

World Universities Debate Council

Monday 1st of January 2007

Junior Ballroom, Sheraton Wall Centre, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Meeting called to order at 10:30am

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Opening Statement

The chair wished everybody present a most prosperous and joyous new year and hoped that the meeting would be fruitful and productive, thanked those present for giving up their time and reminded the participants of the aims of the championships, including closer ties between nations and meaningful international communication.

The agenda was distributed and clarification made regarding the presence of the Botswana bid and why they did not appear on the agenda.

Roll Call for Worlds Council Meeting

Australia – Hamish Nairn
Bangladesh – Rashedul Hasan Stalin
Barbados – Leroy McClean
Botswana – Justice Motlhadali
Canada – Padraic Ryan
China – Vincent Bai
Croatia – Branka Marušić
England – David Tite
Finland – Gabriel Mastico
Germany – Isabelle Loewe
Hong Kong – Albert Mu
Ireland – Gregg O’Neill
Israel – Lotem Rotbain-Shev
Jamaica – Carlton Lowe
Japan – Arata Okuyama
Lesotho – Gerry Mabathoana
Malaysia – Big Boy
Netherlands – Daniël Schut
New Zealand – Brendan Connor
Scotland – Jenni Harrison
Singapore – Bhavya Khanna (*arrived late*)
South Africa – Peter Bothma
South Korea – Monica Jang
Thailand – Luang P
Turkey – Robert Ustian
USA – Mark Samburg

Not Present, was present at Pre Council

Latvia – Yuri Romanenkov

Not Present at either meeting

India, Romania, Pakistan, Ukraine, Sweden, Sri Lanka, Portugal, Philippines, Indonesia

Arrived Late – Representative Not Registered

India, Romania and Ukraine

Executive

Chair – Ian Lising

Registrar – David Ham – absent

Secretary and Acting Registrar – Neill Harvey-Smith

Women’s Officer, Oceania and Acting Secretary – Katie Price

Equity Officer – Masako Suzuki

Council Counsel – Jeremy Briar

IONA / DCA – Derek Lande

Asia – Jason Jarvis

Americas – Padraic Ryan

Europe – Lars Duursma

Oceania – Katie Price

Africa: Ame Zachariah

DCA: Alex Deane

CA: Kevin Massive

Convenor: Teddy Harrison

Deputy Convenor: Miranda Weigler

Immediate Past Convenor: Ciarán Lawlor

Roll Call – Latvia and Singapore were not in attendance at roll call and had been present at pre-council. Singapore arrived later. India, Romania and Ukraine arrived at various points during the meeting. No representative has been recorded for them.

Voting Status

Voting status was clarified

Finland – Asked at what point he would change to status D

Chair – Clarified how institutions move up the voting rank, it requires presence at two years world championships. Everyone receives a vote if they are present.

India’s voting status was clarified.

Worlds 2006 Minutes

Passed unanimously

UCD Report and Accounts

The chair called upon Ciarán Lawlor to present the accounts and report. He explained the nature of finance provided by the institution which meant there would be no surplus would available to UBC. The accounts were almost identical to those presented to council as at last year’s meeting.

The Chair thanked UCD for hosting the 26th World Championships and his appreciation for all that they had done, both in terms of hosting and in furthering the World Championships.

UBC Report and Accounts

Adjudication had gone smoothly, the tab worked.

There was no surplus reported and indeed the university had stepped in to cover the deficit that would be arising from the tournament.

Japan – Will the ESL quarter finals be held?

Convener – We will be deferring to council on that

Japan – How will the determination be made.

Chair – Hold those questions until the relevant point on the agenda?

Equity – Enquired as to when the discussion would take place

Chair – Indicated that the agenda must be stuck to

Equity Officer – Suggested those discussions should happen before lunch

Australia – What happened to the bursaries?

Convener – It was a disappointment, we approached companies in principal, we got a lot of money from the British Council which was not necessarily the target of the program. In principal we would like to say to council we liked that idea and worked quite hard, there are 40 countries attending worlds and it rapidly expanded beyond our capabilities.

CA – The original role was for us to contact embassies and consulates in the Vancouver area which didn't work out, council reps may like to act as liaisons between institutions giving ideas of who to contact. Only two suggestions were received and were not successful. Australia, for example, was contacted repeatedly and the communications failed.

Australia – Is it a matter of finding the right people rather than they don't exist?

CA – Certainly do exist, certain west European countries require the plan in place two years in advance which is not feasible given the bidding process.

Convener – It is difficult for a host, a sane host can't decide on how that money is to be dispersed, unless there was a central structure to co-ordinate dispersal, unless you have that people are unwilling to give money.

Ireland – Could I ask how much in total you raised in sponsorship?

Convener – I will check, the numbers were changing up until the day before the tournament started. What I can tell you is that registration fee to the dollar covered accommodation and thirty dollars cash back, everything else, all other food etc. was covered by sponsorship

Ireland – What was your target when you originally bid?

Convener – Our target given by our fundraising committee, however we did state we were not dependent upon that fundraising in order to host the tournament

Australia – 5% charge on registration fee seems quite high

Convener – Simply our charge for handling transactions

CA – Wire transfers in North America are the slowest, most expensive and least efficient way of transferring money, banks here laugh at you if you request the service, the credit card payments occurred through Pay Pal which charges a similar percentage, we received none of those fees, we wish we had.

Immediate Past Convener – Did Norman Leech associates make any money from any tournament?

Norman Leech – we put in the biggest volunteer hours, we did not make a dollar from this tournament, we made this commitment to worlds and we honoured even when it became apparent there would be no surplus above and beyond the originally projected sponsorship funds

Immediate Past Convener – you are to be commended for honouring that commitment, however under the rules of this body any surplus should go to next year's host

Norman Leech – Surplus was the wrong word

Convener – arrangement that was made was that they would help with our fundraising and a portion of that would go to them and the rest went to us, they made a speculative agreement and stuck by it

Australia – What happened to the ice hockey?

Convener – funny story, promised two things in our bid upon which we could not deliver: firstly, that you could be all in one building however they tore down a wing of building, UBC is without an ice rink due to the Olympics. The basketball was the best alternative, a Canadian actually invented basketball unfortunately he did it in the USA.

Ireland – Your relationship with Norman Leech and associates, what services were provided?

Convener – They dealt with such things as the registration program, helped with negotiations with venues, fixing problems with venues, Norman acted as a bodyguard whilst \$30,000 cash was being carried in order to distribute the lunch money to participants

Norman Leech – clarified the program offered by his company to debating tournaments and various “menus” available

Ireland – They decided not to pull out but if another organisation was placed in a similar situation and pulled out would the tournament be able to proceed?

Norman Leech – registration website is owned by UBC we just agreed to administer it, we had a contractual agreement better than goodwill

CA – Way in which they worked with us, is that we had someone responsible on Org Com for registration so they were integrally woven into our committee

Immediate Past Convener – Most people who bid for worlds will tell you they have the capacity themselves to run worlds, it is important that it shouldn't be the precedent that an external company has to be brought in. There were difficulties with the registration system and were concerns about level of communication between Org Com and Norman Leech

Convener – Our decision was to rely on them because they were reliable, people who did pull out were on committee, such as our socials director pulled out the month before the tournament. However deferring to your experience as a previous host, I believe there were problems with communication that were not dependent upon whether it was handled internally or externally of the org com

Deputy Convener – The tournament continues to get bigger and bigger and the logistics required to deal with 1,000 people is enormous, takes us to a new level i.e. that of a professional conference.

Chair – reserved those comments to his report, including a discussion relating to team caps and other related issues

Bangladesh – We had problems with an institution, that being IBA and Dhaka and the fact that we were able register whilst in violation of the N-1 Rule, we believe the host should have notified us of that fact.

Chair – N-1 rule, information was posted on website, is accessible to everyone because it is common practice. The main criticism was the absence of confirmation of the details registered.

Convener – Valued criticism, would be recommended to future hosts

Australia – Registration is a difficult program, it felt as though there was improvisation given that the dates changed with little notice, did you just have not enough people dealing with registration?

Convener – Everyone registered at the last minute, Norman Leech actually brought in new staffers, however there was a failure to anticipate volume of surge. We have to be prepared for anything, we had events planned for 1,000 people to which a couple of hundred people arrived

CA – The other thing is there were an enormous number of transfers which arrived without any kind of details, it took a very long time to work out who belonged to which transfer

Finland – It's cold in here

Immediate Past Convener – Norman Leech can fix it [Norman Leech then moved to adjust the thermostat]

Europe – you're from Finland right?

Finland – Canada actually

Israel – because you asked for full registration in advance we had problems, in that certain universities required fundraising time that prevented them from coming.

Convener – that is a problem every year, however we have advance costs, we set the deadline as late as possible in order to meet those advance costs

Chair – if I can talk to that as a former host, otherwise people will often register and then turn fail to turn up if there is no pre-registration fee, we had something like 60 teams drop out at the last minute

Israel – Maybe in the registration it would be great to get confirmation email of status

Scotland – Britain may not be most deserving, who do we have to get in contact with

Chair – If there are no further questions we would like to thank UBC and Mr Norman Leech for all their efforts also. I'd now like to turn this over to those who are crazy enough to do this next year. The Chair deferred to TJ, the proposed convener for the 28th Championships, to be held at Assumption University, Thailand.

Bid Defence – Assumption Worlds 2008

A video was played, after slight technical difficulties relating to volume.

IONA / DCA – make sure your virus software is current, my computer is being bombarded with viruses

Proposed Convener (Assumption) – No video effects were used the making of this video.

TJ called upon the Consul General of Thailand to Vancouver. The Consul General then proceeded to make a speech on behalf of Thailand and Assumption University and looked forward to welcoming WUDC participants to Thailand.

Proposed Convener (Assumption) - the consul is actually staying in Sheraton, which was a piece of good luck.

An official letter from the university was then presented by the deputy vice president of the university, which addressed concerns relating to instability in the country. TJ made a presentation, during which Norman Leech was again requested to deal with the lights. The coup, considered an overly harsh name, was renamed, in unison, as a political revolution. The role of the King was clarified in stabilizing the nation. The committee was presented – CA, Tournament Director, Convener, Logistics Director, Deputy Tournament Director for Public Speaking and ESL, Equity Officer etc.

Profiles were made available in packages provided to delegates.

The registration period was presented with three phases. The team cap was 350, team cap per institution was three teams, the registration fee was 15,500 Baht, there was an increase of USD 25 due to increased strength of the economy and increased oil prices.

The website was already up and running. Food preferences of all kinds would be provided for and all dietary requirements including strict vegan would be provided for. Several tour options were presented for the free day. Religious services would be provided for all faiths.

They outlined the university accommodation, King's Court resident hall, 1500 rooms during the tournament and after the break Ambassador Jomtien Pattaya City the largest resort in the world 4,210 rooms, right on the beach. The university campus itself was 20 minutes from the airport but outside of Bangkok proper. Main briefing hall would be provided with seats for all participants, for which Barbados thanked the proposed hosts.

The socials were outlined, break night would be held on 49th floor at Central Worlds Tower, with drinks provided for which the entire council and audience broke into spontaneous applause, with a few notable exceptions. The grand final was to be held at Pattaya in a "sanctuary of truth", right on the peninsula, a 20 minute drive from hotel as an example of Asia, its architecture and history. The farewell party was to be a beach party at Ambassador City Jomtien Hotel, Pattaya, with a DJ and drinks provided.

The logistics were outlined – provide airport pick up to the campus, confirmed police motorcades to avoid traffic jams, for the transfer to Pattaya buses would be provided throughout the day. Security – closed campus requiring ID to enter with over 100 security guards already in place, student personnel would also sit with security guards to the tune of 40 people. All parties would be private, no mingling between debaters and commoners – to ensure security.

The Proposed Convener, TJ then called upon the Proposed CA: RK Rajesh Krishnan to outline the adjudication team. The DCAs were presented: Ciarán Lawlor from UCD and Joanna Nairn from Hart House Toronto was present at council, Kylie Lane from Monash and Beth O'Connor from Yale sent their apologies. Ravi Prajapati was presented as the Internal Chief Adjudicator, RK outlined the organising experience, the previous CA / DCA experience of the team, and also the tabbing experience of both himself and Ciarán Lawlor. The Adjudication team have selected Singapore tab to use, however they may use a better tab if such a program presents itself. NTU Tab Director has volunteered his services during the preparation period, and also wrote the code for the program. They also indicated they would solve any problems identified and would fix those which had presented themselves during these championships; they would also test extensively and offer the final product to Worlds Council at the end to do with as they see fit. Adjudication test and grading throughout the tournament was outlined. Should the adjudication core decide it is necessary the university has offered to provide financial support to import top global judges. Two training sessions will be made available at Assumption, as well as a BP training workshop – Jan 2007 Kylie Lane and RK will be running these, in Mid 2007 another session would be held. Overall aim is 15 experienced and 25 competent adjudicators from the host nation.

Bangladesh – We would also like to have a training session

The CA proposed that could dealt with separately, or perhaps tied into Assumption's training sessions. The adjudication core shall conduct seminars in their regions at their relevant BP IVs (for example Yale, Melbourne and Sydney Mini, UCD L&H VPC).

The ESL proposal was outlined – the list of ESL registered teams would be published upon the website in advance in order to public scrutiny to take place. All ESL teams would be interviewed to determine eligibility by a panel consisting of the WUDC council chair, equity officer and a member of the adjudicating core. All ESL participants will need to provide a written summary of the reasons for their ESL eligibility in advance.

The sponsors were outlined: Exxon Mobile, Astra Zeneca, HSBC, Thai airways, letters confirming sponsorship were presented to the chair. Cisco systems, Pepsi Cola, Acer had been approached and negotiations were continuing. The university had been particularly helpful. Confirmed sponsors: 4 platinum sponsors totally 3 million baht (approximately €60,000).

Europe – Firstly I would like to congratulate you on your bid, first question when and where can I sign up, commendable to separate the bid and the ESL question.

Ireland – Difficult question – after the coup there were a number of restrictions placed on civil liberties, including meetings of more than 5 people being banned, how has that situation changed?

Proposed Convener – five people meeting rule has been removed in 60 provinces, only still restricted in the southern provinces, removed in Bangkok

Proposed Tournament Director - President of University is helping to draft the new constitution, we are very much involved in political process and aware of what is happening.

The chair requested that the strobe light effect over England, Scotland, Australia, Barbados and Jamaica representatives be removed. Unfortunately Norman Leech was not present.

Finland – Curious as to whether or not this would be considered a political gathering

Proposed Convener – Considered international educational congress

Chair – Are there restrictions on the nature of motions

Proposed Convener – No

England – I am concerned about the proposed 3 team per institution cap, is that preliminary and will be raised as has been the practice in previous years?

Proposed Convener – will possibly be raised

Scotland – Pre registration needs to be early, however it is outside the academic year

Chair – enquired as to who was sitting between China and Singapore, the interloper left

Jamaica – visa requirements for those coming to Thailand, list provided last year was only for certain countries

Proposed Convener – an updated list will be available on the website soon

Jamaica – registration is problematic for funding because we cannot get funding without a visa in hand, please keep these considerations in mind, cannot register 9 months before an event

Proposed Convener – discount from airline will be provided as soon as possible
The proposed tournament director requested clarification of the issues confronting Jamaica.

Australia – At Vic Australs the adjudication team were incredibly strict about adjudicator assessment, will you be enforcing feed back forms and following that model?

Proposed CA – We need to ensure we have sufficient data, one dedicated time person per room as well as corridor runners, large enough tab room to be able to tabulate data, need to discuss as adjudication core but we consider this feedback vital.

Singapore – Registration must start after summer tournaments are over.

The strobe light effect continued

The committee offered to meet with all affected representatives to try and work out a more mutually agreeable registration timetable.

Bangladesh – I have three questions (1) will you accept wire transfer, we had problems with these this year (2) will universities be able to change their details after registration (3) normally debaters are given feedback forms to judge oral adjudications, this is very effective, will you have a similar system?

Various forms of approval were made, hear, hear etc.

Proposed CA – Yes, that is very important

Proposed Convener – Our bank does accept wire transfer, our registration system will have a user name and password in which you can enter registration details

Canada – reiterate the concerns relating to rego timetable, pleased to see equity officer on the committee. Can you outline your plans for equity policy?

The equity officer Neek Gilani, was presented, outlined her proposal to look at global models and rely upon previous experience, including that of Joanna Nairn, current equity officer and proposed DCA.

Barbados – reiterate matter of registration period, your deadline falls within our current financial year, have to ask twice in one financial year for funding for the same event, difficult to get anything out of them already.

Israel – Will you provide us with pre and post tournament accommodation? Will there be pre tournament accommodation provided at the university ?

Proposed Convener – Yes there will be a fee for that, approximately USD20 per person, available for 2-3 days beforehand

Ireland – In terms of bursaries to import adjudicators; how many and how much of the costs?

Proposed CA – You have had Worlds tournaments in Malaysia and Singapore recently with decently adjudication pools. Further we have indications that several adjudicators in the region are planning to attend as something of a swan song. We will also develop the adjudication talent in the area. If the need is identified we will import judges to judge the top rooms and bubble rooms, roughly we could consider 10-15 bursaries – Thai airways are discounting 30% and rego will be waived. Will also be considered on a case by case basis looking at their individual economic situations.

Registrar – Thank you for your bid today and to all the information provided throughout the year. I made an enquiry earlier this year via email and was wondering if I could get a response to that on the record, will you be hosting all the events stipulated by the constitution. Some events such as Masters were missing from the proposed timetable.

Proposed Convener – Yes we are hosting everything that is in the constitution

Chair – Neill is looking for another country to compete for. On behalf of world's council we would like to thank Assumption for this bid. Is there a motion to ratify the bid?

Motion to ratify the bid

Proposed by Ireland

Seconded by New Zealand

Thirded by Jamaica

Passed unopposed

Chair – See you in Thailand next year

As the confirmed future hosts the Assumption committee assumed their position upon worlds council table.

Gifts were then presented to Teddy Harrison, Kevin Massie and Ian Lising by the Vice President of the university in recognition of a cultural tradition. Ian Lising accepted his gift on behalf of council.

Immediate Past Convener – Can we defer the bid presentations until after lunch?

Chair – In my experience if we delay the presentation then the council meeting will drag on and future agenda items will get pushed back.

Bid Presentations for Worlds 2009

Coin tossed, UCC called for heads, the coin was tails and Botswana chose to present second.

University College Cork

A 007 themed presentation was played outlining the relevant societies and presentation team. The proposed convener, Art Ward, made a presentation. The reasons for bidding were outlined. Accessibility to Cork via air to Cork, Shannon and Dublin airport and relevant connections were outlined. Previous tournament experiences (Euros 2005 and one of the largest Irish IV) were outlined. The large debating tradition and large participation rate of both the Law and Philosoph societies was outlined. Held on UCC campus, self contained campus, intend to video conference several large lecture theatres, reduce flow of people and allow everyone to clearly see the draw. All rooms will be within five minutes walk from the announce venue, with most being within 0.5 -1 minutes.

Out rounds (finals) will be held partially off campus: ESL quarter finals will be held in the local court house. Semi finals will be held in the aula maxima and the Multi Purpose Hall. The ESL final will be held in a gothic cathedral, the largest in Western Europe. The final will be held in city hall – same venue as for 1996. Sponsorship, already have long standing links with sponsors, new president is a former auditor of Philosoph, university have indicated they will provide sponsorship. A new Jury's inn hotel has been built just beside the university, excess will be housed in another Jury's hotel which was used for Euros, A third hotel may be utilized for overflow. Socials including a black tie gala, were outlined. Registration: 3 team cap initially with possible increase, wire transfers and credit card payments will be available, looking at payment in Sept / October, Cork did have a cap for Europeans, however demand was high so cap was expanded.

The Proposed CA, Derek Lande was presented. Outlined his own judging experience. DCA positions will be appointed from a published shortlist. Outlined the judging pool available both from the society and the country. Bob Nimmo is tournament director, between Bob and Derek they have tabbed between them 60-70 participants.

There will have code of conduct, which will be the applicable university code of conduct. There is target registration fee of €400, reflecting the inflation rate in Ireland between the UCD worlds and proposed Cork 2009 Worlds. The usual high standards of excess food and drink will be provided.

Israel – As per usual Israel is asking about the food, raised an issue with Kosher food that arose at Euros

Proposed CA – That was an issue which arose from the hotel and an ignorance of how Kosher food can be dealt with

Singapore – How will transparency in DCA appointment be achieved? Will you be using the same system?

Japan – the same question

Jamaica – Asked about quality of food and capacity of hotel, cost

Proposed Convener – Hot breakfast at hotel, Cork Euros no-one went hungry- will be using the same strategy.

Proposed CA – Issue with cost, how much do you trust us being able to raise money, from Euros we had a surplus, Berlin then had a fund to fly in adjudicators.

Bangladesh – One institution didn't arrive because they didn't have an embassy for Ireland

Proposed Convener – I will be talking to you individually to find out your visa requirements

Chair – Through out lunch the committee will be available for questions, voting will be when we return from lunch

University of Botswana

The proposed convener etc. all took part in the presentation. Propose to use a lecture theatre that hosts over 1100 people for briefing.

Proposed registration fee of approximately USD 500. Intend to use Dublin tab however intend to evaluate the tab program in the meantime. Experience and size of debating society was outlined, they have been present at many recent worlds including Stellenbosch and Dublin. Recently hosted Worlds Schools selections, in which over 200 teams involved. University has previously hosted conferences for over 1000 people. Six qualified adjudicators. Have been conferring with Logan, CA for Malaysia during the bid preparation centre. CA will be from South Africa. Accommodation will be in the centre of the city which is the same location as the university. Bus transfers will be provided. Security, Botswana is a safe country and there will be security at the hotel. Free medical treatment so it won't be a sucks to be you style situation. Summer, long days and short nights, and cheap beer. Photos of the accommodation were displayed. Reasons for bidding were outlined, get a lot of attention when you host in smaller countries, government support at a high level, already sponsored by De Beers and government. Diamond mining companies are permanent sponsors. It is proposed to host the finals at house of parliament. Flights are relatively cheap due to recent increases in tourism. There is a regular air link from Johannesburg, the largest airport in Africa. It is important that worlds is hosted in places where debating is developing; we recognise our lack of experience but hope to rope in those who are more experienced than ourselves. South Africa uniformly support our bid and we would hope to create an African worlds and rope in Namibia, Swaziland. Concern about developing nations not participating, hosting would increase participation.

CA – Are there any flights available directly internationally from outside Africa? And how easy is it to transfer from Johannesburg, through another country? Is it similar for those who came through Seattle to reach Vancouver?

Proposed Convener – Part of coalition, five flights per day, Air Africa has flights into Botswana, We would propose coaches from Johannesburg for free, it is a three hour journey.

Finland – Accommodation, budget proposed cost of \$240,000 have you confirmation of that from the hotel?

Proposed Convener – There are a number of hotels we can work with, generate enthusiasm and thus cut down costs

Canada – plans to have equity officer and code of conduct, intend on learning from Vancouver etc.

Botswana – Plan to learn from Vancouver and Thailand, which we will be attending thanks to our sponsor. Will be dealing with this.

England – Very concerned about depth of adjudication pool, how are you going to ensure a sufficient number of adjudicators

Botswana – We have had tremendous support from world debating community and intend to rely upon South Africa, been in contact with Logan to be one of the DCAs to which he has agreed.

Presentations were then called to a close, with apologies to those nations who did not get to ask their questions. The chair pointed out that both bidders would be available during lunch to answer questions. The meeting was called to a close at 2pm.

The Meeting Reopened at 3pm.

Votes were cast in relation to the bids. Whilst they were being tallied the EFL final discussion took place.

EFL Final

CA - We were asked to host an EFL final as per the minutes of last year's worlds, we were to be provided with a list of EFL criteria by the chair of the ESL sub committee. EFL teams were then ineligible for the ESL break, voluntarily forgo right to break in ESL

Chair – all that is being asked for right now is to waive the constitutional minimum for the ESL quarter final. Please note the constitutional agenda item which defers discussions regarding EFL until that point

South Africa – is this purely a waiver we are being asked to decide or does this also impact EFL?

CA – Would they (a) be stricken from the ESL competition, if you increase ESL to 16, then one EFL team would be included in that quarter final but according to the rules ineligible to compete

Asia – Explained the subcommittee's process in coming to that decision and explained that the subcommittee involved only two people in effect

CA – definitely true to ESL waiver, two questions one is constitutional one is not

Assumption CA – Asked for clarification of the proposal

Singapore – Are there levels of handicap, are you excluded from main break if you qualify for ESL?

CA – EFL is not considered as a handicap

Ireland – Separate criteria to EFL / ESL – are they therefore not separate categories?

Chair – That's one point of view

Europe – Need to organise an ESL break, has been communicated to all teams through website and communications that there would be a quarter final

Finland – At the developing nations forum there was a vote on the issue whether EFL teams would be okay with being ESL teams for this competition, one person voted no

Assumption CA – There is a lot of support for not separating the eligibility

Asia – logic is simple, EFL is more difficult is a subset of ESL

Ireland – Question would be if all teams have three chances to break, in main break first, ESL then EFL – how many chances to break do you get?

Japan – Many people support this constitution change there are more than 190 petition signatures that EFL should be eligible for ESL

New Zealand – Would support EFL and ESL being eligible in principle however the break has already been announced, leave things as they are for this tournament

Equity Officer – ESL have very little access to main break as EFL speakers have equally little access to ESL, no ability to access stage. Started discussing this at developing nation but had to wait until council.

South Korea – Criteria, response on three chances, ability to challenge foreign speakers, should be open in principle and criteria should be clear – reason and justification. We all got the arbitrary interview from Ian.

Chair – They were not arbitrary, I was asked to do it, not as though I enjoyed doing them, we used the four criteria used, we can only do best with what we are charged. I have no power as chair.

South Africa – I share Ireland's concern, that being said, I still do think totally fair we already allow an ESL double break, we should extend that through, working with something new here which will lead to hiccups. For this tournament now we should allow what applies to ESL to EFL. People came to this tournament with this understanding.

Registrar – Surely only right that people should be held according to rule to which they signed up to this competition, fundamentally wrong in principle if we change that now. It cannot be right to say that we did not know the criteria, as they reflect an actual empirical difference as to the level of difficulty that speaking English in a debate presents to you – three bites at the cherry however is significantly problematic.

Europe – If we want to have EFL problems now, we should defer to later discussion, the issue is whether we should have a quarter final. Move forward a motion to break teams 9 – 16 and move on.

Asia – I take issue with the argument it's too late to move the goal posts, because I raised this issue back in August and was told to defer to council

Botswana – He said what I wanted to

Israel – Wanted to remind you what was said at the beginning in terms of discussing criteria.

Ireland – Is a fact there are not enough teams to justify ESL break, unfair to go back and change goal posts

Assumption CA – only 10% of competitors break in main break, currently the ESL break represents 13-14% of competitors, seems to be fair with main break

Thailand – There would be three chances, there are two tournaments going on currently, opting out creates dual tournaments

Chair – disingenuous because it was council delegates who made these decisions, because in three years from now people will be questioning your decisions

Council Counsel – disregard being shown, constitution sets out a very clear provision, now asking counsel to imply EFL is subcategory of ESL which is not in the constitution, existing empirical facts should not be changed

CA – this is a response to Lars [Europe] fundamentally unfair to say ESL teams are not eligible for EFL but we should break to quarters anyway, EFL would be excluded if ESL quarter final is held

Equity Officer – Clarify, we didn't pass the motion to have opt in / opt out, not council's decision at all

Barbados – What really is the point of any team coming is to be world champion, in spirit of competition we should allow everyone to compete

Germany – EFL / ESL distinction is not in constitution

Europe – I agree

Registrar – True there is nothing in constitution about EFL. There was a motion passed last year, you all have a copy of these minutes. Given what Asia said about the process it is dubious it satisfies the requirement of that motion however a report was produced and that has followed by the Org Com

Asia – procedure wasn't followed out, if subcommittee didn't do its job why was something not done about it, we learnt about this months ago.

Chair – recognised Mr Steve Johnson as committee chair, do you have any questions / comments?

Committee Chair – I have no comments

Chair – Do you want to defend the report? I understand the consultation process was less than fruitful.

Asia – If we were just going to go with what Steve wanted why have a committee?

Registrar – A subcommittee report was filed nevertheless.

Committee Chair – Got responses from all of one person, I tried to include people, Ian's characterisation is right

Asia – Disputing concurrence, there was not concurrence between myself and the committee chair regarding opt in / opt out and the definition.

Committee Chair – sent report to Kevin and left it at that

Registrar – in terms of procedure, when council has a subcommittee, however much consultation a document was sent to chair and used for basis of competition, you can have arguments about rights and wrongs of machinations of subcommittee but there is a document

Chair – just to put that to bed, that is the procedure, if you want to change the procedure that's the responsibility of council reps, it is very difficult to deal with council reps or regional reps who change from year to year

Europe – read from minutes, no-one disputed there would be a quarter final,

Chair – no one realised there would be less than 80 teams

Turkey – constitution of EFL, having our EFL final, does it mean ESL can't break into main break? Just have equal chances to break. Break has already been announced however

Chair – We can change that

CA – under constitution ESL has a set of criteria,

Ireland – Not really any engagement suggest we move to vote

USA – We are not making any process, three bites at the cherry is absurd, I speak fluent English and will never break, but I don't demand extra opportunities

Women's officer - There are three questions before the council (1) do we waive the constitutional minimum and allow the ESL quarter to take place regardless of the fact there are only 56 teams (2) if we do that do we then waive the EFL opt in requirement

and allow any affected teams to compete in the ESL quarter final (3) The question of continued EFL finals falls to the relevant constitutional discussion to take place later in the agenda.

Netherlands – Turkey said we cannot change the goal posts

Chair – I agree with you totally, not what I was saying, we do have the power

Netherlands – Ireland asked for a motion

Motion: Council would permit the Organising Committee to consider EFL a subcategory of ESL

CA – clarification, would that mean EFL teams count towards the ESL constitutional minimum and allow EFL teams to participate in EFL quarters?

Women's – It's two separate votes – one to suspend the constitution and one dealing with EFL

Counsel to council – procedural question, when a motion is unconstitutional what is the procedure?

Chair – will require a special majority, to waive constitutional provision

Registrar – Would like clarification about this, my job is to point out require majority to repeal constitution

Chair – Art 7 Number 12 quoted

Barbados – Not changing constitution, waiving part of it

Chair – That's what I said at very beginning

Jamaica – I suggest we get to substantive matter at hand, registrar has clearly stated what we need to take into account is the constitutional waiver

Turkey – Can we move to consider EFL a category of ESL?

CA – Does someone want to move that?

Europe – Motion is to consider EFL category to be a subcategory of ESL (therefore there would be ESL quarters?)

Chair – I am asking for an accurately framed motion

Deputy Convener – Write a motion down

Turkey – Constitution is given as main reference in this debate, but EFL is not mentioned

Chair – Clarification, we were asked two years ago when UBC was bidding to have EFL because this is currently an experiment of course there is nothing in the constitution, what was in question is it would be under 80 team cap for ESL

England – I have a problem with defining EFL as subsection of ESL because EFL would be excluded, there were those who registered so as not to exclude themselves as ESL

Registrar – Just because something is happening at worlds doesn't necessarily mean it is in the constitution

Finland – EFL at this competition, is simply a team constitutionally not ESL?

Registrar – Constitutionally you are either registered as ESL or not ESL

Scotland – In the same way that we signed the equity policy, all EFL agreed to be bound by the not being eligible to break in ESL category

CA – This is not as simple a question as simply going back to tab and redrawing rounds, if EFL is considered ESL there are a significant number of teams who didn't register for EFL because they thought they had a shot at ESL – this would involve reregistering, reinterviewing and finding all the affected teams

Malaysia – Sure there is a requirement if there are more than 80, are they specifically banned from holding such a quarter final if there are not 80 teams

Counsel – Art 30 Section 4 Subsection 4 read out

“Where there are, at the commencement of the preliminary rounds, at least 80 teams eligible to compete in the ESL elimination rounds, the highest sixteen ranking ESL teams will participate in the ESL Competition elimination rounds, and shall be ranked from 1st to 16th according to 4a). In any other case, the highest eight ranking ESL teams will participate in the ESL Competition elimination rounds, and shall be ranked from 1st to 8th according to 4a).”

CA – If we held we quarter finals we would be in violation of that part of the constitution

Assumption CA – A report from subcommittee is not part of constitution, turning over that report to the chair does not make it constitutional

Registrar – That’s true

Ireland – Everyone who signed up to EFL opted out of ESL and this council doesn’t have right to overturn individual decisions

Netherlands – No one is talking about changing criteria, first question is do we host ESL quarter finals, EFL what to do with opt out clause if that becomes relevant

CA – Opt out clause is one of the criteria, therefore you are changing them, and the way to make it not constitutional is to make a simple motion to overturn criteria

Equity Officer – Over riding EFL status, here are all ESL student, and all EFL students signed, so no over riding of individual will, no ESL students want to move down to EFL

Europe – EFL is not a part of constitution

Chair – Were you not listening to me when I said that?

Europe – Does not refer to registered to ESL

Registrar – Article 3 (3) read out

- 1. In addition to the Championships, there shall be a final contested between the highest ranked English as a Second Language (ESL) teams after the preliminary rounds*
- 2. The ESL competition will be limited to teams where for both speakers English is not their first language of familiarity. Teams must register before the competition commences as ESL teams to be eligible to compete in the final.*
- 3. The Format of the ESL competition will be the same format as the main championships.*

CA – If you want to go really technical either way, 80 ESL team including or excluding EFL wouldn’t have been met, because they didn’t register prior to commencement of the tournament

Australia – Eligibility as opposed to registration, it is registration, what was the assumption people registered under

Chair – Can’t answer that

Asia – I think they were registering under the assumption that they would have to opt out, like to make a motion that: For the purposes of this competition we rescind the rule that EFL participants are not considered eligible for the ESL final series

IONA / DCA – Clarification needed though

CA – Will council set up a help desk to help us reregister all the affected teams?

Chair – Are you still working on a motion?

2 minute pause given in order for individuals to work out motion

Meeting reconvened at 4.25pm

Counsel to council – Read Article 22 Subsection 8

1. *A list of all ESL teams shall be approved for each worlds tournament at the preliminary meeting of the council held before the tournament begins.*
2. *Consideration of ESL qualification shall be based on 4 criteria:*
 1. *Language used at home*
 2. *Language of Institution*
 3. *National language*
 4. *Does the individuals level of English present a barrier to participation?*
3. *ESL qualification shall be dependent on the ESL status of both members of a team and not the institution represented.*
4. *Individuals who make the knockout stages of the main competition are no longer to be considered for the ESL break in that year and following years unless the council rules otherwise. This applies to the individuals only and not the institution.*

Europe – We did not do that

Germany – We had the list read out and then the desk was to make interviews and determinations

Jamaica – Ladies and Gentlemen of this honourable council we have spent a long time discussing this, it would be a miscarriage of justice to ignore what constitution says and the operation under which UBC have been working

Finland – Patently unfair to org com to make them do this, there have been unfortunately misunderstandings, need to do what Jamaica just said, where consensus is on this, we classify for all future tournaments and delete opt out clause

Chair – I will read motion on the floor

Registrar – not to repeal constitution but rather rule from subcommittee

Motion: To delete section two of the rules so that teams who register for the English as a Foreign Language are eligible for English as a Second Language

Finland – that would take effect for future competitions?

Asia – no for this competition

Convener – Whatever you may think is unfair, we will do whatever we can, problem is not reinserting teams, concern is about which ESL teams registered as ESL to avoid EFL opt out clause

We can swap masters and EFL because otherwise time constraints would make councils miss the EFL final

Germany – Point of clarification, what will happen in regards of ESL and EFL teams moving up?

CA – Unlikely we can track everyone down, I give no guarantees of accuracy

Finland – amendment to motion: add to end of motion to all future tournaments

IONA / DCA – Strictly speaking EFL doesn't exist after this tournament, this motion is not standing, council needs to reconfirm EFL into future competitions, this year was supposed to be the experiment and it clearly hasn't worked

Finland withdraws motion limiting changes to this year

Registrar – What form of voting does this require? This takes place under Constitution Articles 3(3) and 22, which would be violated. It is my job to mention that this will require a special majority

Motion: To repeal section 2 of the rules of the report of the EFL subcommittee: teams who register as English as a Foreign Language may not also register as English as a Second Language. This measure will take effect for the current competition

Proposed: Asia – later changed to Finland

Seconded USA

Thirded Bangladesh

Results of Vote on Hosts for 2009 Championships

Whilst the vote on the motion regarded EFL was being taken the Secretary and Acting Registrar announced the results of the vote taken on the hosts for the 30th World Championships

University College Cork: 44 Votes

University of Botswana: 26 Votes

Chair – Like to go on record and thank the University of Botswana for such an excellent bid. Both of these universities took up on my appeal from the middle of the year when I realised there were be no bids and so I am very grateful do both of them. On behalf of council and the world debate community we do hope Botswana choose to bid again in the future.

Chair's Report

Chair – In discussing the role of EFL and ESL competition, then we would be hardwiring EFL into the competition. There are delegates who would email me during the course of the year to say they disagree with what their representatives did last year, on the flip side I often receive no reply from emails sent out. Country delegates and regional representatives have a real duty to maintain contact. Every year this presents a problem for me. Otherwise there is no institutional memory at all, which becomes problematic.

Bidding has become problematic and finding potential bidders is getting harder. Manila worlds we allotted for 300 teams and had 170 teams turn up so our sponsorship got cut in half. We want this to be a great event but we don't necessarily keep making it the biggest worlds, but the best worlds. Otherwise we won't be able to keep this charge going forward.

Last year this council presented an award to Mr Colm Flynn in recognition of his services to the debate community, especially for his wonderful website which has coined its own verb. Next year I would like to present Mr Ray D'Cruz and Mr Omar Salahuddin with a similar award, and would like to request some time from Assumption to do that during the championship dinner. [there was acquiescence from

the proposed hosts for the 28th Championships). I think these awards are a great way to recognise the work done over a number of years by certain individuals and hope that council will come up with a way to fund them, as La Verne [the Chair's college] has paid for Colm Flynn's award.

The chair recognised the representative of IBA of the University of Dhaka who had addressed pre council

Bangladesh – We are sorry for the confusion that occurred at pre council

Israel – please speak up

IBA Rep – We would like to thank council for giving us a floor, we had just landed here so we didn't necessarily know what was going on. Made a statement – asking that it be clarified as to who is qualified to represent the institution.

Chair – May I speak to that, there is a motion for constitutional review

IBA Rep – Cannot have a blanket solution, rather a set of parameters about how to resolved these issues

Chair – We used to require every institution to bring documentation from registrars to help us police who are real students, They are students of this university studying a full time credit load, towards a degree and thus eligible to represent

IBA Rep – That would deal with this problem. I had one question: Any student from a tertiary institution eligible?

Chair – Any student from a tertiary institution

IBA Rep – N-1 rule I would really appreciate if organisers and the onus is upon them to tell institutions if they are in violation and cannot register anymore.

CA – Firstly that doesn't necessarily go on all four with , there was a page at front of registration which specified I agree to the following terms and conditioned which you were bound by, including N-1. Hosts cannot let you know of every single problem.

Ireland – Have inbuilt into rego that you can't complete rego if you haven't fulfilled N-1.

Singapore – Isn't the penalty not competing but teams cannot break

CA – you are incorrect on the rule, Org Com can stop teams from competing, that's the Australs rule, threat that we would deregister

Thailand – Not an idle threat

Results of EFL Motion

The registrar then read out the results of the following motion.

Motion: To repeal section 2 of the rules of the report of the EFL subcommittee: teams who register as English as a Foreign Language may not also register as English as a Second Language. This measure will take effect for the current competition

Vote was defeated, required 2/3 majority.

Yes: 36

No: 39

Chair – Break will remain as is

Executive Committee Reports

Secretary and Acting Registrar

We come together and have a long and occasionally fruitful discussion on New Year's Day every year because we believe in global debate. One way we could have made this easier is during the course of the year, there are number of email lists

which give opportunities to input. Take advantage of those opportunities. When the bid documents come around for example. Get involved during the year, rather than leaving your input until council.

Women's Officer

Commend UBC on equity policy and competent officer. Women's forum very grateful and commended UBC. One niggly thing – have breakfast and lunch provided at Women's breakfast and lunch – increased resentment among people who were in the queue and got pushed past! Forum was brief and precise – recommendations were constitutional changes. 1) All future tournaments have comm. Member to whom one can report sexual harassment and assault based on any equity designation (gender, race, etc.) 2) Should be constitutional code of conduct – give tournament right to kick people out – a set of principles – code of conduct for any given tournament must meet these principles 3) define the role of the women's officer in constitution

Equity Officer

Statistical analysis of last year's worlds and ESL participation. There were four major problems that came up at developing nations forum

Most the participants feel that it is shocking that in order to debate as EFL you have to opt out of EFL as is evidenced by the petition.

Keep on working on these issues, especially in encouraging new institutions to attend. The forum expressed a desire to rename equity forum as the debate developing forum – so noted for championships next year.

Equity Officer (Org Com) – You are leaving out a whole host of issues relating to debating and equity by changing the name you are implying those issues would be covered in the forum

Equity Officer – I think the forum has a very short time, topics are extremely diverse, not only discussing language, also economic barriers,

Chair – Perhaps a diversity forum and an equity forum

Seconded

Convener – Having sat in both forums, neither forums are comfortable being subsumed within another forum, would not satisfy either forum to add roles, but as there are issues that are not being dealt with you may need a third representative

Ireland – possibility to draw distinction between groups and individuals

Equity Officer (Org Comm) – groups will fight about who gets more time

Chair – How did you want to go ahead?

Ireland – Perhaps publish an agenda, have a forum every day and deal with all the issues.

Regional Representation – The Caribbean

Chair – recognize Jamaica, we have 6 region reps at the moment divided through regional interest, create new group – Latin America and Caribbean, North America representing America, Canada and such. Would you like to speak to that?

Jamaica – There are visa restrictions which prevent people from this region competing in north America competitions, and we are also not eligible. Debating is relatively new to this region and there are specific socio economic aspects relevant to the region. Further the creation of a Caribbean region would bring debating opportunities to other nations who would not otherwise have been served as an America's block and would not be exposed to debating.

Canada – I totally support this, at the moment the representative alternates between AFTA and CUSID and I know nothing about Caribbean debating.

Chair – Could you please contact West Coast occasionally, we get lonely

USA – Padraic got in ahead of me, if we're not even managing to communicate between Canada and AFTA then we are unqualified to represent the Caribbean.

IONA / DCA – We need better reasons, than just differences or difficulties in communicating.

Convener – There is no regional competition in the Pan America region

CA – I agree we need a better standard, the reason I think this satisfies an exception as there is absolutely no contact between USA and the Caribbean.

Barbados – Last year we had a meeting of the Americas and we agreed this would be the best thing to do.

Israel – What are the implications of this?

Chair – One more executive on council, when you do September ratification it's one extra vote, not an additional vote on council

IONA / DCA – I'm in favour for this, but we need better reasons in the minutes, other than the there are differences, key issue are the regional championships

Ireland Moved to vote

Seconded by Canada

Constitutional Motion: That worlds council would recognise the America region splits into two separate regions: (1) North America and (2) Caribbean and Latin America

Passed unanimously

Regional Reports

Europe

We see that Europe is a rapidly growing region, with the biggest growth in the eastern area including such places as Turkey. In order to deal with the issues of communication mentioned by Ian we are about to establish a website which will hopefully facilitate communication.

North America

BP debating is growing well, there are a number of IVs and a rotating championships which was won by a non Canadian team, We congratulate UBC for hosting, particularly in CUSID west, a traditionally non strong BP debating area. The main issue continues to be under representation of women, which we are trying to deal with.

IONA

I know I say this every year but England we're still waiting for our six Irish northern counties back. On a more serious note at the Irish national champs this year finally had a northern Irish team, first time they've been represented since before the troubles began over 30 years ago. Scotland has set up a model for national training. UCD hosted worlds last year, great to have worlds in Ireland / IONA.

Africa

Currently only tournament is South African National Championship only tournament attended by Namibia, Lesotho and Swaziland. In addition there are IVs attended by

only 3 countries. As the African countries represented here, we would like to set up country specific tournaments and increase debating across the continent.

Asia

Debate is alive and well and can support two national championships! The only thing problematic is that despite Indonesia and South Korea's best efforts All Asians and the Asian Championships will overlap. Unfortunately some institutions will have to choose. Australs is returning to Asia after a long hiatus to be hosted by UT Mara, and worlds is at Thailand so hopefully we'll be seeing all of you in Asia in the not too distant future. There are some new countries, not all represented at worlds, Sri Lanka is here, and Taiwan came to the North East Asian championships. Worlds Schools Championships will be taking place in Korea in July.

Oceania

ANU hosted Nationals to great success, one of the largest Australian Nationals (colloquially known as Easters). Australs were hosted by Victoria University Wellington, a great boon for New Zealand debating and were another success. The adjudication team there employed very strict feedback standards including panellists on chairs, chairs on panellists and debaters on chairs which we would like to encourage future hosts to continue, that was also a formal recommendation of Women's forum last year. Women's, a tournament run exclusively for women to encourage female participation in the more confronting style of BP (as opposed to the Australasian style with which every school child in Oceania is familiar), continues to grow every year and was ably hosted by the University of Sydney this year. Under the AIDA constitution, which obviously is not binding upon this competition but might like to be considered by future hosts, is that provisions must be made so that underage participants can attend all social functions but not drink. Perhaps the reason why social events have been under attended is that contingents chose to stay together with their underage individuals and boycott socials where entry is barred to underage participants as a whole. We would like to recommend to future hosts to make provision for this, as in Oceania you often start university as a 17 year old.

Caribbean

Trinidad and Tobago were at Worlds last year but are unfortunately not here, There are a number of countries who have expressed interest in BP style, there is a regional championship which wasn't held this year but will be up and running in spring of the coming year. We would like to expose countries like Suriname to debating as much as possible. Hopefully we will see them in the not so distant future.

Chair – The reason for these reports is to recognise how debating is done around the world, and foster debating throughout the regions and have greater regional support.

Constitution Review

CA – It is now 6pm the EFL final starts in an hour we could try and push the booking back so that everyone can go and watch, but it will push it back into Thai night

Chair – There are three issues for constitutional review: (1) EFL (2) Multiple Institutions / Students (3) Equity Issues

South Asian Region Proposal

Bangladesh – Each year we have South Asian championships, to which Bangladesh sends 5-7 teams there are so many institutions who don't know about BP, so we have starting workshops in India and the southern part of Asia, we would like this split recognised

Chair – Are you asking to create a new region?

IONA / DCA – This is exactly what I was talking about – the two situations are distinct because the Caribbean has no forum to discuss

Assumption Rep – I agree with IONA, I am going to Delhi at my own expense to promote worlds, that is the way to get better representation

Bangladesh – Withdrew the motion

CA – Caribbean is not eligible to compete in American competitions

USA – the circuit has traditionally been hostile to anyone not part of the traditional, the concern for Caribbean teams is both funding and visas, I would hope that in the future all of the region would be welcome at the regional championships

CA – Of the three regional champs, one is already hovering at 300 teams, if you amalgamate regions it becomes larger than worlds

Germany – I propose we cut off this discussion

Chair – Did withdraw his own motion

Constitutional Review (Cont.)

(1) EFL

(1) Multiple Institutions / societies

(3) Code of conduct / equity officer

(1) EFL

Finland – I have spoken to the people most active in the previous discussion, I apologise if I missed anyone, and this is an inflammatory issue so I have a motion to propose

Motion: Council adopt the EFL competition as feature of worlds and authorise registrar to make all effective constitutional changes necessary to do so

Assumption CA – I think the distinction between EFL and ESL is very large, there is no reason to allow, 12 breaking teams from this constituency so we must raise the threshold to 120 teams in the constitution

IONA / DCA – I agree with that sentiment, further we need an actual wording of the constitutional changes

Finland – Both the counsel to council and registrar are of different opinions

India – Point I have to understand teams who have registered as EFL can barely speak English, point of tournament is to teach English or have debate. Why have the category at all? What is objective of tournament?

CA – Not requirement is barely speak English but rather it represents a larger barrier. Motion as tabled is not accurately worded to pass the duty to an actually functioning subcommittee that will deal with all the articles of the constitution affected

Chair – House keeping, if you are not a national delegate sit away from table

Equity Officer (Org Com) – Where would that leave Thailand?

Registrar – Couple of things, currently there is no constitutional requirement for EFL, UBC decided that they would in response to people arguing about whether it was constitutional requirement, we should have a motion to insert EFL into the constitution. It is not appropriate to delegate that level of power to an executive member, despite the fact that I am responsible for the rules. We cannot leave Thailand

in the lurch; we have to tell them what to do. Either mandate them to hold the competition based on the current rules, or the rules made by a subcommittee.

Discussion regarding timing of EFL final

Chair – I came up with right suggestion, you did have quarter finals scheduled, and have rooms booked for that can we move the EFL final to quarter final time reserved.

Japan – No, many people wanted to see EFL less people will come to see them

CA – Everyone here on council would like to see the EFL final

Japan – Surely we can have council tomorrow?

CA – No way we will run council tomorrow

Malaysia – Isn't it phenomenally unfair to teams?

CA – A lot of the best adjudicators we wanted to put on the panel for the debate

Chair – I liken this to the extraordinary circumstance which we had in Singapore, of which you were secretary

Europe – Why not adjourn for 1.5 hours, is it that a big a problem?

Proposed Convenor (Cork) – realistically we are postponing the EFL discussion, which rather affects the participants

Ireland – Can I move that we ask the hosts for this year's world that the EFL final is run at the time allocated for ESL quarter finals

Motion: That the hosts for this year's Worlds run the EFL final at the time allocated for the ESL Quarter Finals

Proposed Ireland, Seconded Canada, Thirded New Zealand

Passed unanimously

EFL Discussions Continued

Ireland – I was going to propose that Council does what it did last year, council asks Thailand to run EFL as a subset of ESL and that in the meantime constitutional amendments are worked out and published 6 months in advance

Asia – Not sure why there is a problem with constitution, there was mass support delete section 2 of the rules and insert into constitution, what are the conflicts with constitution?

CA – Cites various sections as leaving the room

Registrar – This is helpful for once, Kevin walked out shouting the wrong bits of the constitution [Kevin walks back in], the problem we have earlier, what we don't have the moment is there is no mandate from the constitution to run this competition, whilst hosts could run a tiddlywinks competition they are not mandated to do so and the situation is analogous

Equity Officer – Follow Jason's line we can add one clause to Article 22 (8) talking about ESL, adding another clause between clause 8 and 9, just saying EFL have to met all those requirements

Assumption CA – What the rationale beyond removing the opt out clause, the aim of the tournament is to become the world championships, which is the ultimate prize, why should we allow EFL to compete in all three categories, so we have a first, second and third competition?

Finland – There are so many diverse view points around council and having talked to so many people I believe this is the only option that has any chance of passing, Finland is affected only by the ESL question. Withdraw my motion and yield to Asia.

Chair – We will get to that

Australia – It seems clear that Thailand want to host this EFL tournament, there is no immediacy to the constitutional change, the question then becomes the opt out clause, the issue is if you chose EFL we should you be forcibly removed from ESL?

IONA / DCA – Lots of differing opinions on opt out position, position was set this up and see how it goes, due to failure of subcommittee this did not work out as we would have liked, leave opt out out for this year I think we can resolve this with the following motion.

Motion: Council mandates Assumption Worlds 2008 to host an EFL final in accordance with the same guidelines used at UBC worlds with the exception of section two of the subcommittee rules. Council would also mandate the chair of council to appoint a chair of a subcommittee to once and for all resolve the issue of eligibility.

Thailand needs to ask at registration:

- (1) Are you ESL? → satisfies constitutional registration requirements
- (2) Are you EFL?

Europe – I completely support IONA's motion, entire discussion about quarters we could get rid of that if we change the 80 team threshold for ESL quarters

Asia – I need a few minutes

Chair – I'll get back to you

Malaysia – I think Derek's proposal is the solution to this problem, I think that the opt out clause is problematic and developing nations forum voted to get rid of opt out

Proposed CA (Assumption) – Preferably we should just have one tournament, reason is the more tournaments you add, it becomes increasingly tough for org coms to include all these rounds, translates into more stress for org coms, you have 10% of teams in the main break, doesn't make sense to have a huge percentage of a smaller representation of ESL

Equity Officer – What Logan said, unanimous support from ESL / EFL students that they don't want opt out

IONA / DCA – We are never going to get consensus has to be tabled until last year, similarly not going to get consensus on the threshold for quarters however the first question satisfies threshold

Motion: Council mandates Assumption Worlds 2008 to host an EFL final in accordance with the same guidelines used at UBC worlds with the exception of section two of the subcommittee rules.

Proposed by Scotland, Seconded by Ireland

Passed unanimously

Council would also mandate the chair of council to appoint a chair of a subcommittee to once and for all resolve the issue of eligibility.

Asia – That's the second portion of it

IONA / DCA – That's something that will be in the constitution for perpetuity, needs to be more meaningful discussion as some point. Idea worth trying out, didn't work out this year

Ireland – Word it more strongly than that, next year decided EFL yay or nay, draft constitutional amendments to institute EFL

IONA / DCA – That's not job of registrar, to come up with amendments, actually formulated

Registrar – Whether it is me or a subcommittee all anyone can do is to write the proposed changes, I have a second motion which proposes a constitutional amendment which came onto the floor after the motion. Is there an implicit decision not to constitution?

IONA / DCA – We have just passed a motion that mandates Thailand to host an EFL final

Chair – The problem is that we probably won't be able to get consensus again next year

Counsel to Council – it sucks, but its right

Chair – Vote on it

Assumption CA – Why will be in a better position next year?

Ireland – Mandate and then come to decision next year?

Australia – Can we move that we end this discussion because it has stalled
Seconded England, Thirded South Africa

Motion: Council mandates chair of council to appoint a chair to form a committee to discuss and formulate a constitutional amendment to be considered at council next year on the issue of EFL?

Proposed:

Passed unanimously

Chair – The future chair will ask regional reps to nominate individuals to this subcommittee

(2) Multiple Institutions

Withdrawn

Authority of Students to Represent University

Bangladesh – We would like to submit a motion

Participating institutions / teams shall carry a letter of authorisation from the relevant authority which shall clarify the participating debater/ adjudicator as being chosen / selected to represent their university

Chair – If this is a constitutional amendment to which section

Bangladesh – participation of universities, I don't have the constitute

Chair – Read Article 22

Article 22

2. *Competitors who satisfy the requirements of this Article may compete in a team eligible to make the finals series a maximum of four Championships. This provision shall take effect from 6th January 1990.*
3. *During the academic year of the competition, competitors shall represent the institution at which they pursue at least half of their courses toward a particular degree.*
4. *Competitors shall be recognised by their university debating union or equivalent, or in the absence of such a body by the university administration.*

5. *Documented evidence of the participants student status should be received by the host nation prior to commencement of the Championships. Registration shall be considered in complete until such evidence is received.*
6. *Competitors must be enrolled students and must be attending classes or pursuing research in the university which they represent on the last day of term preceding the competition.*

IONA / DCA – Why is this necessary? Much better on the challenge basis, most institutions are here year after year, this is an attempt to deal with IBA / Dhaka issue, but this doesn't do this, rather council determines this issue. Doesn't deal with problem

Chair – Do you still want to move motion?

Bangladesh – IBA has previously competed as independent? Consider for next year independent?

CA – IBA has previously competed as has Dhaka, unaware of a previous incident where you have both competed independently only matters that there is one institution representing Dhaka overall at any given tournament

Bangladesh –2005 MMU Worlds

Registrar – Questions doesn't relate to merits of the motion, we actually have a constitutional set of criteria, there is no magic letter that gets you around compliance with those criteria. Vote on the benefits of this, not about individual institutions.

IONA / DCA – Just because it happened before, council isn't bound by precedent, rather by our decisions, there was oversight. We have already made our decision on IBA and Dhaka clear at pre-council. Propose that current world chair council to appoint Derek Lande to chair a subcommittee

Chair – motion? Derek Lande is appointed by executive mandate to chair a subcommittee.

(3) Equity Issues

Women's – It was decided at the Women's forum that there is a need to have a constitutional code of conduct, or set of principles from which org coms create a mandatory code of conduct

Premature release of results discussion

Barbados – Is Mr Flynn at this tournament? Because looking at website there are results released from the closed rounds and I was wondering if the adjudicator silence for those rounds had broken

CA – That's what is known as a back tab- someone guessing, round by round after break was announced, not been released by org com

Chair – Informal guess work, people can work out at least their round 7 results based on what the other teams in their rooms started the day on.

CA – Some people are obsessive, their names rhyme with Ciarán

Barbados – point I am making is after round 6 persons are not supposed to know point standings, how can any persons be in a position to know their results?

Chair – We can physically go up to people and questions

IONA / DCA – There is conjecture, you can calculate in round 7 based upon which teams you meet, this is conjecture

Barbados – Point of efficiency, already announced UCC as hosts

Chair – There are people in this room sitting on their laptops who are in communication with the outside world

CA – Results were not announced after round 6, but you can calculate based on what teams were on going into the day in round 7.

Barbados – I hope that doesn't violate the silence rule

Women's – When did this come out, if it came out after the break was announced then the rule hasn't been violated?

Barbados – I'll take that

Convenor for Cork – no rule against people guessing

Barbados – Brings into question a number of things in my mind, however no rules have been broken

Chair – Colm Flynn is not officially associated with council however a lot of us use the site, in fact we gave an award for it last year.

Ireland – this is getting ridiculous can we end this discussion

(3) Equity Issues (Continued)

Women's Officer, Oceania and Acting Secretary – There was a unanimous decision made at the Women's forum to propose a mandatory code of conduct for all future tournaments based around a statement of principles inserted into the constitution. Based on my knowledge of how things work around here the proposal was to form a subcommittee and to make a formal constitutional change recommendation at council next year which will make a code of conduct binding upon hosts from the 29th championships on.

Ireland – Are you proposing a code of conduct making it binding upon committees? Does that then not expose committees to liability if someone is discriminated against and the code of conduct is not followed?

Women's Officer – I'm going to cut you off there, that's a matter for the subcommittee

Australia – code of conducts limit liability rather than increase them, further my understanding was that the Organising Committees themselves will be writing the Code of Conduct based on constitutional principles

Women's Officer, Oceania and Acting Secretary – That is the CUSID model, which is what the women's forum agreed to adopt.

CA – explained the CUSID model

USA – I move we appoint a subcommittee

Chair – That's not necessary, I can appoint the chair of a subcommittee as happened before. I hereby appoint Katie Price chair of a subcommittee to deal with a code of conduct.

Women's Officer – The other issue arising from Women's forum was whether or not each future tournament should be mandated to provide an equity officer. The wording for the motion we came up with was: Shall appoint an equity officer who shall be responsible for dealing with issues arising from discrimination relating to gender, race, religion, sexual preference, physical handicap or otherwise

IONA / DCA – Does it need to specify the grounds of discrimination?

Women's Officer, Oceania and Acting Secretary – No, so the motion will stand but without the ground for discrimination. I can't propose a motion, can somebody else?

Motion: Shall appoint an equity officer who shall be responsible for dealing with issues arising from discrimination.

Proposed Australia, seconded England, Thirded by Ireland

Passed unanimously

Germany – I don't have a motion however we acknowledge that this whole thing regarding EFL and ESL has been a very difficult situation, the problem was that no one seemed to be in charge, council were supposed to be in charge but then we arrived and realised that council couldn't necessarily change the status quo, I would ask that for future tournaments it is made abundantly clear who is in charge.

Chair – so noted

Nominations for 2008 World Executive Committee Elections

Chair

Ireland nominated Ian Lising, accepted

Bangladesh seconded

Any other nominations on floor

Asia- I'd like to nominate Logandran Balavigendran

Seconded Germany, Netherlands

Women's – Can Asia actually nominate?

Move nominations be closed

Chair – Each candidate will have one minute to present themselves and their reasons for running

Logandran Balavigendran

Hi everyone my name is Logan, I will be working in Korea from next year my decision to run is very recent. However I have three things to tell you

- (1) firstly I have experience served as secretary for two year
- (2) involved in debate, teach debate in Asia, in 9 separate countries
- (3) believe in notion of diversity in representation, developing issues in Australasian debate

That's all about me. Any questions?

Chair – Any questions? Any comments? Anyone want to speak on his behalf? Good luck to you sir

Ian Lising

This is my 14th world, this is my 5th year as chair of Worlds Council

I work with La Verne which has no affiliation with any other institution or only teach one format of debate, that's all I do with my life. School pays me to go to Worlds every year, I wanted to do this one last year. Wanted to run one last time in order to finalise the documentation on the guide to bidding, and hosting. I promised TJ I would run, and I wanted to run one last time and let people know. I respect Logan's running and I appreciate as the first time I have been run against.

Chair – Would anyone care to speak to that?

Counsel to Council – I really respect Logan, and I think he'd be a brilliant chair after Ian retires. I think Ian has been the most brilliant chair of council. To me Ian is debating, he inspired me to debate, taught me all about judging, I think we'd be crazy to let him go.

CA – Logan, I think you'd make an excellent candidate. I don't think anyone necessarily knows how much work Ian does behind the scenes. At some points we were calling him 8 times a week.

IONA / DCA – I don't think we would have bid had it not been for Ian's help, and institutions who would have never otherwise considered. So much respect for him for that role, at a time when we've had last minute bids, unopposed,

Proposed Convener (Assumption) – We only aware of bidding last year because of Ian, introduced us to get advice, if we did not have that guidance we would not have bid.

Chair – will not entertain people speaking in my favour anymore because I am embarrassed

Vote taken

Ian: 46

Logan: 27

Chair – I would like to thank Logan, this will be my last year. I'll give my swansong then, I was going to ask Logan if he would be the one to fashion the trophies, hopefully WUDC council will come up with a way to pay for those. La Verne currently does so. Thanks for the vote of confidence

Singapore – Can I propose as a transitional measure of a vice chairman ship?

Chair – That is actually registrar's role, for example in Glasgow the chair could not attend and the registrar stepped in and became chair

Registrar

Scotland nominated Neill Harvey Smith

Seconded Ireland, Thirded England

Chair – Are there any other nominees?

Move to close nomination

Moved Ireland, seconded Finland

Chair – It is with great pleasure that I get to thank Neill Harvey Smith for his continued hard work throughout this year and for stepping up to the role of registrar with short notice so well during council this year.

Secretary

Chair – Are there any nominations?

Canada nominated Steve Johnson

Seconded by Finland, Thirded by USA

Australia nominated Katie Price

Seconded England, Thirded Ireland

Bangladesh – We would like to nominate Rajesh Krishnan

Proposed CA (Assumption) – I believe that may be a conflict of interest

CA – Would you like to step down as CA?

IONA / DCA – Kevin wants to do it again

Move to close nominations

Moved by England, Seconded by Malaysia

At this point the registrar took over the minutes, to avoid any conflicts of interests

Steve Johnson – honoured to serve as council – 8th worlds – committed – needs institutional memory – plans to remain involved to end of his career. Canada spoke in his favour, as did Finland, Europe.

Katie Price – worked as court transcriber for 3 yrs – passionate about worlds – run 13 tournaments – go to things outside home region – Euros – important role having minutes. Scotland spoke in her favour, as did Australia, Ireland.

Jo Nairn asked if she was coming – got clarity on eligibility for funding.

Chair – Congratulated Steve Johnson and thanked Katie for stepping into the role at such short notice

The acting secretary resumed taking the minutes

Women's Officer

Chair – Are there any nominations?

Women's Officer – That is a matter for Women's Forum, Julia Bowes from Sydney University stood unopposed, she will be along later so that council get to know her face.

Equity Officer

Chair – Are there any nominations

Japan nominates Masako Suzuki, seconded by Malaysia

Chair – any other nominees on the floor?

Netherlands moved to close nominations, seconded by Lesotho

Chair – I've worked with Masako for a number of years, it is with great thanks we welcome you back to the council.

Chair – With regards to regional reps, each region has their own system to elect regional representations. I would like to note there are many countries that have difficulty when trying to find out those how those selections take place and the results of such selections. For purposes of next year's records, there are people who did drop off the records such as South Africa and it is very difficult to determine a paper trail in order to determine who the representatives are. Please have a chat to your representatives and ensure who will be performing the role next year. Please give registrar ample notice of your role if it changes. Do people need time to do that now? Five minute break to do so.

Meeting Adjourned.

Recommenced 19:39

Chair – Let's go through the regions

IONA – Jenni Harrison from Dundee Scotland

Europe – Lars

Chair – will be in charge of contacting Neill when that changes, in the same way that you contacted the registrar when you were appointed to the role

North America – Mark Samburg

Asia – Same, Jason Jarvis

Africa – Ame Zachariah

Oceania – explained AIDA process, will notify registrar when those elections take place in July

Caribbean – not present

CA – It's a joke Ian

Chair – That's official then. The organising committee of this tournament has checked the four year rule and to their knowledge there is no violation of the four year rule.

CA – We checked the break

Chair – Every year it is a challenge to sit through these meetings, they are sometimes hostile, often through necessity; however it is important to remember that one of the great pleasures of Worlds is having friends for a long time and that any hostility should not leave this room. Thank you all for your attendance and for your commitment to global debating.

Meeting called to a close at 7:43pm to rapturous applause.