

Access Committee Meeting HTW2 Minutes:

Present: Alice Zhang (International Officer), Amelia Bircham (Socioeconomic Officer), Sara Singh Dube (Librarian-Elect), Mahi Joshi (Standing Delegate), Rai Saad Khan (Standing Delegate), Daniel Wilkinson (President), and Brian Wong (Access Officer)

Brian: A point about agenda, it is meant to be circulated a day in advance of the access meeting and so in future, the secretaries are meant to be do that

Mahi and Saad say that they understand this.

Saad: The only agenda item I received was very late yesterday, and it was from Mo

President raises the question as to where Mo is

Saad: he wanted to excuse his absence due to a serious or continuous medical condition

- Brian, the President, and Sara object to this as they believe he is in Paris and have not heard/seen any evidence of this

Brian moves that his absence be due to good reason due to an immovable and pressing academic commitment 🗳️ this passes

Amelia Bircham moves her absence to be due to good reason as she had a pressing and immovable academic commitment 🗳️ this passes

Mahi raises that ratification of last minutes, as they have not been distributed, will have to be ratified next week

Business of the Access Officers:

Brian has a point from CDSC 🗳️ DSC is organizing a series for women debating named Prosecco and Pro-ambs. This is for three main reasons:

- Increase opportunities for women and non-binary individuals and facilitate outreach for them to learn from experienced debaters
- Also, to improve accessibility for everyone, and make debating accessible to people beyond just competitive debaters
- Scout promising debaters

DSC expenses are quite tight as of now, and has asked for help to sponsor/co-sponsor budget of 75 pounds for the three workshops

- Mahi asks two questions: is it 75 pounds for each event or in total, and is access committee able to give this money – does it have a budget?

Brian: it is 75 pounds in total, and we would be able to recommend it to standing committee which would be able to give the budget

Brian moves that the access committee recommend TSC to accept a co-sponsored series of workshops named P and P.

- Seconded by the President 🗳️ it passes

Brian raises second point about the results from last years' access survey: a response filled with recommendations has been written by Brian and Amelia Harvey and sent to the President. Broad points include:

- Need to lower membership fee and diversify options of memberships and payments (ie for temporary members, one-year students, etc.)
- Engaging members from underrepresented minorities through socials focusing on their experiences, but also hosting events which more explicitly engage with minority experience ie when Dustin Lance Black came as a speaker, it could have been an explicitly LGBTQIA+ event.
- Working with organisations and campaigns around oxford like OUSU, or gender equalities society, or women in business 📧 to reach out to more prospective members, and engage with students who the union is accused of being inaccessible to
- Greater transparency member, which has been in works this term 📧 such as through online notifications of meetings or minutes of meetings; but also, through more surgeries with access officers.

Business of other liberation officers:

Mo had put on the agenda to discuss gender-neutral toilets, which had been discussed last week, but ultimately tabled as he was not present

- Brian agrees this should be on the agenda, and we should wait till Mo comes back

Business of all other members of the access committee:

None.