exactly but definitely Balliol
- **Motion passes by majority**
- **Motion to support UCU strike**
- Proposed by Jack Wands, seconded by Milo Thursfield
- The Universities UK group have decided to scrap the defined benefit pension scheme for lecturers, so SU will be striking
- This will only affect departmental teaching
- Oxford SU is encouraging students to respect the strike, except going to essential exams
- This would show solidarity with our teaching staff
- It is part of wider anti-marketisation movement
- Motion says we encourage graduate students to join UCU
- The proctors of the uni treat the strike period as 'business as usual' and will punish non-attendance as usual. President and many JCR presidents would write to the proctors to protest
- The strike solidarity fund is to be set up, and we would donate £250 if the UCU want this and this is legally sound
- Oxford SU advise the latter is so
- Can we get reminders on the SU page advising strike dates?
- Yes
- Friendly amendment: 'to mandate the SU treasurer to reimburse the purchase of up to £10 of hot drinks and pastries to be brought to picket lines'
- Email reminders also requested
- Friendly amendments to mandate a range of officers to participate in the resolves actions
- Clarifies that settlement of 'default strike policy' will be a separate constitutional motion
- Some other SUs are saying they will go through the complaints measures to obtain fee refunds due to strike disruption, unless strike is settled on UCU terms

- Oxford system is different and difficult to navigate
- Also Oxford University would be hurt, not UniversitiesUK. But putting pressure on Oxford would have an effect on the divided UniversitiesUK body
- Can we make it Wadham SU's NY resolution to not be misquoted and praised by the Daily Telegraph?
- Tutorials in college would not be disrupted, but some department libraries will be picketed
- There's a good chance that departmental teaching will be cancelled and not rescheduled. We are encouraging students to not go to continuing classes
- **Motion passes unanimously**
- **Motion to Donate to Emmaus Oxford**
- Proposed by Harry Penrose, seconded by Joanne McNulty
- They provide beds for 28 homeless people in town, and provide skills and advice
- **Motion passes unanimously**
- **Motion to donate money to the Oxford-Cambridge Football Varsity match**
- Proposed by Louise Nolan, seconded by Katie Plummer
- Last year was the first double header for the varsity match
- It is a big financial risk as the football club doesn't have much money
- 60 Wadhamites went last year, probably the biggest college turnout
- The Women's Club won't be able to sell full allocation tickets, we would like Wadham to fund 20 or 30 tickets at £10 a ticket for both matched
- Last year Wadham spent £600 on tickets at £8 each
- Is the money coming from the charity account?
- No, main SU account
- Who gets the tickets and why this sport and not others?
- The tickets are for Wadham students, they'd be for their benefit
- And most sports have matches at Oxford or Cambridge and thus don't cost much. Women's football is almost at the right level, but we have to hire a stadium and that's expensive
- Friendly amendment to buy a minimum of £200 worth of tickets or up to £600 worth depending on demand in Wadham
- Wadham's sport fund is £500 for all clubs for all year
- College has the CB Fry fund to support individual sport, the SU is constantly on at college to reform it.
- **Motion passes by majority**
- **[Motion funding a concert by David Rovics in Oxford]**
- Proposed by Daniel Antonio Villar, seconded by Ray Williams
- Proposers are absent
- **Motion postponed until next meeting**

Discussion points

- **Wadham Ball**

- President has sent out email asking for Ball committee applications. These positions will be held until Ball in Trinity 2019, but most of the work will be done by Hilary, so compatible with exams
- Applications are open until the end of the month, and interviews are flexible
- At start of MT, the executive committee will appoint a larger committee
- We will later figure out budget and size of ball later
- Last ball was over £100,000, which was scandalous, I would like to have conversation about whether to have a smaller ball before appointing anyone
- We do need to start the ball rolling though
- There's no direct accountability to SU members?
- The committee would need to support Wadham SUs

- **Bops next year**

- We have three choices for bop venues next year, outside college in a club, or the Okinaga, or the Moser theatre
- Outside college would be expensive, and Okinaga is too small
- The Moser would be accessible
- If bops are ever moved out of college, they won't let us back.
- How many plug sockets are there in the Moser?
- A few
- Tech offers to look at Moser
- The welfare space would be the Okinaga if bops are in Moser
- Might have to ban alcohol from actual bop though, as it is used for Yoga
- The Okinaga will be the SU space, but Moser is a college room
- Complaints Moser is a bit claustrophobic
- Ceiling height in the Okinaga is very low, but Moser gets very hot, even during talks
- If Cellar can be survived, this can
- The Okinaga is directly under rooms
- However, squash is audible from rooms above

- **The SU banner at sporting events**

- This will be a constitutional amendment, but can we not have the banner going to support Wadham sports teams without having to hold a poll
- Supported, but maybe with a clause that an emergency banner poll can be called if anyone wants to oppose
- Alumni matches would still be determined by current polling mechanism
- Nobody can remember a banner poll that has failed
-

Oxford SU

- Largely technical measures at next council, tidying up Oxford SU's policy on the European Union
- Negotiating with university over graduate study spaces

AOB

- Please run for Class Act committee positions
- We need to spend £200 won from Veg Pledge, what should we have Oxford SU buy?