

**Meeting of the Debates Committee
5.30pm, 15 April 2010, The Chancellor's Room,
Holme Building, Science Road, University of Sydney.
MINUTES**



Committee Members	Michael Buckland (Chair), John 'Scott' Brownless (Director) Eleanor Jones (Director of Debates), Rebecca Barrett, Michael Coutts, Naomi Hart, Paul Karp, Catherine Marks, Daniel Swain, Nina Ubaldi
USU Staff	Bryce Williams (Committee Secretary), Zinah Tam (Committee Secretary)
Visitors	Dominic Bowes, Melissa Brooks, Duncan Campbell, Alice Hudson, Chris Parkin, Rhys Pogonoski

No#	Details
	The Chair opened the meeting at 5.38pm.
	1. Apologies And Leaves Of Absence
DC 024/10	Resolved that apologies be accepted from Louise Anthony, Julia Baine, Courtney Tight, Patrick Bateman and Alistair Cowie. <i>Eleanor Jones / Michael Coutts</i>
	2. Minutes Of The Meeting Held 11 March 2010 Melissa Brooks commented that the previous minutes' characterisation of her opinions on the ADS in relation to affirmative action requirements was somewhat misleading. However, Ms. Brooks concluded that the result was inconsequential and did not require amendment. Rebecca Barrett requested that the reference to Julia Baine's report be amended from 'spoke to his report' to 'spoke to her report'.
DC 025/10	Resolved that the amended minutes of the previous meeting held 11 March 2010 be accepted as a true and accurate record of proceedings. <i>Nina Ubaldi / Daniel Swain</i>
	3. Business Arising From The Minutes There was no business arising from the Minutes.
	4. General Business
	4.1 Report of the Director of Debates Eleanor Jones spoke to her report. Ms. Jones reiterated her congratulations to the whole contingent, especially Dom Bowes. Ms. Jones expressed her particular gratitude for the work of Louise Anthony and Paul Karp.

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Ms. Brooks suggested that the Australs competition should be advertised to noices.

Naomi Hart commented that the Pro-Am requirement should not be mandated, and suggested that publicity wasn't a serious issue.

Ms. Brooks suggested that the new website, including the forum, could be used to help debaters find their own teams.

Mr. Swain asked the committee for their opinions on whether the tournament should be named after former debaters. He suggested 'Bowes Oreb Tournament' as a possibility.

Mr. Bowes added his support for the naming of the tournament after Bowes and Oreb.

Ms. Jones suggested that the meeting move *in camera*.

DC 030/10 Resolved that the meeting move *in camera* and all visitors be invited to remain.

Eleanor Jones / Daniel Swain

DC 031/10 Resolved that the meeting move *out of camera*.

Michael Coutts / Paul Karp

4.6 (cont'd)

Duncan Campbell asked whether there was an N-1 requirement.

Daniel Swain said that the competition has never had an N-1 requirement.

Mr. Campbell asked whether the N-1 requirement would be an issue for interstate teams.

Mr. Swain replied that interstate teams could send a judge and a team rather than having the teams rotate. However, breaking would not be allowed.

Paul Karp asked whether states should be allowed to break.

Eleanor Jones said that teams should be allowed to break on request, but this should not be advertised.

Melissa Brooks noted the problems with breaking and suggested that requests should be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

DC 032/10 Resolved that the Report of the Union Competitions Directors be accepted.

Catherine Marks / Nina Ubaldi

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about areas beyond general knowledge, for example the law of defamation. She suggested that Nina Funnell would not be as useful as a result of her specific agenda. She suggested Clifton Evers as an alternate contact.

Ms. Jones noted the utility provided by both types of seminars, but acknowledge that each had pitfalls. She suggested that in the seminar hour, half an hour could be dedicated to an expert, with the second half comprising a response from a former debater.

Dominic Bowes noted that experts were important in increasing the attractiveness of seminars and therefore their attendance.

Resolved that the Report of the Development Officers be accepted.

Rebecca Barrett / Catherine Marks

5. Other Business

DC 036/10 Resolved that the meeting move *in camera* and all visitors be invited to remain.

Catherine Marks / Nina Ubaldi

DC 037/10 Resolved that Michael Buckland vacate the Chair for John 'Scott' Brownless.

Catherine Marks / Nina Ubaldi

DC 038/10 Resolved that Michael Buckland resume the Chair.

Paul Karp / Nina Ubaldi

DC 039/10 Resolved that the meeting be extended by fifteen minutes.

Nina Ubaldi / Paul Karp

These minutes, having been reviewed and accepted by resolution of the Debates Committee as a true and correct record of the meeting:

Resolution Number: Date

DC 041/10

13/5/2010

Chair's Signature