



**Minutes of the Exec meeting held on 22 January 2006
O staircase supervision room, Pembroke**

The meeting commenced at 6.10pm

1. Apologies for absence: Alex, Ben, Mike H, Rhi

2. Exec announcements and news

Olly: CUSU have ratified the changes to our constitution, so the creation of separate posts of President and Chair has been formalised. Awareness week Flyers have gone to the printers

Josh: There were seven at the social today

Jordan: The printers have refused to print [no definition] for a reasonable budget (as they originally quoted) so it will have to be done in-house on the CUSU photocopier.

3. Questions

None

4. Matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting

4a. Trip to Brighton

- This was publicised on Listings last week – a few people have said yes but serious interest hasn't been huge.
- Thirteen universities are now involved.
- **David to email the lists again with concrete details of time, cost etc.**

4b. Images of Cambridge on an extreme Christian website

- **Olly still needs to follow this up**

5. Items of business

5a. Awareness week

- There have been various room booking difficulties – Olly is following up.
- Alistair confirmed the possibility of using room N7 in Pembroke.
- There is to be an advert in *TCS*, and possibly an article in *Varsity*.
- Fish's pub crawl – to begin at Wetherspoon's and end at the Mitre so that is close to Life. To start c. 7.30pm. **Fish to email information to Olly and Mike H, and to see if the pubs will offer drinks deals.**
- Josh: cannot be at the Murder Mystery social due to another commitment. Is happy to organise it fully but someone else will have to be there on the night. David could be there but will need other help – can give bribes if necessary.
- It was agreed that Dustin can spend up to £50 for Drag Ball prizes.
- Flyers and posters – definitely here Weds afternoon, maybe Tuesday. **Olly would like help and will email.**

4b. Journal of Biosocial Science article

- During the week, the Exec was alerted to an article on the website of the *Journal for Biosocial Science* (a Cambridge University Press journal) by a Paul Cameron of the American Family Research Institute. It was suggested by the person who alerted the Exec to this article that the article, which suggests on the basis of apparently problematic

methodology that the children of gay parents are more likely to be gay in the same way that the children of religious parents may be religious, or if parents smoke then their children are more likely to, and that there are social policy implications from such findings. It was suggested that CUSU LBGT write to CUP to protest.

- Mike H has queried whether a political group such as us should try and query academic work – could be construed as censorship. Also queried various statements by exec members.
 - Fish noted that it is not unusual for political groups to lobby.
 - FRI who sponsor Cameron is a political group and so the issue is political from the beginning.
 - There is evidence that contradicts what Cameron claims – datasets etc.
 - It was decided that we should contact Dr Susan Golombok, a Professor in Cambridge, who researches in this area, to find out whether we should approach the editors of the journal, and, if so, how and on what basis.
- Alistair to do this.***
- ***Olly to write to Jim Burroway*** (who alerted us to the article), outlining what we have discussed and what we are going to do – open a dialogue.

5c. Elections

- All to asap write up blurb for the website as per Olly's email. These to be emailed to Mike and Olly.

6. AOB

None

The meeting concluded at 7pm