

# JCSU COMMITTEE

Minutes of a meeting of the JCSU Committee held on Tuesday 3rd February 2015 at 7.30pm in the Library Court Seminar Room.

**Present:** the President (Amatey Doku), the Vice-President (Ruby Stewart-Liberty), the Treasurer (Christina Lane), the Secretary (Freddie Valletta), the Services Officer (Aiden Goulden), the Communications Officer (Caroline Sharp), the Access Officer (Tom Hogg), the Green Officer (Tansy Branscombe), an Ents Officer (Amelia Oakley), the Male Welfare Officer (Ben Simpson), the Female Welfare Officer (Daisy Eyre), the Mental Health and Disabilities Officer (Harrison Packer), the Women's Officer (Eleanor Kashouris) and the Racial Equalities Officer (Nadine Batchelor-Hunt).

**Absent:** an Ents Officer (Xanthe Fuller), the International Officer (Marina Mayer) and the LGBT+ Officer (Anthony Wheeler).

## 1. Committee reports of actions since handover

AD – attended Constitutional review meeting, emailed MCR President to discuss Constitution, seeing Richard Dennis to get Constitution approval, will sort out Standing Orders review meeting soon, attended a meeting regarding West Court meeting – details to be released soon.

RSL – attended Constitutional review meeting, ordered JCSU stash and stash for US exchange, sorting out halfway hall – menus, Facebook page, entertainment, bop etc.

CL – attended Constitutional review meeting, met the Finance Office over discrepancies in the budget which was sorted.

FV – organised and attended Constitutional review meeting, ran bar quiz, organised JCSU meeting.

AG – attended Constitutional review meeting, chased up with the library about an issue with the heating – getting sorted, making sure people use JNet for fault reports rather than him, sorting out ballot, attending a meeting with Tutorial Office about a student complaint with the ballot, spoken to the Domestic Bursar about showing plans for West Court to the college, attended a meeting with AO & XF to help organise a pub/bar crawl.

CS – attended Constitutional review meeting, administrating the JCSU social media pages, sent out the bulletin, approving emails to the JCSU mailing list, updated the international student mailing list.

TH – attended Constitutional review meeting, two thirds of the way through helping out with the CUSU Shadowing Scheme, met with the Access and Schools' Liaison Committee to discuss admissions statistics.

TB – put a plastic bag recycling bin in the Marshall Room, organised stickers and Fairtrade roses for Valentine's Day, attended a Green Impact meeting, liaised with the MCR Green Officer over green issues.

XF & AO – organised and put on a very successful open mic night, attended a meeting with AG in order to organise a bar/pub crawl, maintaining good relations with Duncan the barman.

BS – promoting Peer 2 Peer, held a drop in session.

DE – met the Housing and Cleaning Departments about putting sanitary bins in all student bathrooms which was approved, held a drop in session.

HP – sent out second fortnightly focus email, applied to become the Student Minds charity rep for college, organising Time to Talk Day (Thursday 5th February) and will send email.

MM (reported by HP) – updated the international student mailing list, organised an international formal swap with Murray Edwards (Friday 6th February) and a return formal swap with Downing.

EK – sorted out performers for the Womens' dinner, start sanitary item 'protest'.

NBH – met Domestic Bursar about organising ethnic food in caff on one day in the week as well as ethnic food formals.

## 2. Matters arising

### (a) JCSU Enterprise account

CL explained that the JCSU Enterprise account is used to buy things that will get a return as it needs to be kept

at roughly the same level (around £12,000 at the moment). This includes gowns (£1,500 profit last year), alcohol for the JCSU Garden Party and certain things for Halfway Hall. It is also used to buy stash (including JCSU stash) before repayment by college members however a profit is not made on these items. The account has more flexibility than other accounts as can be controlled online, doesn't need to be controlled by the JCSU Senior Treasurer and it can be used to purchase alcohol.

**(b) Frequency of OGMs**

NBH reported that some members of college had expressed a wish for more OGMs which would lead to the student body having a greater awareness of what the JCSU get up to. HP had the idea that CS could put a link to the minutes or attach them to the weekly bulletin. AG said if there was enough interest in having more than one OGM a term for college members to express their views, they can demand them. AG also reported that there's a feedback form on the JCSU website for people to make requests and will sort out advertising it with CS.

AD suggested Wednesday 25th February as a provisional date for the next OGM and advised FV to advertise it 6 days in advance as set out by the Constitution.

**(c) JCSU Facebook page**

RSL reported that there have recently been complaints about a post on the 'Official JCSU Freshers' Facebook page and wondered if there could be some sort of moderation for the group. CS said that due to the large amount of posts on the page, it would be too difficult for CS and AD (group admins) to moderate each post separately. TB suggested that there could be a disclaimer in the group description stating this. AD said that we need to make sure that people talk to each other to make sure potentially offensive posts and emails too get taken down or deleted.

**(d) Mentoring scheme**

TH reported on a new mentoring scheme devised by the Schools' Liaison Officer. Last year everyone who missed offer was from low performing state schools. The idea is that Jesus College ambassadors mentor (not academically, but with revision and time management tips and motivation) those students after they receive their offers from Cambridge. Some students may have doubts whether they want to attend Cambridge even with an offer. This could be due to the fact that they think people aren't normal at Cambridge or they may have had no one from their school accepted into Oxbridge before. This scheme would be open to ambassadors first who will go through necessary training.

The views of the committee were that it was a good idea however there were some concerns that it could lead to added pressure on offer holders, it may reinforce the offer holder that they would miss their offer or that it could be a bit patronising. HP suggested that the scheme could be 'opt in' for the offer holder. The mentor could send the email offering the service and the offer holder could use the scheme as they saw fit. The mentors would need to be trained not to over bombard the offer holder with emails, but instead be a point of contact if they needed help or advice.

TH said he would report back to the SLO on his findings.

**(e) Access/outreach programs**

TH reported that the Aspire Society (who aim to level the playing field within private and state schools) imply that people will have to pay money for course which the Access and Schools' Liaison Committee doesn't advise. He urges people that if they do want to get involved in access they should talk to him or the Schools' Liaison Officer, not societies which you have to pay for.

TH also reported that he has been contacted by two projects (Teach First and Limitless) who aim to recruit

students and help improve access at Cambridge University.

### **3. Any other business**

#### **(a) Caff feedback**

NBH reported that the Domestic Bursar wants as much feedback about caff food as possible as he was shocked how some people hadn't expressed their views on certain things (size of vegetarian main portions for example). It was also reported that the caff staff were happy to trial new things. AG said that there was a link on JNet for caff feedback and will advertise it soon.

#### **(b) Pink Week**

NBH reported that the college is fully supportive of Pink Week (for breast cancer awareness, 27th February to 6th March). This would include a pink formal (with pink food), pink food in caff and a pink drink and collection box in the bar.

#### **(c) Annual survey**

AD reported that him and RSL would be attending a meeting with the Tutorial Office about using the Survey Monkey account for the annual survey. They will report back and then the updating of the old survey can begin. He will send out an email to the committee soon asking for content updates.

#### **(d) JCSU drinks**

AD informed the JCSU committee that they had been invited to drinks with the Chaplain on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> February at 9.30pm in D1.

AD thanked the members of the committee for a very helpful and successful meeting. The meeting closed at 8.30pm.