

Royal College of Science Union

**Minutes of the 1st Ordinary Meeting of the General Committee**

Held at 16:00 on 23rd June 2014 at the RCSU Office (Sherfield 214D)

**PRESENT:**

- Serena Yuen – RCSU President (SY)
- Lucinda Sandon-Allum – RCSU Vice President (Activities) (LSA)
- James Badman – RCSU Honorary Junior Treasurer (JB)
- Philip Kent – RCSU Honorary Secretary (PK)
- Akash Jyoti – RCSU Welfare Officer (AJ)
- Frederik Piech – RCSU Publicity Officer (FP)
- Jonas de Beukelaer – RCSU Web Communications Officer (JdB)
- Ben Stockton – RCSU Broadsheet Editor (BS)
- Alexander Nash – Biochemistry Departmental Representative (AN)
- Clark Baker – Physics Departmental Representative (CB)
- Arijit Gupta – Maths Departmental Representative (AG)

**APOLOGIES:**

- Zoe Hsu – RCSU Academic Affairs Officer (ZH)
- June Gan – RCSU Science Challenge Chair (JG) *Was present for part of the meeting*
- Scott Adams – RCSU Events Officer (SA)
- Digant Tyagi – RCSU Sports Officer (DT)
- Kevin Kwong – RCSU RAG Champion (KK)
- Sinziana Giju – Biology Departmental Representative (SG)
- Annina Sartor – Chemistry Departmental Representative (AS)

**ABSENT:**

- Guillaume Trojani – RCSU Vice-President (Operations) (GT)

**Observers:**

None

*Meeting opened at 16:00.*

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**A. CHAIR'S WELCOME**

**RECEIVED:** This item was verbally presented by PK.

**NOTED:**

1. The purpose of this committee is to hold the executive to account in an impartial manner, hence why the President does not chair the meeting.
2. The committee can also be used as a method to pass policy and affect change in the FoNS and College generally.

## **B. PRESIDENT'S BUSINESS**

**RECEIVED:** This item was verbally presented by SY.

### **NOTED:**

3. Now is the time to start planning for roles, come up with plans over the summer.
4. Specifically, freshers events now require planning.
5. Committee hoodies will be ordered.

## **C. TREASURER'S BUSINESS**

**RECEIVED:** This item was verbally presented by JB.

### **NOTED:**

6. Everyone must fill out the Key Information quiz on eActivities – make sure everyone reads their training booklets as it is possible to pass the quizzes without reading the booklets, and hence important information is missed.
7. All members should now have received their handovers.
8. For specific tasks such as claiming, eActivities will display a message if a quiz is to be completed.
9. Claims will take approximately 3-5 days for approval.

## **D. MUMS AND DADS SCHEME**

**RECEIVED:** This item was verbally presented by PK.

### **NOTED:**

10. Unlike in previous years, Departmental Representatives will not be able to modify the allocations.
11. The RCSU does not intend to get massively involved, but dep reps can get as involved as they like.
12. The point of contact requested by ICU is for sending the allocations.

## **E. STANDING ITEMS AND MEETING FREQUENCY**

**RECEIVED:** This item was verbally presented by PK.

### **NOTED:**

13. Constitutionally this meeting has to be held twice a term.
14. There was general consensus that a Doodle poll for each meeting would be desired.
15. The next meeting should be in September.

### **RESOLVED:**

- a. To hold this meeting twice a term as required.
- b. To decide the date of all meetings by Doodle poll.
- c. To hold a meeting in September

## **F. FRESHERS' EVENTS**

**RECEIVED:** This item was verbally presented by LSA.

### **NOTED:**

16. The events for Freshers' Week are to follow last year's format.
17. Giveaways for Freshers' Fair need deciding – there is a lot of stock already available and these should be issued out.
18. People did not want the tricolour triangle shaped highlighters.
19. The Wheel of Fortune should run again with specific items – tickets to the Ball were particularly popular.
20. Amusing puns on some items were requested.
21. More T-Shirts for the bar crawl are on order.
22. Condoms were felt as being a bit too 'laddish' to give away.
23. Some 'hole in the wall' method to have a photo either as or with Einstein was suggested.
24. It would be nice to have Theta on show however guards would be needed.
25. The Pub Crawl is now rerouted through Fulham however a rebranding is needed.
26. Freshers' Ball is to be cost-effective to allow for more extravagant spending on future balls.
27. The committee was reminded that RCSU events aim to break even.

### **RESOLVED:**

- a. To investigate the following list of items for general giveaway: rock sweets, paper, pens, bags, highlighters, lanyards, rulers, coasters, stickers, phone chain, key ring.
- b. To investigate the following list of items for the Wheel of Fortune: USB sticks, shot/pint glasses, ball tickets, thermos flask.
- c. To think of a new name for the pub crawl.

## **G. TERMLY EVENTS**

**RECEIVED:** This item was verbally presented by LSA.

### **NOTED:**

28. The Ents Board will try and organise more events with the other Faculty Unions.
29. The Spring Ball will no longer be held and will be replaced with a new event.
30. Additional events, such as comedy nights/theatre trips are being investigated.
31. An international trip to a location other than Amsterdam is planned; suggestions include Saltzberg, Austria; and Prague, Czech Republic.
32. Schedule for this trip is looking to be around the end of February due to academic deadlines.
33. An annual dinner is currently under consideration. This event has not been successful in the past.
34. It was noted that publicity for this event has been poor.
35. Consensus on this event was not to run it as the RCSU already has a number of formal events and hence another will not be needed.

### **RESOLVED:**

- a. To investigate this event further in October.

## **H. WELFARE WEEK**

**RECEIVED:** This item was verbally presented by AJ.

### **NOTED:**

36. No plans have yet to be made due to handover only just happening.

37. The organisation and funding of this event needs to be improved compared to last year.
38. Need to avoid clashing with Love Your Rep as this will detract from Welfare Week.
39. A provisional date has been sent for end of November.
40. The schedule could include themed days, with activities during each day related to the theme.
41. Special stress relief activities near exams would be desirable; however splitting up Welfare Week is difficult in terms of budgeting.
42. Specific sponsorship for Welfare Week may be worth investigating.

**RESOLVED:**

- a. To investigate the following potential activities for Welfare Week: STI Clinic, massages, bouncy castle, bubble wrap popping, ball pits, Dr Bike.
- b. To investigate other activities.

**I. SPORTS EVENTS**

**RECEIVED:** This item was verbally presented by SY.

**NOTED:**

43. It is hard to plan sports events at this moment, as the sports offer cannot make it to this meeting.
44. Departmental sports events were quite successful last year.
45. Organisation of a football team as a subteam of ACC Football may be worth investigating.

No resolutions.

**J. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

46. Hoodies will be purple and the person's name and position will be printed on it, possibly also a nickname.
47. There will be a £10 contribution.
48. A vote was held as to whether to order zipped or non-zipped hoodies.  
ZIPPED: 3  
NON-ZIPPED: 5  
Non-zipped passes.

**RESOLVED:**

- a. To order non-zipped hoodies

*Meeting ended at 16:55.*