

Robinson College Students' Association Open Meeting

Sunday 20th October 2pm, JCR

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence or lateness
2. Announcement of the presence and purpose of guests
3. Approval of the presence and speaking rights of guests
4. Approval of the order of the agenda
5. 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.
6. Matters Arising from the minutes
7. Reports from the Committee
8. Questions to the Committee
9. Extraordinary Motions
10. Ordinary Motions
 - a) Heating and hot water in 1A Sylvester Road
 - b) Room rates for Fourth year undergraduates
 - c) RCSA Sponsorship
 - d) Baking Society
 - e) Mixed Lacrosse Club
 - f) Arts and Photography Society
 - g) BT Sport
11. Any other RCSA business

Ordinary Motions

a) Heating and hot water in 1A Sylvester Road

RCSA Notes:

1. 1A Sylvester Road has a broken boiler and therefore no heating or hot water. (since October 5th)
2. Staying warm is really important for studying.
3. This winter is meant to be really cold.

RCSA Believes:

1. That students should be provided with heating and hot water.
2. It is college's responsibility to provide this.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To instruct the President and Catering & Amenities Officer to raise and resolve this issue in conjunction with college.
2. To instruct the President and Catering & Amenities Officer to work with college to put in measures to ensure this doesn't happen again.
3. To support the residence in 1A Sylvester in seeking a reduction in their Residency Charge due to the long-standing nature of this problem.

Proposed: Alex "fucking freezing" Roberts

Seconded: Emily "shivering" Shaw

b) Room rates for fourth year undergraduates

This motion requires two thirds assent to pass

RCSA Notes:

1. Certain subjects are heavily marketed to prospective students as four year courses. These include Engineering and Natural Science. MML is also advertised in the same way.
2. All Robinson College students receive information prior to matriculating stating how room rates will increase linearly for all three years of undergraduate residence, and what the rates are for their matriculation year.
3. There is an obvious potential for confusion among students then as to what the room rates will be for their fourth years as undergraduates if they find themselves in that situation.
4. These room rates are a significant constituent of students' financial outlays.
5. Responsible management of expenditure is important for avoiding undesirable financial hardship and the consequences of such a situation arising, observe the current American situation.
6. The room ballot is conducted in Lent term and provides students with the costs that different bands of rooms will be for their year group, in line with the linear increase in rates previously mentioned.
7. Responsibility for the room ballot falls under the remit of the RCSA Vice President.
8. It is currently unclear not only when but also how College set the rate for fourth year undergraduates.
9. Fourth year undergraduates are being charged substantially more than the previous linear increase had led them to expect.

RCSA Believes:

1. The current state of affairs need addressing so as to ensure future fourth year students know what they are agreeing to pay when they pick their future rooms in the ballot.
2. Fourth year undergraduates should only be landed with a price increase in keeping with the linear increases of their previous years.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To mandate the RCSA Vice President to ensure future room ballots see the dispersal of reliable cost information for fourth year undergraduates, rather than the current uncertainty.
2. To mandate the senior members of the soon to be elected RCSA to take this unfairly large price increase in room rates for fourth years to the relevant college officials.

Proposed: Steven "I-Rate" Gordon

Seconded: Fraser "Room for Negotiation" Jardine

c) RCSA Sponsorship

RCSA Notes:

1. **The RCSA has a strong history of corporate sponsorship.**
2. **Previous sponsors have included PWC, KPMG, and Eversheds (not all acronyms, but there is a distinct pattern here).**
3. **Regrettably the RCSA is currently devoid of a sponsor.**
4. **One aspect of sponsorship is the associated money sponsors pledge to the RCSA.**
5. **This sponsorship money greatly eases the burden on College to provide the RCSA's yearly operating budget.**
6. **Sponsorship money is often subject to less stringent conditions and controls than College sourced funds.**
7. **The RCSA budget is availed of by almost every student in College (for further details attend the annual blood bath that is the Budget Meeting).**

RCSA Believes:

1. The current sponsorship situation is unfortunate but not irreparable.
2. The first stage to remedying this is to ensure we do not become falsely resigned to this sponsorless fate.
3. Sponsorship would be a welcome bonus to the RCSA, both in light of the upcoming money wrangling of the Budget Meeting and the moral boosting effect of a renowned corporate partner affiliated with our young College.
4. Creating a mandate for the yearly accomplishment of the task of gaining sponsorship would help ensure a good level of well-being for future generations of RCSA members.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To mandate the RCSA President and Treasurer to actively seek out viable sponsorship opportunities in keeping with the RCSA's established ethics and policies, when appropriate.
2. For other members of the RCSA to support the President and Treasurer in in this undertaking, where possible.
3. To include Resolves 1) and 2) in the RCSA renewable policies list.

Proposed: Harry "Gold digga" Brunton

Seconded: Steven "Keeping the sponsor-ship afloat" Gordon

d) Mixed Lacrosse Club

This motion requires two thirds assent to pass

RCSA Notes

3. There is no mixed lacrosse team in Robinson right here, right now (the funk soul brother).
4. Most colleges have a mixed lacrosse team – so we are missing out!
5. There are a lot of lacrosse players in college already who would like to play in a mixed collegiate format.
6. There has been a lot of interest from novices in the college.
7. Around 20 people attended the first mixed lacrosse game and more people have expressed interest to play.

RCSA Believes

1. Lacrosse is a healthy and moral pursuit, and a great way to make friends in (and out) of college!!!
2. Robinson could do very well in the league, boosting the colleges reputation to hitherto unseen heights.
3. It would be a waste not to show our colleges skills since there are already 6 university lacrosse players and most other teams have none/one.

RCSA Resolves

1. To create the Robinson College Mixed Lacrosse Club.
2. That this Society will be bound by the constitution of the RCSA.
3. That this club will be responsible for organising weekly lacrosse training sessions and weekly league matches.

4."To amend the RCSA constitution to include the Robinson College Mixed Lacrosse Club"

Proposed: Lucy "Crosse Check" Jenner

Seconded: Emma "Deputy" Gerrard

[Secretary: I don't know much about lacrosse!]

See Appendix 1 for constitution

e) Robinson College Baking Society

This motion requires two thirds assent to pass

RCSA Notes:

1. Many RCSA members enjoy baking and/or eating cakes
2. Many RCSA members signed up to join the theoretical society at this year's Fresher's fair (the sign up was over 2 sides of A4)
3. Many other Robinson societies have socials where they provide store bought cakes
4. Each exam term Welfare organises free cake for RCSA members

RCSA Believes:

1. Baking and Eating cake is fun and more RCSA members should do it together.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To create the Robinson College Baking Society
2. That the society will be bound by the constitution of the RCSA
3. "To amend appendix 1 of the RCSA of the constitution to include the Robinson College Baking Society"
4. To approve the Baking Society Constitution

Proposed: Heather "Flour power" Holland

Seconded: Mimi "Let them eat cake" Hewitt

See Appendix 2 for constitution

f) Robinson College Photography and Art Society

This motion requires two thirds assent to pass

RCSA Notes

- People in college like photography and art and are willing to participate
- The previous Art and Photography Society is no longer functioning
- Everyone liked the pictures from Fresher's Week

RCSA Believes

- A Photography and Art Society would be of use to the college
- It would be nice to have pictures of sports, events, bops in college
- We should have a Robinson Photography and Art Society

RCSA Resolves

- To create the Robinson Photography and Art Society
- That the society will be bound by the constitution of the RCSA
- "To amend appendix 1 of the RCSA constitution to include the Robinson College Photography and Art Society"
- To approve the Photography and Art Society Constitution

Proposed by: Adam 'photoshopped' Runacres

Seconded by: Douglas 'tasteful nude' Robinson

See Appendix 3 for constitution

g) BT Sport

This motion requires two thirds assent to pass

RCSA Notes:

Over the Summer Vacation, BT Sport was introduced as a new TV channel in direct competition with the likes of Sky Sports.

The current Sky subscription (for the TV room) does not cover BT Sport.

The current Sky subscription was budgeted for £979.20, although the actual cost might currently be less due to a fee reduction when BT Sport was introduced.

According to a Sky Advisor, upgrading to BT Sport would cost a one-off activation fee of £15 then £15 per month for HD (£12 for SD).

BT Sport channels offer a wide range of sports coverage including:

38 exclusive Barclays Premier League (Football) matches;
69 exclusive Aviva Premiership (Rugby Union) matches;
Exclusive WTA (Women's Tennis) tournaments;
Previously, the TV Room was often thriving with people watching sporting events such as those mentioned in point 5.
The RCB does not currently have BT Sport.

RCSA Believes:

Students should be able to relax, especially over the weekend/evenings.
Watching sport can be an excellent way to relax (unless you support a really bad team).
The BT Sports package should be added to the current subscription as soon as possible to enable students to continue enjoying watching a variety of sport.
If we are upgrading to BT Sports, it makes sense to get the HD package given that we have recently invested heavily in a HD TV/sound system and the price difference is minimal.
BT Sport offers good value for money.

RCSA Resolves:

To make upgrading to BT Sport HD a priority policy, and upgrade the current package as soon as possible.
To account for BT Sport HD when formulating the annual Budget for 2013-14, and include it in the RCSA's Budget request.
To allocate £15 from the Open Meeting Budget to fund the one-off activation fee.
To allocate a further £15 from the Open Meeting Budget to cover the cost of BT Sport HD until the 2013-2014 Budget comes into effect.
To instruct the President, Treasurer, Catering and Amenities Officer, and Sports and Societies Officer to coordinate the upgrade of the current package to include BT Sport HD.

Proposed: Harry "HD" Brunton
Seconded: Jimmy "Won't back down" Campbell
"Special" Peter Hall
Laura "This is far too many seconders" Bampton

h) Wifi in 2 Adams Road

Rcsa notes:

There is no wifi in 2 Adams

Rcsa believes:

There should be wifi in two Adams to allow the residents to fulfil all their wifi needs without having to be shackled to an Ethernet port.

Rcsa resolves:

To mandate the president to raise the matter with the senior tutor, at college council and with Nick Milne to get wifi in 2 Adams.

Proposer: Jimmy 'desperately in need' Campbell

Secunder: Alex 'want to wank freely' Biondini

Appendix 1

Constitution of the Mixed Lacrosse Club

Article 1 Name of the Club

The name of the Society shall be the Robinson College Mixed Lacrosse Club.

Article 2 Aims of the Club

To create a successful lacrosse team who reach the top league by the end of this year. To encourage as many members as possible to play and learn the game so as many people as possible can benefit from regular exercise and a fun social time.

Article 3 Membership

Membership is open to all members of college – they just have to show up at the right time and place.

Article 4 The Committee

A committee will be in charge of the club including Captain, vice captains and will be supported strongly by any people who have previous experience of playing lacrosse.

Article 5 Management of Finance

The finances of the Club shall be managed by the committee.

Appendix 2

The Robinson College Baking Society Constitution

Chapter 1: THE SOCIETY

Section 1: Title

The society shall be called the Robinson College Baking Society (henceforth called “the Society”)

Section 2: Objects

The Objects of the Society shall be to encourage RCSA members to enjoy baking and eating cakes. The society will be responsible for organising meeting where baking and eating cakes occurs. The RCSA and any of its society may ask that cakes be made for their society events and purposes, however the Society reserves the right to refuse requests.

Section 3: Membership

Any Member of Robinson College may become a Member of the Society

Section 4: Amendment

Any Member can propose an amendment to the constitution and if at least two thirds of the Society members support it, then it becomes part of the constitution.

Section 5: Schedules

Schedules will be determined by the Society members in the future.

Chapter 2: MEETINGS

Section 1: Annual Meeting

The annual general meeting will be held on the Second Sunday of Michaelmas Term. The meeting will be held at a time, which is convenient to as many members of the Society as possible.

Section 2: General Meeting

Every member has the right to call a general meeting, which will be organised, by the committee at the earliest convenient time.

Chapter 3: THE EXECUTIVE

Section 1: The Executive Committee

The executive committee shall consist of the following democratically elected Officers in order of seniority:

- The President
- The Vice-President
- The Treasurer

Section 2: Eligibility

Only a member of the Baking Society may hold a position. Every member can hold a maximum of one position at any time

Section 3: Term

Each Officer shall hold office for a term of one year from that date on which he or she enters service, provided that:

- the Officer may, for violation of the constitution or schedules be removed from office by impeachment;
- the Officer may resign his office
- if the Officer should cease to be a member of Society then he or she shall be considered to have automatically resigned his or her office;
- a petition of no fewer than half of the total number of members shall call a re-election of those Officers stipulated in the petition.

Section 4: The Presidential Oath

The President shall make the following oath, in the presence of other members, before assuming his or her office: "I do solemnly affirm that I will faithfully execute the office of President of the Robinson College Baking Society, and will to the best of my ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the Society"

Section 5: Election

Elections shall only be held at General Meetings. There shall be the annual election of all Officers at the Annual General Meeting. A bye-election shall be held at an extraordinary general meeting between one and two weeks after the resignation or petition of the Officer to be replaced

Section 6: Duties of the Officers:

President:

- To chair meetings of the society
- To organise times and places for society baking events
- To maintain communication routes for all society members (via a facebook community)
- To represent the society to the rest of the RCSA
- To deal with requests for cakes
- To promote the society to RCSA members

Vice President:

- To aid and assist the President
- To act as President when the President is not available

Treasurer:

10. To keep records of money raised and spent by the society
11. To claim funds from the RCSA at budget meetings

Chapter 5: POLLS

Section 1: Valid Nominations

A valid Nomination for an election shall consist of the verbal or written consent of the nominee indicating his

or her willingness to stand and agreement to abide by the constitution and schedules together with the agreement of one other Member

Section 2: Order of Elections

The elections will be held in the order of seniority of the Officers to be elected. A person already elected to an office shall not be eligible for an inferior office at the same general meeting

Section 3: Withdrawal

Each nominee shall be allowed to withdraw his or her nomination from any election before the poll for that election.

Chapter 6: FINANCE

Section 1:

The Committee shall decide how funds at the disposal of the Society shall be disbursed in pursuance of the Objects of the Society

Section 2:

The RCSA treasurer shall have the power to inspect all documents pertaining to financial transactions conducted on behalf of the Society

Section 3:

The RCAS has the right to check any account held by the society at any time.

Chapter 7: DISSOLUTION

Section 1:

The Society may be dissolved by a majority vote of its Committee at a General Meeting. The Society may also be dissolved by the decision of the RCSA

Section 2:

On dissolution of the Society, its assets shall become the property of the RCSA

Appendix 3

Constitution of the Robinson College Photography Society

Article 1 Name of the Society

The name of the Society shall be the Robinson College Photography Society, hereinafter referred to the as 'the Society'.

Article 2 Aims of the Society

The aims of the Society shall be two fold.

- To celebrate and promote photography within Robinson College and that of its members both as a way of archiving the goings-on of the college and as a form of recreation.
- To document college life at Robinson through photography.

Article 3 Membership and the Conduct of Members

Membership is open anyone. One is not required to own a camera or have any experience to become a member.

Should anyone misuse the social networking platforms provided by the Society, such as Facebook or Flickr, or misrepresent the Society with inappropriate images and other such things, they will be banned from the society and blocked from the sites.

Article 4 Running the Society

The society will be run by three or four main officers whose roles will include the following:

- Organising every meeting of the Society
- Applying for funding from the RCSA after determining the budget
- Managing the finances of the Society
- Administration of the social media of the Society (Facebook page, etc)
- Liaising with other university photography societies to arrange joint events, if possible
- Coordinating termly photography competitions, selecting entries and organising the display of pictures in college
 - This will also involve communicating with the administration of the college to reserve space and get various necessary permissions.

These roles will be split between the appointed officers before the first meeting of the year and at their discretion.

Article 5 Rights of Society Officers

Officers of the Society reserve the right to control the content and images of the Society

Officers of the Society reserve the right to rescind membership and block users from the social media sites.

Article 6 Dissolution of the Society

The society may be dissolved by decision of the officers or the RCSA. On dissolution of the Society, its assets shall become the property of the Robinson College Student Association.