**Student Council 3rd Week Trinity Term 2022**

**Tuesday 10th May 2022**

**5:30PM**

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| **Item** | **Agenda** | **Actions** |
|  | **Welcome**    Ciaron Tobin (Chair of Council) welcomed council members to council meeting of the term. | To note |
| **A** | **Minutes of the Previous Meeting**  Chair opened the floor to questions and comments regarding the minutes of the previous meeting and any matters arising from the minutes.  Minutes to the previous meeting can be accessed [here.](https://www.oxfordsu.org/representation/student-council/22ht5w/) | To receive |
| **B** | **Matters arising from the minutes**  There were no matters arising | To receive |
| **C** | **Elections in council**  There were none | To receive |
| **D** | **Reports from and questions to Sabbatical Trustees**  Chair informed members that full officer written reports can be accessed on [student council website](https://www.oxfordsu.org/representation/student-council/22ht7w/).  **Chair opens the floor for Questions and comments on Sabbatical Trustee Reports** | To receive |
| **E** | **Reports from and questions to Women’s Campaign and Class Act Campaign**  Women’s Campaign Co-Chair supplemented the written report available on the website with a short verbal update on upcoming targets.  Women’s Campaign full report can be found [here.](https://www.oxfordsu.org/representation/student-council/22tt3w/)  **Chair opens the floor for Questions and comments on officer reports**  Co-Chair of LGBTQ+ Campaign suggested a collaboration with the Women’s Campaign to improve the provision of contraceptives in colleges.  No further comments for Women’s Campaign  **Report from Class Act Campaign**  Class Act Campaign Co-Chairs were not present but will receive questions on their report via email and social media.  Co-Chair’s full report can be found here. | To receive |
| **F** | **Reports from and questions to Social Sciences UG & PG Divisional Representative**  Full report of Social Sciences UG Div Report can be accessed [here](https://www.oxfordsu.org/pageassets/representation/student-council/22ht7w/Humanities-Rep-Report-HT22.docx).  **Chair opens the floor for Questions and comments for the UG Rep.**  There were none |  |
| **G** | **Items for Resolution** | To receive |

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| **1.** | **Motion to introduce policy on conflicts of interest and affiliations**  **Council Notes:**   1. Currently, Oxford SU does not have a formalised policy on conflicts of interest in any of its governing documents - Candidates running for positions in the SU do not have to declare any organisations which they are currently serving on the committee of, or have been elected to 2. Candidates running for positions in the SU do not have to declare any organisations which they are currently serving on the committee of, or have been elected to 3. A similar motion to cover the first steps of the process, regarding the pre-approval stages, passed in Student Council in Week 1 of Trinity Term 2022   **Council Believes:**   1. Conflicts of interest due to roles or affiliations elsewhere risk compromising the integrity of some of the most essential officers within the SU 2. Furthermore, especially high commitment additional roles may compromise the quality of work in the Sabbatical role, worsening student satisfaction with the SU 3. Whilst Sabbatical Officers/Sabbatical Officer candidates have a right to associate with whatever organisations they choose, their constituents should equally have the right to scrutinise them for this both before and after their election 4. The roles a candidate chooses to take on once elected remain highly relevant, as it may impact the choices they make as a Sabbatical Officer 5. These concerns are most relevant for Sabbatical Officers as the only paid elected representatives of the student body within the Oxford SU, instead of also applying these to trustees or NUS delegates   **Council Resolves:**  Add the following clause to the Election Rules document:  1. 17: Roles and affiliations When the campaign period begins, candidates must declare any roles within any relevant organisations to which they were elected or appointed since their matriculation.  Relevant organisations are those which have the reasonable potential to influence a candidate’s behaviour in office, including but not limited to: - Student societies, both Oxford exclusive and for the UK more widely - College JCRs or MCRs - The Oxford Union Debating Society - Student publications (e.g., The Oxford Student, the Cherwell, This list need not include any roles where the candidate was under paid employment. This information should be publicly visible as part of a candidates’ manifesto, listed as relevant experience or disclosures.  And add the following clause to the Bye-Laws:  1. 22 Sabbatical Trustee Affiliations   1. 22.1 Sabbatical Trustees should declare any existing roles or affiliations during their candidacy as detailed in the Electoral Procedure document. 2. 22.2 When in office, Trustees must publicly declare any new roles or affiliations which they take on. This includes appointments to new positions within an organisation which they have previously declared a role with.   When updates are made to these roles or affiliations, it will be announced in student council and edited accordingly on the Oxford SU website.  **Proposer:** Samuel Williamson, University College  **Seconder:** Alice Childs Dos Santos, New College  Samuel Williamson (Proposer) provided a summary of the motion and explained three improvements done based on Week’s 1, SU Council meeting feedback:   1. Provided a stronger definition of what constitutes a ‘society’. 2. Took out having to disclose summer jobs, as that is not relevant. 3. When someone does not wish to publicly declare an affiliation, then they will only need to disclose that to a returning officer of the SU.   **Chair opened the floor for questions and comments.**  Question 1: What are the mechanisms for verifying affiliations?  Samuel (proposer): we added more detail about the role of the returning officer and electoral committee. If the motion passes, then we can discuss the implementation of the fine details.  A comment was put forward about the importance of adding a sub-section to the Bye-laws to show exactly how this change would work, how people would declare affiliations, who would verify said affiliations, etc. In order to ensure in writing the best interest of student’s long term.  Samuel:  -Implementation can be done by Sabbatical Officers who are paid officers of the SU and will be able to oversee implementation given the longevity of their role compared to us.  - I am in favor of having more details in writing, such as in the Bye-laws and electoral regulations.  Question 2: Is there another reading of the motion before voting opens? i.e., an opportunity to fine-tune the document before voting?  Samuel: Between the first and second reading you can’t make amendments. Additionally, I am in favor of taking a vote today because this is a long process, if the motion passes, it still has to go to the University level committees. Thus, it will be quite tight to get it through on time.  **Chair opened the floor for speeches for and against the motion.**  Concerns were raised about the terminology in the motion being unspecific and causing confusion on which affiliations would need to be disclosed and how.  **A procedural note from president regarding changes to election process was given.**  **Motion to introduce policy on conflicts of interest & affiliations**    Total Votes: 23  For 14  Against 8  Abstain 1    **Vote count did not reach quorum**. |  |
| **H** | **Any Other Business**  **Chair declares meeting finished at 18:44 p.m.** | To note |