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The Cambridge Union Society
9A Bridge Street
Cambridge, CB2 1UB
Email: secretary@cus.org

Cambridge Union Society Standing Committee Minutes

Dining Room, Cambridge Union Society

08:15, Tuesday 13th October 2015

In the Chair

Oliver Mosley PRESIDENT (OM)

Present

William Fitzalan Howard VICE PRESIDENT (WFH)

Fred Vincent EXECUTIVE OFFICER (FV)

Asia Lambert SOCIAL EVENTS OFFICER (AOL)

Joshua Ellis SPEAKERS OFFICER-ELECT (JE)

In Attendance

Bill Bailey BURSAR (BB)

Page Nyame-Satterthwaite SECRETARY (*taking minutes*) (PN)

Oliver Yeates HOEM (OY)

Daniel Chouchena HOEM (DC)

Naomi Magnus DEPUTY HOEM (NM)

Louise Bratchie SGL SPEAKERS (LB)

Nadia O'Shaughnessy SGL SPEAKERS (NO)

Sarah Sheard SGL DEBATES (SS)

Katherine Dunbar SGL DEBATES (KD)

Florian Kressyig HEAD OF AV (FK)

Matteo Violet-Vianello HEAD OF PRESS (MV)

Tim Adelani HEAD OF PRESS (TA)

Allan Hennessy DEPUTY HEAD OF PRESS (AH)

Eleanor Hegarty HEAD OF PUBLICITY (EH)

Xavier Bisits DEPUTY HEAD OF PUBLICITY (XB)

Till Schoefer ACCESS OFFICER (TS)

Meeting opened at 08:19

1) Welcome from the Chair(OM)

a) Thank you to those in attendance

b) Note on recent press

- Handling a lot of press
- Four resignations out of fifty committee members is not a crisis

08:20 NM arrives

- This resulted in the TCS interview with OM and CI, which is now circulating
- **Referendum in a week and a half(Wednesday 21st October)**
- Media expected to lessen until results published
- BB notes that this is quite normal for the nature of this society- we have a speaker in a unique situation and the committee has handled everything well. When you push the boundary and stand up for freedom of speech, it does engage and provoke reactions.



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- OM also notes not to click on any links circulated (usually where Standing Committee have been bcc'd) about Assange/WikiLeaks
- Please make sure you are fire trained in order to steward-link is on the Facebook page, contact OY if any questions

2) The Week Behind(OM)

a) Oxbridge debate

- Well done to HOEMs and Head of AV(FK) for management
- b) Emily Maitlis-half chamber event, very good and well managed
- c) Josh Radnor-full chamber and overflow, well managed
- d) Consent forum in the Chamber-very good, slight AV problems that will be addressed today, full thanks to Helen Dallas for her work on this. Forums are not usually popular enough for the Chamber so this reflects the quality of event.

3) The Week Ahead(OM)

a) Heather Mills

- DC confirms that two stewards are signed up, but more needed for the Varsity debate afterwards

08:23 FK arrives

- FK confirms that he is doing AV for both events, has an assistant for both
- OM advises use of AV stewarding group, FK is using this but training for AV has had small uptake
- NO outlines logistics: Heather Mills arrives at 6:20-30pm
- OM and BB check about parking space and directions, NO to sort parking space and AOL/OM confirm that all speakers given correct directions to the car park
- JE and MV going to Jamie's Italian with Heather Mills after her speech
- OM notes that officers should be told she is arriving in the car park
- OM encourages publicity, please share so that invite goes over 1000 and **OM notes that requests to share for publicity will end after open week(i.e. tomorrow at midnight)**

b) Varsity Debate(FV/WFH)

- WFH notes the speakers' logistics are fairly simple as all student competitive debaters
- OY checks if the preceding Heather Mills event will be hosted in the library or the Chamber
- WFH and SP to discuss this-WFH indicates preference for library(as the bar has three groups booked in and high turnout expected for Varsity debate in the Chamber)
- OM advises partially closing off access to the stairs to create a contraflow
- OM asks about steward numbers and FV notes that it is expected to be very busy
- NM asks if HOEMs count as stewards
- OM clarifies that six stewards in addition to HOEMs are required
- FV asks if Nathan(AV technician) has been notified about overflow rooms(DC to speak to him asap)
- OM notes that the library set up should be checked as there was a projector issue last time
- OM advises to fill the bar first, then the library-check with Nathan, who will be in from 9am.



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- OM confirms that four of the stewards will need to be downstairs and two upstairs for safety reasons

c) John Bercow(LB)

- Logistics are sorted
- LB collecting him and a guest from the station at 5pm
- He is joining the debate dinner and returning to the station for 8:15pm
- LB will stay with the speaker the entire time
- **OM notes that this is the first event outside of open week- so membership cards will be checked**
- OM checks that all HOEMs know how to operate the scanning system
- Checks on the balcony must be manually, in the old style, be very thorough with this and if in any doubt send them to the main office, who are now on hand to help with this.
- DC asks what if it is clearly not their card, OM/FV/AOL confirm that it must be confiscated and the owner collects it in person(and pays a fine)

d) Pornography Debate(FV)

- FV confirms there is now a full set of speakers, with a third year from Selwyn stepping in for a speaker who had to drop out due to sickness
- FV checks stewarding numbers with HOEMs, OY believes there are already enough
- OM notes the **testing of radios** this Thursday (15th)- two HOEMs(OY/DC) and Head of AV(FK) will have them, as they need to communicate. This is a trial if it does not work it will not be done again, if it works it may be expanded.
- FV notes that Stoya (one of the opposition speakers) is speaking via video link from US, so **FK must be happy with the arrangement for this and OM notes that FK and Nathan need to test this ahead of the event.**
- TS asks how points of information work when using the live stream
- OM confirms that the speaker can see the Chamber, with a special visual of all four cameras-although she cannot hear the person say POI (because this is before the microphone reaches them), she should be able to hear what they say and respond.

4) Publicity Pushes(EH)

- EH confirms that publicity on 13/10/15 will be at 12pm, 4pm, 6pm and 8pm(EH monitoring 12, 4, 6 and XB 8pm)
- EH and OM request that you please **UPDATE THE SPREADSHEET**(otherwise there will be a chain of messages from EH and OM)
- There will be a **second wave of publicity on Thursday 15th**
- OM notes that the images may change from those currently linked- but there will be an update if this happens
- FK notes that he has lectures at the same time as his post, OM/EH advise that you change the time on the spreadsheet to one that you can do(of 12, 4, 6, 8pm) if this is an issue.
- EH also notes that some committee members may have more pages to post on than usual- so check you post on all with your name.
- OM notes that you should put the image before the link-so that the image shows in the preview of the post



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5) Freshers' Ball(AOL)

- AOL has not heard from any other committee members about not being free- so **thank you to everyone who is helping**
- The Union starts set up on Friday evening after the last event finishes
- Main student set up is from 9am on Saturday(mainly AOL and OM at first)
- AOL and OM to go through staffing to work out where everyone will be throughout the evening
- AOL confirms that no one is serving food or going to be stationed in one place for the entire evening
- **Event starts at 9pm (on Saturday 17th) and ends at 2am.**
- OY asks if it is half on/half off staffing and BB asks if skip has been ordered
- AOL confirms that it will not be a half on/half off rota like a May Ball
- OM notes that this event is very fun to staff, different format to the garden party, not much work involved for individuals-you can be quite casual as long as you're doing your job- **important to check cards on the door and make sure people behave responsibly.**
- AOL notes that this includes making sure that no one breaks anything, no drinks in the library, no one in the Fairfax Rhodes room(which will be unlocked for fire safety reasons)
- OM notes that in today's publicity post you mention oysters and that the discount period ends tomorrow at midnight- there will be a follow up wave on Thursday about the extension of the discount period to Sunday
- **Tickets for the freshers' ball go on general release from 6pm Wednesday(14th)**
- **OM push with publicity as these are the last few days to get membership** at a discount(and then you can apply for tickets)

6) Friday Social(WFH)

- AOL and FV confirm **staff briefing on Friday (16th) at 2pm, timing may change.**
- WFH notes that there will be **a social this Friday(16th) at the Union for everyone-** WFH will be cooking/selecting wine, OM notes this is straight after Yoko Ono and this may be combined with the ball briefing(update will be given if times change)

7) AOB

a) BB Site development-asks if this has been run through

- OM confirms it was mentioned in the first meeting of term and run through at another meeting would be good.

b) SS notes that single GLAs for debates are being phased out, so if you see a speaker by themselves pre or post-debate please speak to them

- OM highlights that they do enjoy meeting students, introduce yourself and offer to get them a drink(and BB notes you should go to the end of the bar and say it is for a guest for fast service)

❖ **Next Standing Committee is Tuesday 20th October 2015, 8:15am in the Dining Room**

Meeting closed at 08:45