

Oxford Union Society Library Committee

Minutes for Meeting MT 2018 Week 1 (Monday 8th October)

1. **Present:** Genevieve Athis (*Librarian*), Tom Corrick (*Librarian-in-Charge*), Brendon McGrath (*Librarian-Elect*), John Whitehead, Maxim Parr-Reid (*Standing Committee representative*), Altair Brandon-Salmon, Yee Kwan Law, Connor Warden, Elizabeth Piper (*Trainee Librarian*).

Attending: Daniel Villar

The Librarian opened the meeting and introduced herself. Librarian-in-Charge introduced the new Trainee Librarian and everyone introduced themselves in turn.

2. Apologies and Absences

- Phillip Counsell, Rebecca Barton, Sean Power and Will Prescott send their apologies
- Alice Williams, Brian Wong, Carla Fuentes Lopez, Jack Felton, Jamie Jordan and Robert Sutton were not in attendance

3. Membership

There are several people who are interested in joining the Library Committee and they should attend next weeks' meeting.

- Mark Bosley has retired his post
- Jamie Jordan and Jack Felton – it is agreed that they have left and are no longer members of the committee

4. Minutes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

None

5. Matters Arising from Standing Committee

There has not been a budget confirmation yet.

6. Suggestions Book

There were no new suggestions from the Members' Book

7. Book List MT Week 1:

The economics list (£200, Yee Kwan Law) was passed with no objections

The history list (£270, Genevieve Athis) was passed with no objections

Brendan McGrath queried how the book list system worked and Librarian-in-Charge explained with the assistance of John Whitehead.

8. Book List MT Week 2: Philosophy (£235, Brian Wong), Medical Sciences (£240, Connor Warden)

These will be discussed in full next week

9. Book List MT Week 3: Politics (£290), Law (£281), Mathematics (£225)

Brendan McGrath will write the politics list

Yee Kwan Law will write the law list

Daniel Villar will write the mathematics list

10. Members' Suggestions (£79)

This system was also explained for the benefit of the new members. There was one new suggestion and one donation.

Extracting the Stone of Madness: Poems 1962-1972 by Alejandra Pizarnik, 2016, New York: New Directions Publishing – passed with no objections

Donation of *The Stones of Christ Church: The Story of the Buildings of Christ Church, Oxford* by Judith Curthoys, 2017, London: Profile Books – passed with no objections

11. Withdrawals 2018MT1

All but four were passed without objection. The four were:

Approaches to Sociology, by John Rex. Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1974 – this is considered old, but still relevant

Bare Ruined Choirs: The Dissolution of the English Monasteries, by David Knowles, Purnell Book Services, 1976

Churches and Churchmen in Medieval Europe, by Christopher Brooke, Hambledon, 1999

Culture and Society in Seventeenth-Century France, by David Maland, Batsford, 1970

The usage statistics are to be checked throughout the university to see how they are being used before being withdrawn.

- Summer withdrawals:

Old travel guides that the library has a new version of are cleared to be withdrawn with no objections. Librarian-in-Charge explained that the DVD policy now is to keep educational and course-related DVDs only and that the withdrawn ones will be sold. Connor Warden suggested that the faculty DVD lists be viewed before full withdrawal takes place as there are sometimes some surprises on there for courses.

The summer withdrawals list will be emailed to the committee for a chance to peruse before the next meeting. Trainee Librarian to action.

12. New Members

Daniel Villar was introduced and stated that he was a biologist, also with technological interests, and that he had several ideas already on how to improve the section in the library- specifically towards the oncology and animal biology sections.

The committee approved his membership.

Changes to 'Junior Member' definition

It was generally agreed that this is an area that needs complete overhauling.

The primary concerns were that there are never enough Junior Members. Traditionally, the Junior Members were the undergraduates and the Senior Members were everyone else, but the committee debated whether or not to remove this distinction and have 'Members' solely. John Whitehead reminded the committee that the rules have changed radically over the years and that they are not set in stone so are free to be changed as is required. The distinction in attendance between Senior and Junior currently is that the Senior Members do not need permission or ratification to not attend committee, whereas Junior Members need to acquire permission each week- this means that the Junior Members take the committee seriously, or at least, more than they might do otherwise.

The Librarian commented that a possible distinction could be made between Junior and Senior by who turns up and who does not, but Connor Warden suggested that before any decision was made absolute, the rules should be brought to the next meeting so that they can be examined in full. To action.

13. Any Other Business

Mark Bosley has retired for at least the next year in its entirety, possibly for longer.

The library has acquired from the Bodleian an exhibition case for the entrance hall which is now full of Union items from the Closed Stacks which members rarely get the opportunity to see.

14. Time and Date of Next Meeting

- The next meeting will be held on the 15th October, MT2018 Week 2, in the Morris Room at 1415hrs

The Library Committee was brought to a close at 1442hrs.