

Date: 27th November 2016

Sunday 8th Week, MT16
JCR Aung San Suu Kyi Room

St Hugh's JCR Meeting Minutes

1. Reports from members of the JCR Committee
2. Statement by the JCR Treasurer of the balance of the term's motion budget and the balance of any other budget relevant to that meeting
3. Action motions for debate asking for funding
4. Statement motions for debate
5. Items for discussion
6. Any other business

1. Reports from members of the JCR Committee

President - Reetaza Chatterjee (jcr.president@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Couldn't attend equality committee unfortunately;
- Booked venue for OUSU council;
- Attended OUSU council with Ana and Curtis;
- Stopped college from giving out student information for NSS survey;
- Organizing handover prescom for next week;
- Doing up handover documents;
- Helped Ben with junior deans report.

Vice-President - Tom Gibson (jcr.vicepresident@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Handover stuff;
- Forgot about DoDO hustings;
- Christmas formal discontent.

Secretary - Hanna Baricic (jcr.secretary@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Was too ill for OUSU council unfortunately;
- Finally got through travel grant elections;
- Am organizing handover next week.

Treasurer - Fabio Schneider (jcr.treasurer@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Blues funds;
- Went to finance committee meeting;
- Organizing handover.

International - Kwok Li Chen (jcr.international@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Crewdate went well.

LGBTQ - Dan Payne (jcr.lgbtq@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Nothing to report.

Welfare and Equal Opportunities - Tirzah Barwick Ward & Ben Gibbons (jcr.femalewelfare@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk and jcr.malewelfare@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Welfare tea;
- Got anonymous pidging sorted;
- Welfare committee;
- Organized when we are doing handover;
- Finished the junior deans report, and discussed with relevant people how a suspended status rep would best be able to help current students.

Entz - Lydia Coxon and Jack Cooper (jcr.entz@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Bop;
- Did handover.

Acc & Aff - Ben Peacock (jcr.acaf@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Been advertising Target Schools Committee positions;
- Emergency meeting at OUSU next week about the National Survey, which is relevant for access.

Charities - Laura Caccia (jcr.charities@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Sorted more post ball stuff;
- Termly refugee battels stuff.

Environment & Ethics - Gonzalo Linares (jcr.environment@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- We got 46 responses for the Student Switch Off Climate Quiz.

Sports and Societies - Charlie Melbourne (jcr.sports@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Nothing to report.

DODO - Dan de Wijze (jcr.dodo@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- Handover stuff - we will have a new DoDO;
- Have had some discussions with Fabio about a new TV;
- Updated constitution on the website.

First Year - Katie Shepherd (jcr.freshers@st-hughs.ox.ac.uk)

- I made a start on the surveys for freshers week which I will send to all the freshers and then forward it to Theo, so it can be used for next year.

2. Statement by the JCR Treasurer of the balance of the term's motion budget and the balance of any other budget relevant to that meeting

There's only £200 left in the motions budget, which is relevant for this meeting's motions.

3. Action motions for debate

Motion a. Quicksandance Funding

The JCR Notes:

1. It is in the JCR's interests to supply some funding for my production company (Quicksandance)'s upcoming production 'Illuminated' at the Keble O'Reilly in 1st week Hilary 2017.
2. The director/choreographer of this production is a member of Hughs JCR
3. The show currently has an estimated £2212 budget, of which includes £1000 of pre-existent funding in the production account.
4. The production requires a remaining £1212 of budget to cover the Light hire, Tech hire, Costume, Music rights + Contingency funding. (Can provide full budget breakdown if necessary)

The JCR Believes:

1. This motion could be carried forward by the JCR and that a grant should be given to Quicksandance productions
2. The upcoming production 'Illuminated' is a new and exciting arts venture following on from the sell-out show last Michaelmas 'Ten Duets on a Theme of proximity'. It is a production of the kind never before attempted in the Oxford, exploring the narrative potential of dynamic originally choreographed contemporary dance while also exploring the visual and emotive possibilities of light.
3. In light (pardon the pun) of what seems to be great enthusiasm in Hugh's towards a greater promotion of the arts it would be an exciting opportunity for the JCR to get involved in a type of theatrical venture that has not only never been attempted before at Oxford but is breaking new ground in the world of dance and theatre. It would reflect highly on our creative community if some support were to come from the college.
4. If this motion passes then it would hugely benefit the production in terms of covering various important costs outlined in JCR Notes
5. With the help of JCR funding, the show's success might hopefully inspire lots more ambitious arts ventures from Hugh's in future
6. This production fundamentally aims at creating something visually spectacular, but we are also giving back as a company. The production company are in contact with Parkinsons UK (one of the proposed Hugh's JCR charities for this year) and are giving 25% of our overall ticket sales to them, as well as collaborating on some Oxford-based dance projects by Parkinsons UK and the ENO.

The JCR Resolves:

1. That the JCR provide a grant of £125 to Quicksandance productions to help cover some of the costs of marketing, costume and lighting design.

Proposer: Emmy Everest-Phillips

Seconded: Fred Wienand

Short factual points:

Have artsoc got a bank account yet? No.

Did we not say we will not give more money for artsoc projects? Yes.

Move to debate:

Where has the rest of the money coming from?

We're getting funding from other JCRs - New College, University College, and a few others.

How much is the overall cost?

Mentioned in JCR Notes in the motion.

How much is this projected to raise for the charities?

20% of around £400.

Are you happy with the fact that we need to vote next term as well and you can only get money then?

Yes.

How much are other colleges giving?

I don't know yet, as we're all asking for funding now.

The point is that we are not giving money to artsoc projects any more - though this is not directly relevant for this motion.

Voting proceeds:

30 votes for;

None against;

2 abstentions;

The motion passes.

Motion b. 'The Dinner Club' funding

The JCR Notes:

1. That student drama - both Film & Theatre - is a major part of Oxford life;
2. That due to logistical problems, Art Soc is currently unable to support Hugh's students in these fields financially;
3. That student-made films can be difficult to finance and produce;
4. That any left-over JCR funds at the end of this term will be 'lost'.

The JCR Believes:

1. That the student body should do as much as possible to promote the Arts, and those who are pursuing a career in them;
2. That student-made productions allow students to gain invaluable 'hands-on' experience.

The JCR Resolves:

1. To grant the student- made film 'The Dinner Club' (written and directed by our very own Misha Pinnington) £75 to help cover production costs;
2. To mandate the incoming Sports and Societies Representative to open or oversee the opening of an ArtSoc bank account, so that future such needs can be covered by ArtSoc.

Proposer: Luke Walpole

Secunder: Fabio Schneider

Short factual points:

We were supposed to get money from a body that is struggling at the moment, and we could really need some extra money.

What is it about?

It's about social affectation - everything happens at a handover dinner party, the president loses her voice, and sees all interactions in different frames of reference.

Can we add a mandate to pledge to open a bank account for ArtSoc?

This is not relevant to the proposers. Perhaps the incoming Sports and Socs rep could do this. We could mandate him to sort the ArtSoc bank account. This amendment is accepted and is noted in point 2 of The JCR Resolves.

Move to debate:

None.

Voting proceeds:

The JCR unanimously votes in favour;

The motion passes.

Motion c. Sports and socs and socks

The JCR Notes:

1. That the committee name Sports and societies representative (sports and socs) can be misleading
2. That a number of JCR members have been confused by the name
3. That there has been an increase in the number of lost socks seeking partners on the JCR page recently
4. That socks receive more emotional attachment than most other items of clothing

The JCR Believes:

1. No sock should be left alone
2. That confusion should be avoided
3. That it can be easily avoided by having both instead of create a dichotomy
4. That sports and socs is one of the less demanding roles (...) and has space to have extra responsibilities
5. That sports and socs and socks sounds nice

The JCR Resolves:

1. To change the name of the JCR Sports and Societies Rep to sports and societies and socks rep (sports and socs and socks)
2. To mandate the incumbent to establish a Facebook page where missing socks can be advertised properly and to administer this page to give socks their best hope of being returned.

Proposer: Tom Gibson

Secunder: Hanna Baricic

Short factual points:

This is not a constitutional change, just a name change.

What do we think of soc(k)s? No, because it leads to the same confusion.

Move to debate:

None.

Voting proceeds:

32 votes for;

1 vote against;

2 abstentions;

The motion passes.

Motion d. Suspended status rep

The JCR Notes:

1. A significant proportion of the student body are on, considering, or are affected by having been on, suspended status - in the years 2012/13, and again in 2013/14, 43 members of the JCR and MCR combined were under suspended status, up from 25 in 2010/11, according to a Freedom of Information Request accessed in 2015. This amounts to almost 5% of the student body.
2. The process by which someone decides to or is forced to suspend (/rusticate) is not transparent, with different people having very different experiences, depending on a variety of factors including the tutors, their academic record and their background. This is compounded by the fact that the tutors often do not know how the system is supposed to work either. This makes it very difficult for any one person to understand what they should be doing, what they are allowed or not allowed to do, and how they should be dealing with it.

The JCR Believes:

1. The creation of the position of a Suspended Status rep on the WEQ committee has the potential to benefit these students greatly, by pointing them towards relevant resources, helping people with the process and providing a space in which people who are going through the process, or considering it, can talk about problems, share advice and give each other mutual support, mitigating the isolating experience of suspension. Beyond normalising the experience, it also demonstrates to such students that the JCR supports them whatever their decision is, and that they should continue to feel a part of the JCR throughout the process.
2. The creation of the position would also create a more effective platform from which to attempt to reform the way in which suspended status students are treated by college (for example, negotiating on the official stance that they are not allowed in college for the duration of their suspension).

The JCR Resolves:

1. To create the position of a Suspended Status rep on the WEQ committee, whose responsibility would be to create and manage the shared space that suspended status students, or those considering it, can use, as well. In addition, the suspended status rep should aim to help students who are going through the process, both technically and emotionally.

Proposer: Ben Gibbons

Secunder: Tirzah Barwick-Ward

Short factual points:

Have you thought about how OUSU SusCam could link into this?

I haven't been that aware of them, and they are relatively new and have not advertised that much, so they might not be the best platform.

Having a rep would probably be good to liaise with them.

If you are still on the St Hugh's mailing list, would it not make more sense to put the vote online so people can vote even if they are currently suspended.

SusCam has different roles – one arm is doing social events, so could be looking into this. Concerned about them running a separate space, and even though they are new they are a good resource.

If we think this is what we're looking for, then we will consider it. Also we can informally link this to the WEQ committee.

SusCam is very university oriented, while it's good to have something in college. A platform that is college specific would be good.

Will the rep be someone who has been suspended previously? Yes, that is a WEQ committee role.

Points of debate:

I think this is a really good point, as every college has its own policy. SusCam could also just be incorporated.

College responses were very informal as well, which is to be considered.

It makes it clearer to have a rep.

Voting proceeds:

The JCR unanimously votes in favour;

The motion passes.

4. Statement motions for debate

Motion a. Electronics Watch – Ethical Procurement of IT equipment @ University of Oxford

The JCR Notes:

1. Production of our common electronic goods (phones, computers etc.) involves many exploitative, abusive practices and harmful environments including:
 - a. poor health and safety provision (inc. exposure to harmful, potentially carcinogenic, chemicals),
 - b. excessive working hours (inc. 84h working weeks),
 - c. unpaid overtime,
 - d. abuse of vulnerable workers, increasingly migrant workers and student interns,

- e. punitive fines for mistakes by workers.
2. Companies known to use sweatshops include: Apple Inc., Dell, HP Inc., Lenovo (Motorola), Sony and Nokia.
 3. Currently the university supplier selection guidance stipulates (a full copy can be provided):
 - a. “Health and Safety – suppliers should ensure that employees work in safe and healthy environments.”
 - b. “Working Hours – suppliers must ensure the working hours of their employees are not excessive and are in line with good industry practice. Overtime should be voluntary.”
 - c. “Labour Conditions – suppliers will not use forced, bonded or involuntary labour, and must take steps to eliminate child labour in their supply chains.”
 4. University central administration spent an average for the years 2013-14 and 2014-15 of £12,333,930.55 on hardware and software combined [based on academic years, and excluding VAT] largely organised half through direct contracts and half through purchasing consortia.
 5. Dell (30.1%) and Apple (10.7%) are the Universities two largest suppliers.
 6. Average yearly (academic) spend on ICT by colleges for 2013-15 was on average £51,211.93.
 7. College procurement of ICT hardware is more ad hoc and not often organized through contracts.
 8. Public institutions (governments, councils, universities, hospitals etc.) in the EU buy one in five computers sold in the EU amounting to ~€94bn/year potentially representing a huge amount of economic leverage if combined.
 9. Electronics Watch is an independent monitoring organisation under which public institutions can pool this leverage and better meet their responsibility to protect the human rights of electronics workers in their global supply chains and to do so more effectively and less expensively than any single public buyer could accomplish on its own.
 10. The Universities of Edinburgh, Durham, Leeds, Leicester, Aberdeen, Barcelona, the London Universities Purchasing Consortium and Transport for London are already members of Electronics Watch;
 11. To join Electronics Watch the University of Oxford would pay 0.1% of its expenditure on electronic hardware (< ~£12,000 or for reference roughly 50p/student/year) which would be used so the organisation can effectively carry out independent audits and champion the rights of those affected in the industry.
 12. Electronics Watch @ University of Oxford is an OUSU ‘Global Justice’ campaign.

The JCR Believes:

1. The University of Oxford acknowledges a responsibility in championing ethical procurement.
2. New, quickly growing, and extremely powerful, the impact of the electronics industry as an employer is great, and will only continue to increase.

3. There is likely a disparity between the good intentions the University has regarding the ethical procurement of electronics hardware and what it is realistically able to achieve.
4. Electronics Watch is the natural solution to this problem as the University's ethical procurement principles can better be satisfied if suppliers can be more effectively lobbied.
5. Affiliation with Electronics Watch would bring the University's ethical procurement into the Digital Age and is a natural extension of the University's commendable commitment to the Living Wage and the Ethical Trade Base Code.
6. Electronics Watch is a nascent organisation but one that has already demonstrated its effectiveness.
7. Affiliation with Electronics Watch is positive ethical decision and financially worthwhile.

The JCR Resolves:

1. That it supports the campaign for the University of Oxford to affiliate with Electronics Watch.
2. To mandate the Environment and Ethics rep to post an Electronics Watch awareness video on the JCR/MCR Facebook page and copy a link into their weekly bulletin.

Proposer: Sul Ilyas-Jarrett

Secunder: Ilari Makela

Short factual points:

Has a motion like this passed OUSU council already? I believe so, since this is one of their campaigns. Also about 4 or 5 other college JCRs have already passed this.

No points of debate

Motion is voted upon online.

5. Items for discussion

6. Any other business

The Women's Football club needs access to the bank account, and the previous treasurers have left. The bank requires official minutes from the JCR to confirm Marine Lello has access to the bank account. As she is the club president, the JCR members have indeed confirmed that she can access the bank account.