

MCR Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting held at 6pm on the 15th May in the Eleanor Plumer House Common Room.

Present: Laura Ludtke, Alex Lewis, Eamonn Maguire, Dominic Davies, Rhyannon Bartlett-Imadegawa, Samantha Seiter, Octavia Cox, Julia Tanner, James Searle

Partially Present: Christine Okoth, Kevin Busch, Edward Hicks, Zoe Sparrowhawk

Apologies: Jack Prescott, Eva-Maria Risse, Hafsa Zayyan, Jennifer Lim, Ziyaad Bhorat, Rebecca McKavanagh, Zuliang Hong

6 a) Use of EPH Computer Room for students sitting collection exams

- It was decided to tackle Item 6 a) of the agenda first, so that Ms Sparrowhawk could present the item without having to attend the rest of the meeting.
- Ms Sparrowhawk explained that the JCR computer room was proving too cramped to use for students taking collections, and asked if the EPH computer room could be used for 6 days a year for this purpose. In return, the MCR would have use of the JCR computers on those days, 8 new computers would be installed in the EPH computer room and the possibility of moving the current EPH computers into RSH would be raised.
- Attention was drawn to the need to ensure that both residents and those taking the collections were aware of the need to keep quiet on those days, and to ensure that the collections did not affect any freshers' week events.
- A motion was raised suggesting that the Committee allow the EPH computer room to be used on the above terms, conditional upon there being no complaints from MCR members about the prospect in the meantime. The motion was raised by Ms Seiter and seconded by Mr Lewis, and duly passed.

1. Consideration of Agenda and Approval of Minutes of Last Meeting

- Ms Ludtke noted Mr Maguire's excellent work uploading previous minutes to the MCR website.
- Further to her kettle-related responsibilities as stated in the minutes, Ms Bartlett-Imadegawa will also take care of emptying the EPH recycling bins.
- The agenda for the meeting was approved.

2. Matters Arising from Previous Meeting

- a) RSH Committee Meeting** – Mr Searle reported the successful meeting of the first RSH Committee, who will from now on meet twice a term. The meeting led to several fruitful decisions, including plans to buy a coffee maker for the common room, a photography competition (see below) and a new attempt at regular welfare teas. Further, Ms Ludtke announced that the RSH BBQ date had been set as the 30th May, and that a general meeting would be held beforehand.
- b) Action Plan Update** – The meeting of the RSH Committee also led to substantial progress in the RSH Action Plans, with the short term goals now covered fairly comprehensively. Mr Maguire was praised for his work purchasing a Playstation 3 for the EPH common room and for sorting the room's electronics. Mr Lewis will soon start to organise

the end of year recycling project, and now will be assisted by Mr Davies.

3. President's Business

- a) **Fresher's Week** – Ms Ludtke reported full confidence in the success of fresher's week following a productive meeting with Martin Jackson and Nicola Crowley. The information desks are to be abandoned, and new events will include an RSH pre-registration move-in party, a scavenger hunt with returning members, the first RSH Committee meeting, and a 3-minute-thesis/poster competition. Ms Tanner suggested that the schedule allow for a night of bonding with flatmates etc. Ms Ludtke formed a Fresher's Week Planning Committee consisting of herself, Mr Bhorat, Mr Maguire, Mr Lewis and Ms Cox.
- b) **Graduate Feedback Questionnaire Update** – The Questionnaire will go out in Weeks 5 and 6 due to a delay in feedback from college staff. Mr Maguire will assist Ms Ludtke in typing up the Questionnaire. Ms Ludtke suggested that next year's Questionnaire be administered in Michaelmas.
- c) **Improvements to EPH** – Meetings with college staff about art for the common room have been fruitful, and once the paintings are picked the college will take responsibility for their framing, placing etc. Ms Ludtke also reported that Martin Jackson is currently costing the idea of putting lockers in the EPH kitchen.
- d) **Pledging Money to Jasper Adamson's Run for Mental Health Awareness** – The Committee decided to donate £120 to Mr Adamson's campaign. The decision was raised by Ms Seiter and seconded by Ms Tanner.
- e) **Associate Membership Motion** – This will be voted on in a general meeting held before the RSH BBQ, as previously referred to. Ms Ludtke reminded the committee that they can only control access to MCR facilities (ie not the Library). This fact will be made clear to applicants.
- f) **Photography Competition** – This was suggested by Eva Sancho in the RSH Committee meeting. Following a lively discussion, it was decided that the competition would have a budget of £300: £240 to print, frame and hang the winning pictures in the RSH Common Room, £30 for a prize for the best picture, and £30 for STACS vouchers for the first 15/20 entrants to encourage participation.

4. Academic Officer's Update

- Mr Busch encouraged applications for the St Anne's Academic Review, and reported that Principal's Meetings with research students have been cancelled. Next year the meetings will be mandatory, and Mr Busch suggested that the Committee should take a more active role in supporting them as well as the college advisor system.
- Mr Busch will consider the merits of formalising the system by which graduate tutoring is arranged.
- With regards to the advisor system, which remains fraught with problems regarding advisors not responding to advisees and vice versa, Ms Ludtke and Mr Busch will present a paper to Academic Committee next week. Suggestions from the Committee included a mandatory first meeting further to the dinner, increasing the common ground between

advisors and advisees, and the possibility of group meetings to further bonds between groups of advisees.

5. Funding Guarantee Motion

- The motion was raised by Ms Ludtke and passed by unanimous vote.

6. Other Business

b) Receipt of Bill for Newspapers – The Committee has received a invoice for around £5000 for newspapers, which have not been paid for by the MCR for some years. Ms Lim is currently investigating the veracity of the invoice, with assistance from the college's Financial Controller.

c) MCR Photo – Ms Bartlett-Imadegawa presented 3 possible photos. The Committee found that the second was the most palatable. Ms Bartlett-Imadegawa will invite the MCR community to order copies.

7. Any Other Business

- **End of Year Dinner** – Many masters students had difficulty making the end of year dinner, so Ms Ludtke will email the catering staff to rearrange it.