

Oxford Union Society Library Committee

Minutes for Meeting TT 2019 Week 4 (Monday 20th May)

Present: Sara Dube (*Librarian*), Tom Corrick (*Librarian-in-Charge*), Mahi Joshi (*Librarian-Elect*), Altair Brandon-Salmon, Yee Kwan Law, Daniel Villar, Phillip Counsell, William Prescott, Connor Warden, John Whitehead, Ryan Lee, James Pettifer, Jamie Chen, Elizabeth Piper (*Trainee Librarian*).

- Apologies and Absences
 - Brian Wong sends his apologies- he is in Vienna on Union debating business
 - Kitsu Egerton sends his apologies- he has an academic commitment.
- Membership
 - New Members: Jamie Chen was in attendance. He is an undergraduate at Somerville and studying Law and German Law. His favourite book is “Around the World in 80 Days” and he is to join as a junior member.
- Minutes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting
 - Overhauling subject list: archaeology is to become a standalone subject list. “Human Sciences” is too large and nebulous and can include sociology and anthropology which are their own disciplines, so the geography and geology list will become “Geography” and “Earth Sciences” as two separate lists. Phillip Counsell said that to lose the theology of the religion list would lose a part of a specific discipline, so the list will become “Theology and Religion”.
 - Defining Junior/Senior membership: having reread the rules of the Library Committee, a senior member is defined as a member who has completed an undergraduate degree, whether or not it was from an Oxford institution. As such, a number of junior members are now classified as senior members, which leaves several spaces open for new junior members. Those who are now senior, having been junior members, are:
 - Altair Brandon-Salmon, Brian Wong, Elliot Bromley, and Will Prescott.
- Matters Arising from Standing Committee
 - None.
- Strategy Committee – 5th Week (Wednesday 29th May) 1030hrs
 - Representatives from Library Committee required- Will Prescott and John Whitehead are confirmed as being able to represent.
- Suggestions Book
 - None.
- Members’ Suggestions (£79)
 - The list was overbudget, so two books have been pushed to either next week’s suggestions list, or to the Collection Development list. The new total for the other four

books comes to £78.34. The books to defer are:

- *Interpretations of jihad in South Asia*, by Tariq Rahman
- *The Uninhabitable Earth*, by David Wallace-Wells.

- Book List TT Week 4:

- Oxford (£225, Daniel Villar)- all passed with no objection. James Pettifer mentioned that if the library doesn't hold the biographies of St. Cross and Keble colleges, then he might be able to obtain them.
- Economics (£200, Librarian-in-Charge)- all passed with no objection. These were chosen as they are on the reading lists for the undergraduate courses and they are very popular in the other libraries.

- Book List TT Week 5: History (£270, William Prescott, with input from John Whitehead), Classics (£195, Connor Warden)

- Book List TT Week 6: English (£265, Ryan Lee), Biology (£225, Daniel Villar)

- Withdrawals 2019TT4- all passed for withdrawal bar five books which are to have their usage statistics checked. These are:

- *The man without qualities*, Robert Musil
- *A diplomat looks back*, Einstein, L.
- *The French nation*, D.W. Brogan
- *The Lisle Letters*
- *King George V*, Kenneth Rose

- Deferred withdrawals from TT3- *The Archaeology of early Christianity* is to be kept but everything else was approved for withdrawal.

- Any Other Business

- Journal Renewals for 2020- *GQ*. This is coming up for renewal but it isn't used. Members are encouraged to think of any other subscription they might like in lieu of this around the £40-50 mark. Possible suggestions are *Granta* or *Jacobean Magazine*.
- The Librarian-in-Charge told the committee that the daughter of the proposer of the famous "King and Country" debate in 1933 brought her father's scrapbook of newspaper clippings and white feathers to donate to the library from New Zealand. Anyone who wishes to view it is welcome. The same goes for the stacks. The scrapbook will be appraised by Oxford archivists before a final home for it is found- whether this be the library or the archives. Connor Warden thought that it might be a good idea to write a note in a journal, even if just a 400-word paragraph in *Past & Present* noting of the scrapbook's existence for researchers' and historians' interest.

- Time and Date of Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held in the Morris Room at 1415hrs on Monday 27th May.

The meeting was brought to a close at 1453hrs.