



JCR General Meeting 5 - Minutes HT21, Sunday 24th January

General Announcements (Sanaa):

- Following last week's success, Brew Monday is returning as a weekly feature, so please come along!
 - Keep an eye out for the Community Week Student vs. Alumnae 'University Challenge' trials.
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Motion: Decarbonise St Anne's College

Proposed by: Kelsey Monteith

Seconded by: Emily Carr

This JCR notes that:

1. According to the 2018 report from the International Panel on Climate Change global emissions must be cut by 45% globally by 2030 to avoid 1.5C or warming.
2. Such a rapid decrease in emissions will only be possible if institutions in developed nations completely decarbonise by 2030, enabling developing nations time to implement carbon-reducing measures.
3. Many of the top universities have now made ambitious carbon commitments with King's College London committing to be net zero by 2025, UCL, the University of Leeds and the University of Bristol committing to be net zero by 2030, the University of Manchester and Manchester Metropolitan University committing to be absolute zero by 2038, and Cambridge University committing to be net zero by 2038.
4. Oxford Sustainability Department is developing an Environmental Sustainability Strategy for the University with a target to achieve net zero carbon and biodiversity net gain by 2035. This strategy would replace the existing University target of reducing carbon emissions by 50% from their peak of 2009/10 by 2035.
5. While this new target will bring the University closer into alignment with the Paris Agreement, it does not formally apply to individual colleges which are independent.

6. Oxford University expects that colleges 'will implement similar measures and commitments to those' within the University wide Environmental Sustainability Plan.
7. St Peter's and Merton college have both passed motions in support of developing a net zero plan at their college and lobbying for carbon and biodiversity targets which are at least as ambitious as those of the University.

This JCR believes that:

1. St Anne's has a responsibility to their students, the wider University, and the public to rapidly decarbonise and protect biodiversity.
2. St Anne's should set net zero and biodiversity targets that are at least as ambitious as those of the University, as well as implementing a strategy to make the targets achievable.
3. St Anne's should demonstrate leadership and ambition by establishing itself as a leading College and institution in the fight against climate change.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

1. St Anne's has a responsibility to their students, the wider University, and the public to rapidly decarbonise and protect biodiversity.
2. St Anne's should set net zero and biodiversity targets that are at least as ambitious as those of the University, as well as implementing a strategy to make the targets achievable.
3. St Anne's should demonstrate leadership and ambition by establishing itself as a leading College and institution in the fight against climate change.

PROPOSERS:

- We need to take urgent and decisive action on climate change. Continuing as usual or with only marginal changes is not enough.
- Colleges are independent so it's up to us make changes. We should aim to be ambitious leaders both nationally and within the University
- So far, college has only achieved 9 out of their 138 sustainability goals
- We need to set clear and achievable targets that are at least as ambitious, if not more so, as those in the new University strategy, by the end of Trinity term 2021
- The Sustainability Plan sets out a clear and achievable route to recreate St Anne's as a leading college in the climate fight through the collective support of all stakeholders.

- We are calling to:
 - I. Embed sustainability into the governance of the college by establishing a sustainability committee
 - II. Develop a system of annual reporting of carbon emissions within a year
 - III. Establish a Sustainability Fund to finance the actions required
 - IV. Create a designated sustainability position which reports to a sustainability working group, who will further develop strategies
- The plan focuses on 7 areas:
 - I. Reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions of college buildings
 - II. Requiring all new buildings to be sustainable
 - III. Enhancing biodiversity throughout college and supply chains
 - IV. Reducing carbon emission of food by providing more vegetarian/vegan options and having these as default
 - V. Reducing waste and environmental impact throughout the college supply chain
 - VI. Limiting the need to travel and offsetting carbon in budgets
 - VII. Ensure that investments are transparent and work towards helping achieve these goals
- Important to develop a system of transparent annual reporting of target progress and carbon emissions by the end of Trinity term 2021 to allow progress to be tracked.
- This will not only benefit the planet, but reduce college running costs and contribute to a more pleasant environment for students and staff.
- College is currently composing their strategy, now is the time to step in with our ideas

QUESTIONS:

1. John Banbrook once said that St Anne's uses 100% sustainable energy resources, is this still true?
 - a. Kelsey was asked to find out more, however the answer was unclear and therefore it has not been explicitly stated in the motion. Nevertheless, this is only one of many sustainability issues that needs to be addressed.
 - b. This is what college currently does, however there is no legislation to say that it has to be done this way (yet).

DEBATE:

1) Supporting the motion:

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2) Against the motion:

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VOTE:

For: 22

Against: 0
Abstain: 2

The motion has passed

Motion: To introduce the role of Oxford Student Union Representative to the JCR Committee

Proposed by: Sanaa Mughal

Seconded by: Ciaran Yates

This JCR notes that:

This JCR strives to maintain a close relationship with the Oxford Student Union.

Oxford Student Union Council Meetings are held on Wednesday's of odd term weeks (i.e. 1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th weeks) and voting on any motions is held 2 weeks later after all amendments. JCR General Meetings fall on even term weeks (i.e. 2nd, 4th, 6th and 8th weeks.)

This JCR believes that:

This JCR should have a consistent representation in the Oxford Student Union Council Meetings, as so many other Oxford JCRs, when voting on a motion is required. This should be a distinct role in the JCR Committee, which entails attending SU meetings on behalf of the JCR and voting on motions where required.

The JCR is entitled to 3 votes on the SU council.

This JCR also believes that it is important the JCR is kept up to date with the ongoings, Campaigns and lobbying done by the Oxford Student Union, and consistently relay this information, as well as when council meetings are held, so that other JCR members may attend if they wish.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

Add the role of 'Oxford Student Union Representative (SU Rep)' to join the JCR Committee. The constitution should be amended to facilitate this as follows:

Edit to Section 10 – Elections – Subsection 1 (in bold):

*First Year Representative, Visiting Students' Officer **and Student Union Representative** will be elected either late Michaelmas Term or early Hilary Term. They should be in position by Week 4 Hilary at the latest.*

Addition to Section 3 – Duties and functions of the JCR Committee Officers – Subsection 19:

19. The Student Union Representative Shall:

- i. Act as an interface between the JCR and the Oxford SU; liaising with the JCR President where necessary;
- ii. Attend Oxford SU Council as one of the JCR's three votes, or, if unable to attend, ensure someone else attends in their place;
- iii. Arrange a rota of Committee Officers to ensure that there are always three representatives of the JCR at Council Meetings, and that each Committee Officer attends the Oxford SU Council at least once in their term of office;
- iv. Inform the Members of issues coming up in the Oxford SU Council and publicise the agenda prominently;
- v. Keep the JCR informed of relevant issues coming discussed in Council meetings;
- vi. Ensure that the JCR Committee discusses important Council votes and places them before the JCR to gauge JCR policy. This should involve the JCR voting on the motion in a JCR General Meeting, to determine what the SU Reps vote(s) will be at Council;
- vii. Read through relevant reports, budgets and briefings prepared by Oxford SU officers, and inform the JCR Committee of the relevant details;
- viii. Post on the JCR Facebook Group before each Council meeting to notify Members of the JCR the date, time and venue of each meeting, in addition to any motions deemed necessary to mention.
- ix. Keep up to date with the work of the Oxford SU, it's campaigns, policies;
- x. Keep the JCR up to date with any major and/or relevant outcomes of Council meetings and motions.

PROPOSER:

- There are two main reasons for this motion:
 - I. The Oxford SU is a step-up from the JCR. Their system is more structured like a Parliament in which each college common room has a certain number of seats/votes (we have 3). We should want to fill these seats.
 - II. We should strive to maintain a good relationship with the SU as we can influence their decisions, and they can support us in ours.
- We want our views to be represented and the voice of our JCR to be heard
- Appointing this rep will help take the weight off, not only the current JCR Committee's responsibilities (in particular our JCR President), but also help future Committees.

QUESTIONS:

2. Do these other two SU voters need to be part of the JCR committee?

- a. Ultimately that will be to the discretion of the SU Rep and the JCR. Committee members would make more sense as they are already elected by the community they represent.

DEBATE:

3) Supporting the motion:

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4) Against the motion:

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VOTE:

For: 24

Against: 1

The motion has passed
