



RCSA Open Meeting Agenda

Sunday, 4th March
8pm
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. Committee Reports and Resolutions
8. Questions to the Committee
9. Extraordinary Motions
10. Ordinary Motions
 - A) 'Sustainability' position on May Ball committee
 - B) Declaration of support for UCU strike and raising awareness of the reasons for the strike in college
 - C) Acceptance of offer regarding rent arrangements in college
11. Any other RCSA business

Ordinary Motions

A) 'Sustainability' position on May Ball committee

RCSA Notes:

1. That it would be beneficial for there to be a 'Sustainability' position on the May Ball Committee starting the beginning of next academic year, to ensure that May Balls are planned in accordance with Robinson's commitment to sustainability.

RCSA Believes:

1. This will be beneficial to Robinson as most colleges do already have a similar position, and the promotion of sustainability in college would be beneficial both for the college and the wider community.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To ensure a new 'Sustainability' position is created on the next May Ball Committee, for a student to focus primarily on the green impact of Robinson may balls in the future.

Proposed by: Alice Gilderdale

Seconder: Joe Farnworth

B) Declaration of support for UCU strike and raising awareness of the reasons for the strike in college

RCSA Notes:

1. 89.4% of voting Cambridge UCU members voted for 14 days of industrial action in response to proposed changes to pension policy.
2. A relatively high proportion of students go from their degrees to further studies and potentially careers in academia, whom these policies will affect.
3. There is currently not great enough awareness of the reasons for the strikes (particularly the involvement of Oxbridge colleges in lobbying UUK to change the pension scheme), the nature of strikes (e.g. what picket lines are and what it means to cross them), or of ways to support university staff in the strike.

RCSA Believes:

1. Lecturers have the right to be on strike, and student associations should openly join them in solidarity.
2. The potential effects of students in turning people away from academia due to instability of pensions, both on current students with ambitions in academia and future students, should be emphasised.
3. That the student association should be responsible for facilitating the distribution of information throughout the college, explaining the nature of strikes, picket lines, reasons for the industrial dispute, and how to support their staff in solidarity.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To publicly announce support from the Robinson student body for university staff in the ongoing dispute; promoting it through CUSU, our own social media, and Cambridge Defend Education.
2. To distribute literature via email lists, social media, and on paper (resource dependant) explaining above reasons for and issues at stake regarding the strike; and to invite a UCU representative to give a talk in college about the reasons for the strike and how it affects students.

Proposed by: Ben Margolis

Seconder: Fin Oades

C) Acceptance of offer regarding rent arrangements in college

RCSA Notes:

1. That after meetings with college, following the cut the rent petition, the RCSA have received the following offer from college:

- The Number of Value Rooms in the main college building will be increased from 5 to 13.
- The College will keep the price of standard shower rooms at the same level as standard rooms.
- The College will limit the increase in the residence charge for incoming freshers to 2%.
- The College have agreed to apply a series of spending credits to EPOS food accounts of each undergraduate student. Everyone's food card will be topped up with £50 per term until they graduate or until June 2020, whichever is sooner.

RCSA Believes:

1. That this is a good deal for students.

RCSA Resolves:

1. To accept this offer
2. To mandate the RCSA President to inform the college steward that the student body accepts this deal.

Proposed by: James Hedge

Seconder: Anna Maloney