

JCSU Executive Committee-Elect Meeting - Minutes

Held 17th December 2023 at 5pm on Microsoft Teams

<u>Present</u> <u>Absent</u>

Adi Mishra, AM (President)
Kieran Leete, KL (Vice-President)
Dom Swift, DS (Treasurer)
Anna Putland, AP (Secretary)
George Dickenson, GD (Comms Officer)
Devavrat Verma, DV (International Officer)
Ewan Cornwall, EC (Freshers' Officer)
Muzammal Mushtaq, MM (Access Officer)
Abena Appiah, AA (Ents Officer)
Becca Juman, RJ (Ents Officer)
Tara Buxton, TB (Women's and Non-Binary Officer)
Sarah Marsh, SM (LGBTQ+ Officer)
Leah Neves Gomes, LNG (Services Officer)
Belle Richmond, BR (Female and Non-Binary Welfare Officer)

Shams Ullah, SU (Ethnic and Religious Minorities Officer) Edith Stewart, ES (Environmental and Ethical Affairs Officer) Jenni Buss, JB (Freshers' Officer)

Meeting opened at: 17:03

Administrative Matters

1.0. Apologies

Apologies received from SU, ES, JB.

President's Notices

2.0. General Admin

- **Handovers**: AM asked the members present whether they had received handovers from their predecessors. It is assumed that everyone has as no-one said otherwise.
- **Task List**: AM also requested that, if they hadn't already done so, members should update the task list on Messenger to include their policies. (AP 2.1)
- **Events**: AM said that all officers, organising events for next term, need to book spaces in College. (AP 2.2)

- Refreshers week

- EC said that good progress had been made with organising this. There is going to be a Superbop and an ADC Theatre trip. 7 colleges have already signed up for the Superbop, and he said that he is hoping 3-4 more will. Payment for both events is due to happen later this week. Within college, EC & JB are working to compile a provisional timetable of events. Once this is finalised, rooms will be booked.
- KL recommended organising an Instagram takeover on the JCSU page.

Ents timetable

- AA said that she was meeting up with BJ later this week to finalise next term's timetable.
- AM explained that Danny (Bar Manager) was keen to organise a meeting with the Ents Officers to discuss the events planned in JBar throughout Lent term. As such, he requested that AA & BJ schedule the meeting for as soon as they return to Jesus. (AP 2.3)
- KL added that AA & BJ needed to think about arranging stewards for Bops last year offering nice t-shirts provided a good incentive. He recommended that once the term card was finalised, AA & BJ should restart the Friday Night Jesus Instagram.
- He also shared that Stuart (Domestic Bursar) suggested we should try to better publicise events that we organise. For example, very few people go to the live music events which are organised by the JCMS and currently held in JBar on Saturday evenings; they are not aware that they are taking place. Further, KL said that various sporting events will be streamed from JBar. He suggested working with various sporting captains to encourage better turnout.
- AM asked AA & BJ to make a timetable detailing the sporting events that will be shown in JBar so that it can be published to the JCSU Instagram, Friday Night Jesus Instagram & the Facebook page. (AP 2.4)

- International Women's Week

- TB said that she had arranged for a yoga instructor to come in.
- TB said she had reached out to college to organise a formal as well. She is yet to receive a response; KL recommended visiting the Conferencing Office upon returning to Jesus.
- TB also said that she was trying to organise one big guest speaker talk for this term. She explained that she felt one external speaker was enough given there would be other events hosted throughout the week, and FemSoc would also be on. She has contacted Zadie Smith and is awaiting a reply.
- Finally, TB said that she was working with SM to hold a joint event between FemSoc & LGBTQ+ Soc. This is likely to be a film night.

- LGBTQ+

• SM said that she was still brainstorming ideas for weekly LGBTQ+ events.

- ERM
 - DV said that SU and himself had planned a board game & food event for Refreshers week, but they still needed to fix a date and book a room.

3.0. Committees

- AM explained there were spaces on a number of committees, namely: the Community; Creative Practice; IF; Equality, Diversity & Inclusion; Safeguarding & Prevent. It was discussed who would sit on each one.
- AM explained that the JCSU boycotts the latter part of the Safeguarding & Prevent Committee. This is because evidence exists to show that the Prevent initiative leads to an increasing tendency towards islamophobia & racism. He said the JCSU have been approached about doing more about this, and will consider the matter.

4.0. JBar Reform: decorations and prices

- AM said that Danny (Bar Manager) is looking to review the prices of various college bars and also reduce the cost of drinks at JBar. Danny has booked an appointment with a supplier to see if installing a soft drink spray gun is feasible.
- AM said that given the redecoration of J-Bar is a big task, it is necessary to create a team to support AA & BJ. DS, KL, GD, SM & LNG volunteered.
- KL thought this seemed to be a good number of people, and an appropriately sized team. He added that Stuart (Domestic Bursar) wanted us to adopt a focused approach which aimed to achieve a particular vibe e.g., pub, retro, modern... KL also said that the things added should be permanent fixtures which can be covered easily when JBar is being used for conferencing events.
- KL & AM said that college seemed willing to contribute to the redecoration but were unsure what this will entail.
- AM said that it is therefore likely part of the funding will fall on the JCSU. He added that he wasn't sure the neon rooster sign was worth pursuing given that it is £800 in total, and many decorations will need purchasing to cover the walls.
- DS suggested talking to the MCR about contributing to the project as many postgraduate students use JBar frequently, and it is likely they are experiencing similar levels of dissatisfaction with the space.
- AM said that a separate meeting could be organised for the JBar Taskforce to discuss this further.

5.0. Prescription reimbursement policy

- AM said that KL and himself have had preliminary discussions with someone from college about trialling a prescription reimbursement policy. The idea is that the JCSU would reimburse students for the costs of their prescriptions. Following the trial, the results (including popularity/uptake of the scheme) would be taken to college to have it permanently funded. However, the finer details of how the scheme would operate still need working out.

- There are two main objections to the policy: (1) it is not clear whether it will solve some of the biggest problems that students are facing, and (2) it may result in giving money to people who don't need it.
- Whilst acknowledging these points, DS felt that it was something substantive which the JCSU could implement to potentially alleviate stress on people who become ill or need regular medication. He also said that the policy had worked well at Christ's. He agreed to speak to the CSU President to find out more about it. (AP 5.1)
- SM suggested that it may be worth comparing to the gender expression fund which can also be used to finance prescriptions. She said that this is advertised as having a cap per student.
- From a practical perspective, AM said that we may be unable to implement the trial at the start of Lent term. It was decided that we will wait until DS has talked to Fergus & then discuss this further.

<u>Treasurer</u>

6.0. Update on officer budgets

- DS provided an outline of the state of each officer's budget. DS agreed to circulate the figures in full (AP 6.1)
- DS also said that, currently, it is difficult to keep track of what has been spent. He will work with GD to devise an efficient solution to this problem, whilst ensuring that the information is protected. (AP 6.2)
- DS also said there was currently an issue with reimbursement. He didn't feel that it was sustainable, or fair, to require people to pay extraordinarily large sums (such as those currently faced in organising Freshers' week events) out of their own pockets, only to be reimbursed retrospectively. He said he would talk to college more about this.
- TB asked what the current process for reimbursement was. DS explained that you need to fill in the Google Form on Facebook. This involves inputting your name, bank details & proof of purchase (often an itemised receipt).

Comms Officer

7.0. New Jommittee introduction stuff

- GD asked that all members send him a suitable photo of themselves with an accompanying bio for the JCSU website. (AP 7.1) He asked that these be sent as soon as possible. AM added that it would be good to replace these photos with red jumper photos next term to make the website look more professional.
- AM suggested that he & GD should work together to devise a set of criteria for what should be included on JCSU Announcements channel & Facebook page respectively. (AP 7.2)
- DS said that the announcements page was introduced to (1) provide a last-minute reminder that specific events are taking place e.g., Welfare Wednesdays, and (2) reduce the number of messages clogging up the Committee chat. He also requested that everyone send him their phone numbers so that they can be added as Admins. (AP 7.3)

8.0 - Any Other Business [AOB]

- Instagram: DS said that he would change the JCSU Instagram password and give everyone access to the account. (AP 8.1)

Meeting closed at: 18:02

The next meeting will be held in the New Year, before the start of next term. Date and time are to be confirmed.

Note: This meeting does not constitute a formal JCSU meeting and is not empowered to act with the authority outlined in the Constitution, and positions adopted may be affirmed as needed at the first formal meeting in the new term. For the avoidance of doubt, per Constitution Article 7, the 2023/4 Committee technically takes office on Tuesday 17th January 2024, but Officers-elect may begin work immediately (and a de facto handover occurs on January 1st). Only the execution of Constitutional powers by the Committee itself is restricted.

Action Points

| Action | <u>Description</u> | Assigned to |
|---------|--|---|
| AP 2.1 | Update task-list to include policies. | All Committee Members |
| AP 2.2 | Book venues in College for events. | Committee Members organising events |
| AP 2.3 | Organise a meeting with Danny for the beginning of Lent term to share plans for events. | AA & BJ |
| AP 2.4 | Create a timetable detailing the sporting events due to be streamed from J-Bar. | AA & BJ |
| AP 5.1 | Find out more about the details of the prescription reimbursement policy from CSU President. | DS |
| AP 6.1 | Circulate current JCSU budgets to JCSU members. | DS |
| A.P 6.2 | Devise a way of viewing current budgets more efficiently in the future. | DS & GD |
| AP 7.1 | Send GD suitable individual photos & bios to be added to the JCSU website. | All Committee Members |
| AP 7.2 | Devise a set of criteria for what should be included on the JCSU announcements channel & Facebook page respectively. | GD & AM |
| AP 7.3 | Send DS your phone number to be added as an Admin to the Community WhatsApp page. | All Committee Members |
| AP 8.1 | Change the JCSU Instagram password. | DS |