



Graduate Union Council Meeting

Tuesday 25 November 2014

MINUTES

Minutes of a meeting of the Graduate Union Council, held on Tuesday 25 November 2014 in the Graduate Union Lounge, 17 Mill Lane at 7:00PM.

ATTENDEES

Evianna van Gijn (GU President), Matthew P. Grosvenor (GU Secretary, co-opted), Jack Wright (GU/CUSU Welfare and Rights Officer), Sandra Vetasquet-Alford (Q), Fedir Kiskim (St C), Jaquelyne Poon (Ch), Jan Beitner (Je), Georgie Frank (Cl), Isak Herman (Da), Jose Reis (Gi), Richard Bateman (F), John Morgan (Do), Luca Di Mario (Se), Chris Truscott (Ro), Bo Chen (Wo), Raphael Proust (Ma).

This meeting was not quorate.

Items carried over from meeting at 28/10/14 - In accordance with the GU Constitution Schedule C, Clause 8 - The items on the agenda from 28/10/14 could not be discussed because the meeting was not quorate (14 voting members present). The GU Executive Committee voted to adjourn the meeting until Tuesday 25 November. Quorum for this part of the meeting shall be 15 or the number of voting members present half an hour after the scheduled start.

MPG: Asked the council if it's ok for Sara Trainor to act as chair during the meeting. The formal election will happen in the second half of the agenda.

1) Approval of the minutes of the previous Council Meeting (30 September 2014) **approved**

2) Matters arising from the minutes of the previous Council meeting

-In the previous meeting a question was raised as to if a paper ballot is required for the Executive Committee meeting.

EVG: It's not necessary for EC. It is necessary for the sabbatical officers.

3) Apologies for absence: Jack Wright

4) Reports to Council from Sabbatical Officers:

-Election of the GU Executive Committee on 3 November 2014.

-Self-evaluation - **EVG:** You might have seen posters around the university. The university is trying to see how masters students are doing. They want to know how students are feeling early in the year. Have they met their supervisor? Have they met their tutor? It's very important that these items are raised early. The university would like to improve its offerings to masters students.

-GU space - **EVG:** CUSU will be moving in to the building. There is a question of what GU council wants for the GU space.

Q: How many people use the facilities, printing and gown rental etc?

EVG: This space is used overnight and every day. We're hoping to have a coffee machine soon.

HH: there's nothing to prevent sharing.

EVG: The shop is a big income stream. The GU is trying to protect income. The space is not particularly big.

Q: Can you get some concrete figures. What is being used. How many people come? Can you quantify how often.

Action: Will look into it to see what can be done about getting more figures.

-Vice-Chancellor talk: 12 January, Mill Lane Lecture rooms (soon to be advertised)

EVG: Vice chancellor is coming to give a talk on the past present and future of the graduate union. A topic of interest to Graduate students. Reception in this space afterwards. Katrina is here as Newnham External officer, but also the GU Communications officer. Please take a poster put it in a good place.

-MCR President Facebook page (sign up): MCR Presidents 2014-2015

EVG: Made a Facebook page for all MCR presidents. If you're an MCR president, please sign up. For the academic year.

5) ~~Council discussion and questions to Council: The GU president has opted to withdraw this item~~
~~the tutorial system:~~

- ~~has each new graduate student had the opportunity to meet their tutor~~
- ~~regular meetings organised by the tutor to meet the tutees~~
- ~~are there issues you feel the tutor can't help with?~~
- ~~is the tutor visible and approachable in college?~~
- ~~how many students does each tutor approximately have?~~
- ~~do you feel the tutor can relate to student issues?~~
- ~~what could be improved about the tutorial system in your college?~~
- ~~how happy are you with the tutorial system in your college:~~
~~satisfied, neutral, dissatisfied, unknown~~

6) ~~Next GU Council meeting date: Not Applicable~~

~~Second meeting this term: Tue 25 Nov. at 7pm~~

Items pushed to next term - This part of the meeting was not quorate.

Items for meeting of 28/10/14 - These items are not subject the conditions above. Quorum will therefore be 15 as per GU Constitution Schedule C, Clause 8

1) ~~Approval of the minutes of the previous Council Meeting (28 November 2014) Not Applicable~~

2) ~~Matters arising from the minutes of the previous Council meeting Not Applicable~~

3) Reports to Council from Sabbatical Officers:

- President's Update
- Affiliation Fees

- New executive
- Other updates
- Welfare and Right's Update

4) Council discussion and questions to Council:

- Proposal to promote the Welfare and Rights officer role to a full-time position (from half-time).

5) Elections to be held at Council:

- Proposal to elect Sara Trainor as GU Council Chair.

GU Constitution, Schedule C, Clause 9

"Meetings of the Student Council shall be chaired by a Member of the Union who is recommended by the Executive Committee and elected as chair by a majority of those present and eligible to vote at the first Student Council meeting of the Michaelmas term"

5) Any other business

6) Next GU Council meeting date: