

Publishing individuals' votes at Council

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(The following italicised text is an introduction for council members and shouldn't appear in its published form)

There is currently no set procedure for how council votes. This allows flexibility in voting methods and the chair sets the default method. I understand that the success of the voting pads in the last meeting mean that they're to be introduced at future meetings too.

By default voting pads will create a secret ballot, as you can't see what button everyone has pressed. However, by linking pads to individuals it is technically possible to record the votes of individuals for publication at a later date.

Rejecting this paper would not prevent using voting pads for future votes. It would mean that by default council votes would be in secret as that is the simplest way of using the pads as opposed to a show of hands which clearly shows who votes which way.

Union Notes

1. On the 10th December 2013 the Union Council committed:
 - a. To record and publish an account of how each council member votes in council, on a per-item basis, on the union website.
 - b. To commit to enacting the previous resolution in time for the next 2 meeting of council.
2. On the 28th October 2014 Council voted to
 - a. "Uphold the resolves of the previous paper, as agreed on December 10, 2013"
 - b. "Action George Butcher to form a working group, discuss the options possible and report back to Council"

Union Believes

1. That council members have been elected to represent its members views and that they are accountable to those members
2. Publishing the votes of individuals encourages Council members to vote for Union members and accurately represent their views in policy

Union Resolves

1. To action the Union President to make the individual votes of Council members at Council available online to members of Imperial College Union only
2. To allow the Council Chair to declare any vote a secret ballot, for example in the case of discussing an individual Union member. This is subject to the usual rules of challenging the chair.
3. To remove the Union's policy, "Motion to Publish the Voting Records of Council Members," and replace it with this policy