



Governance Committee Meeting – 02.05.2021

(with correspondence for 3.1 Elections)

Attendance: BT (JCR Chair), AW (SRO), SWC (President), MP (VP), EM (Stool)

Running in an Election: JC (JRO)

Absent: MR (JRO)

Location: Zoom

Motions

Head Frep holding other positions Motion

MP What if head frep ran for assistant international rep or another method II position – potential clash of interests?

AW If it doesn't work, the president can have a word and encourage them to only take on what they can handle.

SWC I doubt it would be that big of a deal

MP Yep. Probably not.

No further governance issues

Golf Soc Motion

MP There was a golf soc back in the day. Wonder what happened to them.

BT I don't think they reratified

EM shares a pic of the queen mother riding in a golf car.

Gov Comm debates the ethics of the monarchy

No further governance issues

Proposed S&S Election rules

EM I like these, but I know MP thought they were too strict

MP Why is minuting in there? To me that seems like no one will ever do it.



AW It's a problem. It's important to have minutes that can be pointed to. It's kind of a cheeky way to allow for elections to be reran if it is alleged that people haven't followed the rules.

SWC I think it's fair enough. Can't investigate unless a complaint is made. I think it is fine to say that the meetings are minuted.

MP I am not in favour of this, because no one will minute their meetings, so it seems arbitrary which are reran and which aren't

SWC I think it's fair to enact this if there is a complaint

MP It feels a bit unfair that every single complaint will go through.

MP Why is the deadline for meetings 7 days?

AW Needs to be accessible

BT Is there any need for the in absentia section?

MP We should let the societies decide length of husts etc., there is no need to specify. Personally, I think it would be a lot better if this document literally read 'be fair and advertise it 3 days in advance'.

AW Cuts the motion down a bit

AW There is a bit of an issue with who is allowed to attend/vote. For example, at the most recent Big band AGM – MP (who did big band in 2017-19, and was on a year abroad 2019-20) didn't go to AGM as he wasn't actually in the society

EM At CRACAS often people run at meetings for the first time

AW We could do who is eligible to vote at the discretion of the president

SWC I think sub-restricted society should have the members only. I think we could say has paid subs during their uni career?

MP For me, discretion is better, because there will always be scenarios that we can't think of, like the big band one with me just mentioned.

AJ There should be guidelines at the very least

MP Agree.

BT A lot of rules can't be enforced but are useful

AW 'All present full members of a sport or society with subs may vote in the elections of a sport or society with compulsory subs. At the discretion of the President, any members who have paid subs in previous years may additionally be permitted to vote.'

MP No real issues with that

SWC what are 'full members'? I think get rid of it.

AW So if a soc doesn't have subs anyone can vote?



SWC I think it's unlikely that this would happen. Someone could drag friends along? I think its unavoidable.

MP I want the president to decide who can vote (within reason)

SWC That seems unfair to me

AW Relatively few socs don't have subs. There isn't going to be a kick-off if a small society decides this.

BT It does make it hard to define.

AW I think Running would be defined as not having subs, swimming/climbing would be defined as having subs. The former two don't have any free events. I think additionally that requiring people to have gone to an event is problematic – it wouldn't work with fashion show.

MP I think we are never going to come to a perfect universal resolution. It should either be open to everyone who shows or the president decides. There are too many structures to consider. We just need to say if the President acts in a blatantly unfair way, GovComm can take action within reason.

BT Temporary president – how long? Time limits are prescriptive.

AW I think one meeting per year is required. So the longest possible is most of a year. I don't think it's that bad. Need an AGM for any other exec members

SWC No big deal

SWC We need to clarify what you do if you don't have subs

MP Does this document cover how individual teams elect captains, who then sit on the exec of the main society? I feel like that is very common.

AW It doesn't technically cover that/

SWC Couldn't we just say that within teams elections can be held internally.

AW I think other societies could have this. Big band could have 2 bands for example

SWC Use the phrase 'internal groups'

AW updates document to read 'In a sport or society with multiple teams/groups, elections within those teams/groups are permitted.'

AW updates document to read 'In sports or societies consisting of multiple teams/groups, elections within those teams/groups are permitted.'

MP No colossal issue, but I would still not have this.

EM We could say that if the society wishes to do so differently, they may approach the GovComm to do so

MP I think that solves a lot of my beef



AW updates document to read 'If a sport or society wishes to use an election method not covered by these Standing Orders, they should consult the Senior Returning Officer.'

No further governance issues

Elections

JC PG&M

No governance issues

JC later drops out

JS PG&M

No governance issues

CH LGBT+ Rep

BT Proposer and Secunder are where they shouldn't be, not allowed. Should be updated.

Brief conversation about being allowed to hold drop-in hours, decided that both the CH's manifesto and current standing orders to be acceptable

No further governance issues

AD LGBT+ Rep

MP Do think the amount of talks in Freshers week can't just continue to increase at this rate indefinitely

BT All freps wore pronoun badges – this isn't true. Too harsh to re-record.

SWC Not an important inaccuracy

No further governance issues

EM International Rep

AW Issue with the photo on the manifesto

AJ Does 'ensure' imply welfare isn't accessible?

Perhaps. Perhaps not. Not censorable.

No further governance issues



PA EM Rep

MP Comic Sans. Brave.

AW Can she add her pronouns to this after already sending it to us

SWC Yes. Put on the group that you've let PA do it, so others are aware.

AW Should pronouns be required?

EM I'd like it to be a cultural thing. Not enforced?

SWC I think we should

AW Everyone has them in another college

MP I don't think we should enforce it. I think it makes trans people come out or say wrong pronouns. I'm not strongly opposed by any means, but I do think it would be worse than the current system.

AW People feel like a dick backlashing against this.

SWC Why hasn't been a backlash from people who it matters to if what MP said is right?

MP Fair.

AW It's more about doing the correct thing than getting backlash.

No further governance issues

Reading out of husts

MP I think I had an advantage with EMa (President 19-20) reading my hust for VP

AW SRO should not read it

EM I think it should be standardised as the Chair or the JRO

BT to read out an in-absentia method II hust

BT to play out husts

JCR Meeting dates

BT Post-easter meeting dates. We could split the budget meeting into just budgets then meetings and motions separately. Budget 23rd June, motions and elections before June 21st (When all COVID restrictions are meant to lift). Or both after.

AJ I think post-June 21st I don't know how many will show up. I don't know how many

BT We'd do it in the day. I think the afternoon not a terrible inconvenience

MP Budgets should be over MS Teams. It's inevitably incredibly boring so nothing is lost by it being online



SWC Motions and elections more valuable in person.

BT Is it worth doing a budget separate?

MP I think so. In the 2019 budget meeting I ran for a method II position after all the budgets – not that I deserved to win but I think less than 15 people voted, which isn't particularly democratic.

BT Could be 10th or 12th. I don't know what sports and socs are currently planning.

SWC Varsity could be on the 10th.

BT Motions and elections could be the 23rd. Don't want to be too close to cuth's day

SWC 22nd S&S formal, could do 23rd in the afternoon in the bar garden.

BT Joke meeting could be the day after cuth's day

Social Chair election (or lack thereof)

AW We need to get it done this term. I've spoken to a few people [who he lists]

MP suggests a controversial choice who could be bullied.

SWC suggests we find a fresh.

MP suggests the JCR pays him to do a masters

EM getting post exams could encourage people to go?

AJ Could we do an appeal.

BT I think targeting fresh is the best idea. I think advertising the JCR meeting in person

AW We also really need welfare campaigns, head frep, SwD, Music Rep elected

SWC After the 17th we could do an in-person thing with the fresh in social comm.

MP A govcomm funded social comm social

AW I think I've advertised this well.

MP Doing events is important.

SWC Who's lost elections that could be encouraged?

Names are mentioned.

AW We really REALLY need head frep and social chair.

SWC I think head frep is potentially more disastrous. FCO can cover social comm. The head frep needs doing.

MP Anyone on a year abroad who we could go to?

Names are mentioned



A bizarre strategy concerning the DIB award is proposed

BT This election can be run in the joke meeting.

AW It has been run so many times. We need someone in. As a result, even if the election isn't completely to the same high standard as other Exec positions, we just need someone to run.

MP Exec has been run in the joke meeting before (2019-20)

Raffle

AJ A t-shirt that says 'I went to a JCR meeting and got forced to run for social chair and all I got was this lousy t-shirt'

EM Extremely chocolately biscuits (ECB) are back AGAIN. Mugs too could be rerun

BT I still have the quality streets.

BT Did you ever get the govcomm instructions?

EM I have decided I will write it post exams. I think I said I would clarify. The JRO thing will change.

AW Not going to run the pre-meeting rules call.