



# Robinson College Students' Association - Open Meeting

## Sunday 12 October 2008



### Agenda

1. Apologies for absence or lateness
2. Announcement of the presence and purpose of guests
3. Approval of the order of the agenda
4. Reading by the secretary on request by any member, amendment if necessary and approval of the minutes of any previous Open Meeting not yet accepted by an Open Meeting.
5. Matters Arising from the minutes
6. Reports from the Committee
  - New RCSA Treasurer & Budget procedures  
Budget meeting: 9 November 2008
  - Sponsorship
  - Freshers' Week/Corruption
7. Questions to the Committee
8. Amendment to Appendix I of the Constitution (see Addendum).
9. Extraordinary Motions
10. Ordinary Motions
  - a) Changes to kitchen amenities
  - b) Condom machine
  - c) Turning off lights
  - d) EpiPen in the Porters' Lodge
  - e) RCSA donation tick box account
  - f) Trunk Room
  - g) 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party
  - h) Tool belt
  - i) Judo DVD
  - j) Rollover Open Meeting Funds
11. Any other RCSA business

### Ordinary Motions

#### a) Changes to kitchen amenities

##### RCSA Notes:

1. The college has removed ovens from all staircase kitchens; a decision made by a college official following advice from the city council.
2. The RCSA was not consulted about this change prior to it occurring; information seeped from college to the RCSA during September and the change was finally announced to undergraduates on the day before their return: Friday 3 October.

3. There were minor fires in staircase kitchens last year.
4. Eventually all kitchens will have a combi-microwave and timer hobs.
5. On the arrival of members last weekend, many kitchens were in a poor state of repair – with sinks hanging off the wall on staircases A – F and some hobs disconnected.
6. Assurances have been given that consultation with the RCSA will be much improved, on kitchen matters, in future.

##### RCSA Believes:

1. The removal of ovens was unnecessary.
2. The lack of notice given to students of this change and the absence of any consultation with the RCSA is entirely unsatisfactory.
3. The college could arguably be in breach of the *UKK Code of Practice for Management of Student Housing*, of which it is a signatory, as students might have expected to have had plans for changes to kitchen facilities at the Room Ballot.
4. If the college was not exempt from certain housing law due to being an educational establishment, the proposed provision in staircase kitchens could be legally inadequate. (Housing Act 2004)

##### RCSA Resolves:

1. To summon an additional meeting of the Joint Liaison Committee.
2. That the purpose of this meeting should be:
  - i) to hear updates on the progress of refurbishment
  - ii) for the RCSA to make representations on behalf of its members where distress has been caused by this change
  - iii) for the RCSA to lobby for better facilities and consultation in the future.
3. To support the conversion of at least one further room in college to have full cooking facilities.
4. To monitor usage of the Garden Restaurant with a view to lobbying the college to increase its operation.
5. To oppose the removal of ovens from college hostels.

*Proposed:* Iain Barr, RCSA President

*Seconded:* Rahul Mansigani, RCSA Catering & Amenities

## **b) Condom machine**

*This motion requires two-thirds assent to pass*

### **RCSA Notes:**

1. £84 has already been allocated to buying a welfare condom machine, but that the thing costs £143

### **RCSA Believes:**

1. That the outcome of the last open meeting should show college approval for the machine

### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To allocate a further £59 towards buying the condom machine.

*Proposed:* John "Tweedy" Tweed, roll before you rock

*Seconded:* Peter Cary, stay safe kids

## **c) Turning off lights**

### **RCSA Notes:**

1. It is impossible to turn off lights in corridors in the college hostels.
2. The lights in the library were left on 24 hours a day for the duration of the summer holiday, when no one was here.

### **RCSA Believes:**

1. That such waste of energy is unnecessary and irresponsible
2. That most students are capable of operating a light switch.

### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To mandate its Green Officer to lobby the Domestic Bursar and other college authorities to install light switches or, at worst, automatic sensors in hostels and the library.

*Proposed:* Thomas Acland

*Seconded:* John Giles Crook

## **d) EpiPen in the Porters' Lodge**

### **RCSA Notes:**

1. Currently the college does not possess an autoinjector for the treatment of anaphylactic shock.
2. The Warden is in favour of the purchase of an EpiPen, particularly if student support can be demonstrated.

### **RCSA Believes:**

1. That such a device could substantially benefit the health of college members and visitors with severe allergies in emergency situations.
2. It is unlikely that the RCSA would need to fund any purchase itself.

### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. That it is in favour of the purchase of an EpiPen by college authorities.

*Proposed:* Claire Horrocks, highly allergic

*Seconded:* David Bewicke, dislikes allergies

## **e) RCSA Donation tick-box account**

*This motion may require two-thirds assent to pass or may require further support from an Open Meeting to be activated.*

### **RCSA Notes:**

1. It has "over £1000" in a separate bank account, often dubbed the 'charities account'.
2. The money is from students' donations, paid alongside their college bills.
3. There is no current RCSA policy on this account.
4. If the money was allocated, more members may be inclined to donate.
5. Allocating the money now may have a beneficial effect on the length of the Budget Meeting.

### **RCSA Discusses:**

1. The proportions (if any) that should be allocated to:
  - a) Charitable donations
  - b) RCSA budgets

### **RCSA Believes:**

1. The bank account should be allocated to some purpose.

### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To allocate from the current balance of the donations tick-box account:  
\_\_\_% to charitable donations.  
\_\_\_% to the next RCSA budget.
2. To continue Resolves 1 on an annual basis.

*Proposed:* David Bewicke, abolishing Boom & Bust

*Seconded:* Claire Horrocks, Robinson's Sarah Palin

## **f) Trunk Room**

### **RCSA Notes:**

1. The trunk room is often incredibly full and many of the trunks have been left by alumni
2. Alumni have no rights to keep items in the trunk room
3. Many people keep more items in the trunk room than they are allowed to (the limit is 2).
4. Many students (especially from over-seas) find it impossible to use the trunk room because of the lack of space
5. The RCSA has policy to the effect that any items left in the trunk room after reasonable attempts have been made to contact the owners shall be removed and disposed of by the College RAG reps.
6. There was a partially successful clear-out of the trunk room last year which resulted in no complaints to the RCSA.

### **RCSA Believes:**

1. People should not put more items in the trunk room than has been decided is a reasonable limit
2. Students, particularly overseas students, have the right to use the trunk room space
3. The trunk room should be fully cleared of all trunks belonging to Alumni
4. Clearing the trunk room is a massive job and to do it effectively would require lots of people

### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To mandate the Catering and Amenities officer and/or the next elected Catering and Amenities Officer to organise a clear-out of the trunk room before the Christmas vacation.
2. To mandate all RCSA officers to assist with this clear-out of the trunk room.
3. To lobby College to institute better regulation of the use of the trunk room to ensure equal access to space in the trunk room for all members of the RCSA

*Proposed:* Daniel Tse, RCSA Overseas

*Seconded:* Ben Henriques, RCSA Access

## **g) 800<sup>th</sup> Anniversary party**

### **RCSA Notes:**

1. That the University is giving away money for the 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations.
2. The deadline for applications is 22<sup>nd</sup> October.

### **RCSA Believes:**

1. That Robinson should host a 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary party.

### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To mandate (a) member(s) of the RCSA to apply for and, if approved, organise a wicked awesome 800<sup>th</sup> party – because we're worth it.
2. That the application should be completed before the deadline and the party will be to honour the anniversary and host celebrations.

*Proposed:* Cat Watts, party animal/[Cat]

*Seconded:* Fiona Giles, super tron

## **h) Tool belt**

*This motion requires two-thirds assent to pass*

### **RCSA Notes:**

1. Its Men's Officer has few duties compared to, say, the RCSA President.
2. That the Men's Officer can be mandated to perform additional tasks.

### **RCSA Believes:**

1. That a tool kit could be very useful.
2. With a hammer, the Men's Officer could be useful around college.
3. That he could also organise various Men's events.

### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To buy the RCSA Men's Officer a tool belt, allocating £16 at this open meeting.
2. This belt may contain a hammer, nails and other useful things – perhaps a hammer, a chisel or staple gun.
3. If the RCSA budget is ever in surplus that the Men's Officer hire the BBC's 'Handy Andy' (from Changing Rooms) to give a talk. Although women may also attend it.

*Proposed:* Peter Wood, needs shelves

*Seconded:* Luke Mather, "hammered"

### **i) Judo DVD**

*This motion requires two-thirds assent to pass*

#### **RCSA Notes:**

1. That the health of it's members is an extremely important matter.
2. That the ex-KGB agent and Russian Prime Minister has released the DVD "Lets learn Judo with Vladimir Putin"

#### **RCSA Believes:**

1. That the RCSA should buy this.
2. That it should allocate £25 to buy this masterpiece of televisual fitness training.

#### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To furnish the officers proposing and seconding this motion with £25 in order to purchase the aforementioned DVD for the RCSA.

*Proposed:* Pete Wood, Keeping fit

*Seconded:* Iain Barr, Respects a man who could kill him in many ways.

### **j) Rollover Open Meeting Funds**

*This motion requires two-thirds assent to pass*

#### **RCSA Notes:**

1. The uneven demand for funds throughout the year.
2. Unallocated Open Meeting funds go into reserves.
3. It has excess reserves.
4. The purpose of the Open Meeting funds is to provide financial assistance for current events and needs.

#### **RCSA Believes:**

1. The usefulness of Open Meeting funds should be maximised.

#### **RCSA Resolves:**

1. To allocate any remaining unallocated funds from this Open Meeting to the next Open Meeting.

*Proposed:* David Bewicke,

*Seconded:* Rebecca Yeoh, RCSA Secretary

*(The above motion was adjourned from the previous open meeting.)*

## Addendum

The RCSA Executive proposes that the Appendix I of the Constitution be amended to read: [\(changes shown\)](#).

‘Appendix I: CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

The following associations are recognised as being a part of the RCSA and may therefore be considered for eligibility to receive finances from the RCSA:

Alternative Music Society	Hockey (F)
Amnesty Society	Investment Club
<a href="#">Art Society</a>	Law Society
Athletics	<a href="#">Lacrosse</a>
Badminton	May Ball
Basketball	Medsoc
Boat Club	Music Society (RCMS)
Brickhouse	Netball (F)
<a href="#">Brick-by-Brick (Engineering Society)</a>	Netball (Mixed)
CD Library	Photographic
Chapel Choir	<a href="#">Politics</a>
Cheese Society	Pool (M)
Chess	Pool (F)
Christian Union	RAG
Cricket (M)	RCSA
Cricket (F)	Rugby (M)
Cross Country	Rugby (F)
Croquet	SAFE
Darts Society	Ski Trip
Economics Society	Squash (M)
English Society	Squash (F)
<a href="#">Fairtrade</a>	Starstruck
Film Society	Supporting Club
<a href="#">Football (Amateur)</a>	Swimming & Water Polo
Football (M)	Table Football
Football (F)	Table Tennis
Fusion Groups	Tennis (M)
Golf	Tennis (F)
<a href="#">Go Team</a>	Ultimate Frisbee
History Society	Volleyball
Hockey (M)	Windsurfing and Sailing’

## **Extraordinary Motion**

### RCSA Notes

1. The rugby club could not go on tour this year due to heavy workload
2. A large amount of Rugby kit has gone missing
3. There is still over £200 allocated for the rugby tour last year.

### RCSA believes

1. This money could be used to acquire more Rugby kit which has gone missing from the laundry room, e.g. Balls, shorts, socks.

### RCSA resolves

1. To reallocate tour money into purchasing new kit.

Proposed: Chris Oulton

Seconded: Tom Pugh

### Signed

Lewis Hemens	RCSA Computer Officer
Iain Barr	RCSA President
Claire Horrocks	RCSA Vice-President
Parysa Mostajir	RCSA Women's Officer
Peter Wood	RCSA Green Officer
Ben Henriques	RCSA Access Officer
Rahul Mansigani	RCSA Catering & Amenities Officer
Shiama Balendra	RCSA Ents Officer
John Tweed	RCSA Welfare Officer
Will Ratoff	RCSA LGBT Officer
Peter Cary	RCSA Men's Officer
Becky Yeoh	RCSA Secretary