

**Pending Motions - Worcester College MCR General Meeting  
Michaelmas 2008 – 9 November 2008**

**Constitutional Change for Associate Members**

This MCR notes that:

1. If possible, as many committee positions as possible should be filled in order to give the students the best representation possible
2. Associate members of the MCR will do just as good a job in committee positions as full MCR members.

This MCR resolves to:

1. Amend the constitution by adding in Article III, Section A, a new bullet point; renumbering accordingly:

*2) All associate members who are current students of Worcester College are eligible to hold committee offices other than President, Secretary or Treasurer.*

Proposed: Kit Yates

Seconded: Jim Whitehead

**Cardio Equipment in College Gym**

This MCR notes that:

1. Worcester College are a sporty bunch
2. Contrary to popular belief, sports other than rowing do exist.
3. Many people enjoy running but currently college has no facility to run indoors, highly desirable in the winter when it is COLD and WET.
4. The majority of non-rowing college members would have more use for a treadmill in the gym than the currently installed rowing machines.
5. Also, many people complain that the gym is always occupied by rowers, moving the rowing machines would create more space for non rowers.
6. The boatclub would be better served by moving the rowing machines currently in JTM gym into the shed gym next to the other three rowing machines, allowing group training sessions.

This MCR resolves to:

1. Move the two rowing machines from JTM gym into shed gym (still accessible to all college members).
2. Replace the rowing machines with a treadmill (approximate cost: £2000) and possibly a bike (approximate cost: £1000).
3. Replace the padlock on shed gym with an access card lock to make it more accessible to all members of college.

Proposed by: Megan Mondri

Seconded by: Jim Whitehead

### **Nintendo Wii for Social Events**

This MCR notes that:

1. Worcester College MCR does not have a Nintendo Wii
2. It is desirable to have organized social events that do not involve alcohol.
3. A Nintendo Wii would facilitate no-cost activities for members of the MCR, including the opportunity for organized events such as tournaments.
4. Provisional arrangements have been made to install a Nintendo Wii in the MCR TV room with access provided by leaving a BOD card as a deposit in the lodge.

This MCR resolves to:

1. purchase a Nintendo Wii and a selection of appropriate games.
2. Request that a lock be installed on the cupboard next to the TV.

Proposed by: James Bastone  
Seconded by: Jim Whitehead

### **Glassware for MCR Bar**

This MCR notes that:

1. Worcester College MCR's social activities include two exchange dinners and two graduate dining clubs per term.
2. Champagne is served before the home leg of exchange dinners and port is served after both the home leg of exchange dinners and graduate dining clubs.
3. The Worcester College MCR currently owns 31 port glasses and 32 champagne glasses.
4. The number of people attending home legs of exchange dinners typically ranges from 40-50 and the number of people attending the last graduate dining club was 58.
5. It is not as nice to drink champagne or port out of inappropriate glasses and can give a bad impression of our MCR facilities to visiting MCRs.
6. We can not rely on college to have glasses to lend us for each event.

This MCR resolves to:

1. Look into the cost of buying glassware (estimated between £1-2 per stem).
2. Buy enough champagne and port glasses to bring our collection to 60 stems of each.

Proposed by: Emily Stolzenberg  
Seconded by: Megan Mondì

### **Targeted Divestment for Darfur**

This MCR notes that:

1. The decision of the European Parliament and the United States government to classify the ongoing carnage in Darfur as genocide represents the first time these bodies have recognised such a crime while it can still be halted. Unlike in Rwanda, the UN Security Council has passed a Resolution (1706) mandating UN peacekeepers to intervene and protect the people of Darfur. The deployment of this force is being undermined by Khartoum, in breach of the Darfur Peace agreement, while the Sudanese government pursues its genocidal agenda in the Darfur region.
2. It is clear that the Sudanese government has been, and continues to be, recalcitrant and disingenuous in its efforts to end the world's greatest humanitarian crisis. International Aid agencies are continuing to leave Sudan amidst the ongoing obstruction of and attack on their humanitarian efforts. Diplomatic and political efforts have reached their limits and a different kind of pressure must be brought to bear.
3. Many universities in Europe and North America have applied economic pressure by the process of divestment. This entails withdrawing support from companies specifically linked to oil extraction in Sudan, as 80% of funds from this industry are funnelled into the Sudanese military. This specifically targets the Sudanese government, avoiding pressure on the Sudanese people by excluding local industries such as Gum Arabic production. Furthermore, divestment does not cost the institutions financially as the funds are reinvested in companies in the same industry without links to Sudan.

Therefore this MCR proposes that Worcester College show solidarity against genocide and apply targeted pressure to the Sudanese government through divestment via the following points:

1. The MCR encourages Worcester College to engage with its fund managers, expressing its concern over investments linked to Sudan. We also ask for the college to publicise these concerns to the trust fund members and managers. Ultimately, the college may ask for these managers to conduct a review of their holdings to ensure that the commingled funds do not contain offending companies in breach of Sudan Divestment UK1 and Sudan Divestment Task Force1 guidelines.
2. The MCR further propose that Worcester publicise the fact that it is reviewing any new investments, as well as its current financial holdings, as a step towards divestment from companies linked to Sudan. This is a necessary first step towards applying pressure on the Sudanese government and leading the way for other UK institutions, particularly within Oxford, to follow.
3. Finally, the MCR ask that the college make no new investments in companies linked to the genocide in Darfur by Sudan Divestment UK and make a public statement to this effect.

Proposed: Joe Piper

Seconded: Kristina Kakalacheva

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Proposed: Joe Piper

Seconded: Kristina Kakalacheva

### A Motion Providing Mandates for a Special Council

This MCR notes:

1. The motion to bring a Special Council passed by 3<sup>rd</sup> Week OUSU Council on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> October at 4.45pm
2. That votes in a Special Council are limited to those with a valid common room mandate
3. That the one and only question in this Special Council shall be;

*“that the proposed Standing Order changes passed in 3<sup>rd</sup> Week Council of this term be passed a second and final time, so as to create an alternative format of hustings to be effective for the set of Statutory Elections to be held this term”*

to which the only valid responses shall be a vote of Yes, No, or of Abstention

4. That, if passed, this shall result in such hustings in this term's elections and thereafter
5. That if this question fails in Special Council it shall be heard in 7<sup>th</sup> Week Termly Council, and, if passed then, shall take effect in the next set of Statutory Elections and thereafter

This MCR Herby Resolves;

1. To have no opinion upon the question in 3)
2. To mandate its representative votes to attend Special Council and to each cast votes of ~~abstention~~. *Yes*
3. To require these votes to be exercised by Francis Urquhart (President), CJ Clegg (OUSU Rep) and Sir Humphrey Appleby (3<sup>rd</sup> Vote) in accordance with the constitution of this JCR/MCR/SU
4. To require the Secretary or equivalent Chair of this meeting to attach the minutes of this meeting to a filled out copy of the form the Chair has provided and to place these into the pigeon-hole of the Chair of OUSU Council in the OUSU office in Bonn Square by no later than 11am on the day that the Special Council is to be called

Proposed: Paul ~~Savage~~ *K.S.*

Seconded: Jim Whitehead