

# Mathematics Undergraduate Representative Committee

Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2009

## Unconfirmed Minutes of Meeting

**Present:** Rosie Cretney (*Queen's, President (Chair)*), Stephen O'Keeffe (*Hertford, Secretary*), Henry Bradford (*St John's, Treasurer*), Matt Scroggs (*St Hugh's, I.T. Rep.*), Joe Wales (*St Hugh's, Questionnaire Rep.*), Petra Staynova (*Pembroke, Maths & Philosophy Rep.*), Ben Hoskin (*Lady Margaret Hall*), Kirsti Biggs (*Magdalen*), Shu Zhou (*Mansfield*), Feng Cai (*Wadham*), Samiha Ismail (*Keble*), Karyn Cooke (*Keble*), Alex Harrison (*Keble*), Matthew Saxton (*Jesus*), Alex Bolton (*St Hugh's*), Dean Keaskin (*Lady Margaret Hall*).

**Apologies:** Wanfei (Paul) Wu (*St Hugh's, First Year Rep.*), Eamon McMurray (*Lincoln*), Penelope Quek (*Jesus, Publicity Officer*).

### 1. Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2009

(a) Minutes. Kirsti pointed out some minor errors, but they were otherwise accepted.

(b) Matters Arising. Following an enquiry regarding plans for the new Mathematical Institute building, Rosie reported plans have recently been on public display, and can currently be accessed through the university.

### 2. First Year Calculus Courses

It was reported that a number of students have recently commented that the first year Michaelmas Term course of 'Calculus of Two or more Variables' is too fast-paced, particularly towards the end of term. The main reason for this is for Maths and Computer Science students to cover the material, since they do not attend Hilary Term calculus courses, where most of the material is covered again for other mathematics students.

Rosie responded that Moderations and Part A courses are currently undergoing a major review, and it is likely that calculus courses are likely to be restructured, but she agreed to pass on these concerns to the faculty.

### 3. Mathematics Careers Event

Rosie reported that the Maths Institute will be holding a careers event in week 4 of Hilary Term, aimed at third and fourth year students. Stephen added that in future years, the Institute hopes to organise larger careers fairs, and that student feedback regarding this proposal would be appreciated. All those present were in favour of the idea, and this will be passed on to Dr Curnock.

### 4. Annual Report from 2009 Committee

(a) President – Rosie thanked the outgoing Executive Committee members for their hard work over the year. She reported that the Open Days in Trinity Term 2009 and the Freshers' Event held at the beginning of term had been very successful. She added that 2009 had seen the introduction of student participation in the Teaching Award Scheme, and hoped the new committee would build on the success of this year.

(b) Secretary – Stephen reported that the MURC Constitution had been improved greatly over the year, and is now supplemented with standing orders. He also thanked those who had contributed to the 2009 Freshers' Guide and added that work had begun on the production of an end-of-year questionnaire, which he hoped the new committee would complete.

(c) Treasurer – Henry reported that the Bookstall has been very successful this year, thanks to the booksale held in conjunction with the Freshers' Event. He added that more events could be held in the future, but is important to increase purchases, and referred to the previous meeting's minutes for

further information.

(d)IT Officer – Matt reported he had given the MURC website a radical overhaul over the summer, and updated the mailing lists for members. It is now possible for other committee members to update the website with news, representatives' details and information about MURC, and Rosie thanked him for his work.

(e)Other Members – Nothing to report.

An extra item was discussed at this point.

It was noted that Rosie (the current President) wished to stand for the position of Open Day Co-ordinator in the forthcoming elections. However, this created a problem, since the constitution requires the President to be present at the count of a vote, but all candidates must leave the room while the ballot takes place. Those present at the meeting unanimously agreed to amend Paragraph 42 of the Constitution as follows:

Change “Present at the count must be the President.” to “Present at the count must be the Chair.”

#### 5.2010 Executive Committee Elections

(a)President – There were two candidates: Henry Bradford and Dean Keaskin

Votes for Bradford: 10

Votes for Keaskin: 2

Abstentions: 2

Henry Bradford was therefore elected President.

(b)Secretary – There were no candidates. Therefore Stephen O'Keeffe agreed to stand for re-election and resign the role as soon as a replacement can be found. He was elected unopposed.

(c)Treasurer – Alexander Harrison was unopposed and therefore elected.

(d)IT Officer – Samiha Ismail was unopposed and therefore elected.

(e)Questionnaire Rep. - Dean Keaskin was unopposed and therefore elected.

(f)Open Day Co-ordinator – Rosie Cretney was unopposed and therefore elected.

(g)Publicity Officer – Karyn Cooke was unopposed and therefore elected.

(h)Maths & Computer Science Rep. - There were no candidates. The position is therefore vacant.

(i)Maths & Philosophy Rep. - Petra Staynova was unopposed and therefore elected.

(j)Maths & Statistics Rep. - Shu Zhou was unopposed and therefore elected.

(k)First Year Rep. - Ben Hoskin was unopposed and therefore elected.

#### 6.AOB

None

SO'K 01/12/09