

## **St Hugh's JCR Committee Meeting Minutes**

Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2017, Week 5 TT17, JCR Committee Room

- 1. Rep's Updates**
- 2. Matters Arising from Updates**
- 3. Matters Arising from Last Meeting's Minutes**
- 4. Items for Discussion**
- 5. Any Other Business**

### **1. Rep's Update:**

President – Ana Pavlova:

- Meeting with Thea re academic feedback;
- Meeting with the Dean and with Sol to discuss the rest of term;
- Attended Governing Body;
- Met with bursar 3 times this week;
- Welfare situation ongoing;
- Wolfson Design Review Panel meeting. The project is on hiatus until July, because of a funding issue, but it could be postponed longer depending on how the project develops. I can't tell you any more as the reasons are confidential.
- Sent weekly notices email;
- Worked on infrastructure committee paper with Theo to present his point about having flags raised for the national days of the four UK nations;
- Worked on academic committee paper.

Vice-President – Ed Piggott:

- Finished and sent off room ballot;
- Doing Hall feedback box from Monday onwards, as Karl and I will be looking into a better solution for meat-free Mondays etc.;
- Accommodation focus group being put together;
- Waiting for Magdalena to confirm some specific questions etc.

Secretary – Curtis Crowley:

- Wrote the minutes for last week's meetings;
- Invited the OxWAb candidates to the JCR after Monday's hustings, received just one confirmation from Layla Moran, will encourage people to come to both events;
- Encouraged people to 'pledge to reg';
- Unable to attend this week's OUSU Council, could someone please go in my stead?  
*Cameron might be able to.*

Treasurer – James Brown:

- Built the table football with Hannah Taylor and paid some invoices.

AccAff – Sophie Roche:

- Sent out a survey for late collections (only 14 this time), and forwarded the list to Thea.
- One late collection was for a finalist with exams this week! I sent this ahead of the other responses before the Thursday deadline to get that sorted asap.

Compiled by the JCR Secretary

- School tours coming up.

Welfare and Equal Opportunities – Rosie Tabor and Cameron East:

- Finalised Welfare Week, have many events planned including an event to bring in the new board games, as suggested by Tati, if people can advertise these as much as possible or help out at all it will be very much appreciated.
- The Disabilities Reps are in communication with LMH to try to borrow their pugs for the day.
- We went to Time to Talk on Saturday, the new mental health support group. It felt really safe, positive and awesome.
- We now have LOADS of condoms from OUSU but unfortunately, they are not Durex, not sure if we should do a post letting people know? We googled the effectiveness of the new brand and it has top reviews.

International Students' Rep – Tatjana Marks:

- Held international cooking night, the last event of term.

LGBTQ Rep – Elise Page:

- Nothing to report.

Entz Reps – James Atkey and Nathan Peters:

- Nothing to report.

Charities & Communities Rep – Hannah Taylor:

- Held first RAG Ball committee meeting.
- The theme is going to be Narnia.
- It will be Friday of 6<sup>th</sup> week Michaelmas term.

Environment & Ethics Rep – Ben Jones:

- Nothing to report.

Sports and Societies Rep – Harry Thomas:

- Need to sort out the sports cupboard soon;
- Someone asked about starting up a society but they didn't say what (I told them about the webpage and Karen Peake).

Careers Officer – Olayemi Eso:

- Working on the Pathways document and making contacts with people who wouldn't mind having a profile written about them in it;
- Working with the development office to establish links as I don't have direct contact myself.

DODO – Hannah Choi:

- Sorted Netflix
  - Ex-DoDO's payment card has been removed. From now on we'll pay using gift cards

- We're on the basic streaming plan (£5.99 per month)
- Discussed with Careers Officer (Yemi) how best to disseminate alumni spreadsheet
  - Will talk to college about partitioning off a section of the JCR website which requires logging in with your SSO

Freshers' Rep – Theo Davies-Lewis:

- Organised Ashmolean activities for the week;
- Organised meeting with senior college staff;
- Worked on the Freshers' Week schedule with college members.

## **2. Matters Arising from Updates**

## **3. Matters Arising from Last Meeting's Minutes**

### **4. Items for Discussion**

#### Academic feedback and subject review groups

Ana: Thea agrees we do need to have something like this in place. It would be short, with your name, subject, year, tutorial, module, plus tutor's name, and a feedback box which prompts you to think about certain things. Names would not be passed on to tutors. They want to give feedback to the tutors. I suggested the college office produce a general report on what people have said. College agrees that qualitative feedback would be better. I asked for AccAff to have access to the feedback, to hold college to account. Thea said that the college office would hold college to account anyway, and some students might not be comfortable if the AccAff had access. Other colleges have subject review groups, where the whole year group per subject meets with the AccAff, which can be really useful, as the AccAff would then have a good idea of what goes into the feedback form, and might even give them even more information. This is a potential alternative to keep the AccAff informed. The AccAff would be able to choose how many meetings to have each term, they could be short, and might just do a couple of subjects each year.

Harry: Most tutors would still get reviewed eventually, since they are often here for more than one year.

James: It's not really fair if your subject doesn't get a chance to give feedback one year.

Ana: The numbers are just an example.

Nathan: I'm not sure how much engagement from the students there would be. Ben Peacock (the previous AccAff) tried to get students in each subject in each year to confirm they had received their collections back. Even that was unachievable.

Ana: A feedback session with more than one person might seem more worthwhile than complaining about collections not coming back, because lots of people will just wait for their collections.

Cameron: What if people just asked the AccAff for a meeting to discuss their tutorials if they were having problems?

James: The AccAff should still have access to the report.

Sophie: It would be doubling the work if I were just getting the same information that people would provide in the report anyway.

James: I don't see how it's bad for college for the AccAff to have access.

Ana: I think college just felt uncomfortable about a fellow student (the AccAff) being able to

see what JCR members are complaining about, because it's quite a private.

Tatjana and Harry: You could have some kind of setup where those filling out the feedback form chose whether the AccAff sees their feedback or not.

Ana: This might be enough to bring college around.

Hannah Taylor: I think college might be scared about us having that much information, and being able to hold them to account for not following up on feedback, potentially year after year.

Ana: No other colleges seems to allow joint access to college and the JCR committee to the same form.

Curtis: Would be worth the AccAff having access to the feedback even without knowing any of the names of the individuals who gave it.

Ana: College would like this survey up permanently over the course of the year, but with termly reminders from the AccAff. They also mentioned a more general survey, about food, accommodation, the library etc. I thought this would work best at the end of each year.

## **5. Any Other Business**

James reminds people of their remaining budgets.

The Welfare Reps have found some alpaca onesies which they are going to buy.

There is discussion re conferences being booked during exam season and causing a lot of disturbance and stress for students trying to revise. These were the key points:

- College needs to know how upset and stressed people were, and the impact it had on their ability to work and .
- The JCR needs to know what we can do in such situations.
- The contract to book a conference should include a clause about keeping noise levels down to an acceptable level so that students can still study, if they are to be allowed at all during Trinity term.
- The noise might be affecting college's neighbours too.

Ana will organise a meeting with the Conferences team and ask about the current contracts, what powers there are to ask noisy conferences to quieten down, and who is able to do that, and will stress that it's really not acceptable for noisy conferences to take place when we have an Entz ban and there's a lot of exam stress.

Committee votes unanimously to lend £200 to the RAG Ball Committee, so that they can prepare for their event next term.