

Minutes of ECSU Executive Meeting Lent I

Held on 17 January 2010 at 5pm
Old Court Museum



In attendance: Luke Montague, Vidur Khanna, Charlotte McClean, Ben Spurgen, Sara Montakhab, Yvonne Zhang, Alison Underwood, Maiuran Chandrakumaran, Tom Marriott, Elliott Dobson, Sam Freeman, Clem Edwards, Harry Wyatt, Aidan Hopkins, Amadea Bentheim, William Woodhead

Absent: Richard Chew, Henry Ogden

1. Meeting Time and Venue

After a discussion of potential changes, it was decided that meetings will be held at 5pm on Sundays in the Old Court Museum.

2. CUSU Training Days

Luke asked the Exec whether they felt that a CUSU-organised team-building session would be useful. It was felt that this may be valuable, provided it wasn't too time-consuming

Luke will ask CUSU for more information.

3. Website Updates

Will described his plans for the website and reminded everyone to submit a photo and brief description of their role. It was agreed that the forum was not used anymore and should be removed. A link to the Freshers' Facebook group should be added.

Will will continue rebuilding the website.

4. Teach First Talk – 27 Jan

It was decided that the Old Library should be used for this event, as it is suitable for both large and small audiences.

Luke will make final arrangements for the talk. Will and Tom will advertise.

5. Grad Course Advice Evening

Kim is keen to hold an advice evening in the MCR for third years considering postgraduate studies. Current grads would be available for informal advice. This was a popular idea.

Kim will organise this event.

6. 4th Year Associate MCR Membership

Kim has suggested that MCR membership should be optional for 4th years. This was a popular idea.

Luke and Vidur will discuss this with Dr. Barnes and express the Exec's support.

7. Ethnic Minorities Officer/ International Rep

Ali explained that CUSU would like an Ethnic Minorities' rep to be appointed at each college. It was not felt that this role was large enough to form a new officer role. Ali was happy to take on this role.

It was felt that there should be an International Students' rep, which would be especially useful for freshers. Yvonne was happy to take on this role.

It was suggested that a system should be put in place for the appointment of these roles in each new exec.

Ali and Yvonne will become Ethnic Minorities and International reps respectively. Yvonne will examine the current information sent to international freshers and decide what is needed.

Will will inform Emma students of these developments in 'What's On'.

Luke will add the appointment of these reps to the President's handover notes.

8. Kitchen Comment System

The new system is live at www.emmajcr.commentsystem.co.uk. It cannot be accessed by the kitchen staff and will be moderated by the exec. Comments will be collated and presented to college by the Catering Officer.

Will will add a link to the ECSU website and advertise in 'What's On?' and on flyers in hall.

Tom will advertise in ROAR!

9. Shower Curtains in Hostel

Luke mentioned that there are currently no shower curtains in hostel. Everyone agreed that there ought to be.

Elliott will discuss with maintenance.

10. Free Range Eggs

A desire was expressed for free range eggs and chicken in hall. The issue of cost was raised. It was decided that the price increase for free range eggs is negligible and that students would not mind paying slightly more. However, it was felt that the price rise for free range chicken would be too great.

Maiuran and Aidan will speak to catering about using free range eggs.

11. CUSU Updates

Ali updated us on CUSU council business. There were no objections to Emmanuel supporting a campaign against increased fees and budget cuts.

12. Handover Formal

Handover formal was discussed. Monday is not a popular day.

Maiuran will choose a date and arrange booking.

13. Halfway Hall

Halfway hall will take place on Monday 8th February. It was mentioned that there have been previous difficulties with the online booking system.

Vidur will speak to the previous Vice President about booking issues and try to resolve these.

14. Freshers' Reps

Vidur felt that it would be best to select Freshers' Reps before exam term. This would be beneficial because candidates would be more likely to be available for interviews. Last year the Freshers' Week programme was set before the reps were selected, which didn't allow them to have an input. Everyone agreed that earlier selection would be better.

Vidur will organise selection of Freshers' Reps around Week 4.

15. Exam Term

Clem suggested an informal night in the bar where students could make suggestions for Welfare activities in Exam Term. This was a popular idea. The creation of an Exam Term guide was also discussed and felt to be important. Richard was absent, but it was felt that the Academic Officer should be more visible in case students had problems with exams.

Clem and Sam will begin organising a suggestion event.

The exec will pass on any ideas for de-stressing activities in Exam Term.

16. Costs

Ben reminded the Exec that any costs (e.g. printing) should be recorded on a claims form (available from the website) and handed in termly.

Next meeting: 24 January 2010 at 5pm

Distribution: Executive Members, college archives, ECSU website