

Minutes – 5th March 2017

Apologetic:

- Alisha Levermore
- Charlie Jonas
- Georgia Gridley

Unapologetic

- Isabel Cocker

1. Meeting room

- We are trialling the Wilson Court Common Room as a meeting room for a few weeks, as the JCR can be slightly noisy
- *Actions to be taken:*
 - o **Any JCR members** who have feedback on the meeting room should report to **Carl**

2. Executive and Officer Updates

Women's Officer

- Busy preparing for the Women's Dinner this Tuesday
 - o Several female alumni, including some from Fitz's first intake of women, will be attending
 - o Created profiles of female alumni who have done interesting things after graduation
 - o Organised free predrinks

Vice President

- Houses ballot was today
 - o One house of nine and one house of five are still unfilled
- Last year, a "shadow ballot" was organised
 - o Open spreadsheet where individuals express which corridors they would like to choose, so that everyone can see where the people above them in the ballot would like to go
- *Actions to be taken:*
 - o **Katie** will talk to **Charlie** to set up the shadow ballot
 - o **Any JCR members** who have anything they would like raised at Gym Committee on Friday should message **Katie**

Green Officer

- Attended an environmental meeting with Ramnik
- Asked the JCR committee whether there would be interest in having a beehive in college, potentially behind the library
 - o Some concerns about safety raised, however safety checks will be carried out before a final decision is made
 - o The JCR is unanimously in favour
- *Actions to be taken:*
 - o **Charlotte** will carry this forward

Academic Affairs Executive

- Attended library and education committees
- A survey from the library will be going out to college to determine whether the library should invest in more laptop stands, beanbags, blankets, and blackboards

Secretary

- Organising JCR swap with either Sidney, Downing, or Trinity, based on poll results
- *Actions to be taken*
 - o Carl will speak to his contacts at Trinity
 - o If any JCR members know anyone on the Downing JCR, they should message Tara. Otherwise, Tara will send an email to the Downing Secretary to see if a swap can be organised

Target and Access Executive

- Still trying to sort out a social media account

LGBT+ Officer

- Successful LGBT+ formal
 - o 107 people were in attendance
 - o The Fitz communications office publicised the formal on their Instagram
- Continuing to reach out to other colleges:
 - o Coordinating with the Churchill representatives to organise an event this Saturday
 - o Also coordinating with Churchill to set up a system for next year that allows LGBT+ people at both colleges to get to know each other better
- Will be meeting with Paul to discuss displaying the LGBT+ flag on a flagpole next year

Ethnic Minorities Officer

- Forwarded a survey about racial harassment/racism around the university to students

Ethical Affairs Executive

- Discussed the possibility of recycling after ents events
- Documentary film night had a low turnout; therefore, will re-evaluate whether or not to continue holding them
- Fairtrade formal and wine-tasting is on Wednesday, with the Head of Campaigns at FairTrade guest speaking
- *Actions to be taken*
 - o The ents committee will get in touch with the Housekeeping Manager to get recycling bags

Charities Officer

- Jimmy's Cambridge has been chosen as the Fitz charity
- Organising food bank collections

Welfare Executives

- Working on organising Easter term events
- Have booked massages

Treasurer

- Finalised budget

- We still have to pay the bar extension and have therefore reduced the number of JCR bops from 13 to 8
- It has been sent for approval and we will hopefully hear back soon

International Officer

- The Head Porter has said that students from Scotland and Wales will not be entitled to international storage, however he is open to reviewing individual cases

3. Stewarding review

- Carl had a meeting with the Bar Manager, the Catering Manager and the Head Porter, who have agreed to reduce the number of stewards to four
 - The DJ will be considered a steward, but will also have to do stewarding duties
- Stewards will be identifiable through sashes and are not allowed to drink alcohol
- Implemented on a trial basis, however as the next JCR bop is in Fresher's Week, the MCR will trial the reduced number of stewards on our behalf

4. Kitchen standards review

- There is currently conflict between the duty managers and students about kitchen standards
 - Students argue that kitchens are a living area, but housekeeping needs to be able to clean the kitchens
- *Actions to be taken:*
 - **Carl** will draw up draft guidelines on how kitchens should be maintained

5. CUSU agenda

- The CUSU committee has roughly GBP5000 to allocate as "free budget" to anyone who requests it
 - Nightline, previously known as Linkline, has asked for an as-of-yet undisclosed amount to replace all of their previously branded material to achieve brand parity with other Nightline branches at other universities
 - Now known as £1000
 - Free budget isn't often used otherwise
 - The JCR has no objections
- Motion to submit name-blind UCAS admissions motion at the NSS conference
 - Other university unions have intended to take this forward
 - The JCR has no objections and is in favour

6. CUSU President manifestos

Jack Drury

- No teaching time on Wednesday
 - We believe this is unlikely to come to pass
- Oppose institutional blindness degrees

- Advocacy committee: autonomous campaigns have a louder voice
 - o We are unsure of how this will actually be achieved
- Work with JCRs to craft sexual assault and harassment policies
 - o We are unsure whether this is appropriate, as it is not the JCRs position to give advice on what is essentially a very sensitive and personalised issue
 - o Women's officers can be a first point of contact, but it should not be on student's shoulders to respond
- 45 hour policy: reporting on everything he does in the week
 - o CUSU Sabbs always do 48 hours, and what they do is always reported at CUSU council
 - o We believe this is pointless

Keir Murrison

- Was the President of Student Minds Cambridge
- Aims to end the "Week 5 Blues" stereotype
- Wants to equalise experiences of students at different colleges through compulsory welfare training and equalising intermission support + policies
- Wants additional platforms for students to contact CUSU, potentially through online questions services, and wants to gauge opinion on accommodation, term length, and workload
 - o Unlikely to be able to change term length
 - o Accommodation issues are in the hands of individual college bursars
 - Unclear what it is about accommodation that he'd actually like to change
- Wants to improve CUSU publicity and transparency through posters, social media events and open meetings
 - o Wants to have physical presence in colleges
- Wants to help prevent imposter's syndrome through open workshops during Lent to facilitate open discussion of issues

Daisy Eyre

- Jesus College Student Union president
- Is on CUSU's restructuring committee: rewrote standing orders and constitution, and therefore already knows nitty-gritty of CUSU
- Wants to increase access by conducting own research into admissions rates for poorest students based on free school meals eligibility
 - o We think this is a good idea, although we are unsure of how effective it will be
- Wants to improve mental health at Cambridge
- Wants to bring up the issue of workload with the university on the basis that in last year's NSS survey, only 44% of students thought the workload was manageable
- Is essentially a typical left wing advocate claiming that they will affect everything. It seems to Carl that CUSU would regress from the very positive choice changes from Amatey.

Actions to be taken:

- **Carl** will attend hustings

7. JCR Elections

- Third years have recently been allowed to join the JCR, which means that in Michaelmas, there will have to be by-elections
 - We could do elections in Easter term instead, but it may not be effective due to exams
- Suggested that we elect in 'deputies' who can take over the role after the third year graduates, however we would need people to come forward
- We still do not have a disabled officer, and therefore should continue to attempt to convince people to run for the role.