

JCR Open Meeting Minutes

03/02/2024 – 5:00 p.m. in the JCR

Committee present: 20

1. Melanie Benedict (MB(P)) – President
2. Mathew Blowers (MB(VP)) – Vice President
3. Saughn Sekhon (SS) – Treasurer
4. Sankalp Kapur (SK) – Secretary
5. Zegang Wu (ZW) – IT
6. Dev Atra (DA) – Freshers
7. Harriet Regan (HR) – Freshers
8. Jacob Walsh (JW) – Welfare
9. Abbie Strain (AS) – Welfare
10. Hannah Townson (HT) – Catering and Accommodation
11. Devan Simon-McBridge (DSB) – Class Act
12. Meyssa Rais (MR) – International
13. Michelle Brefo (MB) – BAME
14. Thalia Arundell (TA) – BAME
15. Caitlin Mason (CM) – Women's
16. Karen Dias (KD) – Access and Academic
17. Eleanor Wolseley (EW) – Disabilities
18. Rikki Hirai (RH) – ENTS
19. Michelle Kudiabor (MK) – ENTS
20. Polly Wilson (PW) – Greens

Absences

- Dan Mills (DM) – LGBT+
- Martha Wood (MW) – Greens
- Brendan Mark (BM) – International
- Zegang Wu (ZW) – IT (Left at 5:30)
- Harriet Regan (HR) – Welfare (Left at 6:03)

Capacity Check

- AS 5
- EW 3
- HR 2
- ZW 1-2 till Tuesday and 4-5 after that
- DSB 4
- SS 4
- PW 3
- MB(V) 5
- HT 4
- JW 1
- CM 4
- MB(P) 5

- SK 4
- KD 4
- MR 4
- RH 4
- MK 4 until Thursday
- DA 1
- TA 4
- MB 4

AGENDA

1. Apologies for Absences
 - a. BM
 - b. MW
 - c. DM
 - d. ZW left at 5:30
2. Presidential Update
 - a. Haven't done much this week, need break
 - b. Observed AMAL bid
 - c. Been working on BAME poetry night which is tonight
3. Committee Update
 - a. SK
 - i. Done noticeboard, meet the committee posts are now going out
 - b. KD
 - i. Last week was the shadow scheme, went well
 - ii. Students gained what they needed to
 - c. MR
 - i. Going to do decorations for LNY formal
 - ii. Would like to do a social in the bar right after the formal
 - Can look into themed drinks
 - Will need to email MB(P) about this if drinks are confirmed
 - d. RH and MK
 - i. Zoom meeting with Ryan from the storage company
 - ii. They are ready to spend upto 250 pounds at events
 - iii. He is looking to funding drinks for a bar event for Valentine's
 - HT: Mark Slater was considering doing Valentine's on the 16th
 - ENTS will be leading the bar night
 - iv. Connect their website to our JCR website
 - v. Think it would be good to get the international officers involved as this would be a good opportunity for the international students
 - vi. MB(V): Will this partnership be contracted? Will have to look into it.
 - e. DA and HR
 - i. Have not been able to get much done this week
 - ii. Looking at the possibility of a marriage formal

- iii. Have received fresher events ideas from ENTS, KD, EW, and DSB. Need events from Welfare, International, Woman's, Greens and Charities (MW will need to do it since PW is going on year abroad), BAME. Will need a time and location.
 - MB(P): Set deadline to receive events as next Saturday
- f. TA and MB
 - i. Last day to sign up for social is tomorrow
 - ii. MB(P): Would be good to get a BAME forum going for people to voice their thoughts, opinions, and grievances. Would be good to get this going by week 4/5. Would be good to work with welfare on this
 - MK: Was going to do this last year so have notes on this, can send
- g. AS and JW
 - i. Knoop swap was a success, will do it biweekly. Going to stretch it and do it for 20 people
 - ii. Daffodils doing
 - iii. Apprentice was fun
 - iv. Spoke to EW about the speed friending event, planned for Friday 16th
 - v. Period products have been ordered, likely to come on Monday
 - vi. Meditation went really well.
 - vii. Catriona and Sarah would like JCR officers not to use the term "Week 5 Blues" in any communications
 - viii. MB(P): Would be good to have some of word of advice column or something of the sort in Magdazine
 - ix. Will also like to put out a form to get suggestions/recommendations
 - x. HR: Is there a way for students to anonymously raise problems with the JCR?
 - No
 - Could have an online form or a box in the JCR
 - "An online suggestion box" – could be put on the noticeboard and in Magdazine
- h. DM
 - i. College agreed to fly the pride flag for one day, on the 5th of Feb
 - ii. MB(P): Will ask if they can keep it up for longer, or at least keep it on for the LGBT+ formal
- i. ZW
 - i. Uploaded minutes, moderated emails
- j. EW
 - i. Have been untying the cord in the library bathroom
 - ii. Email received for a sports conference. Not sure if this is for disabilities in sports. Will need to look into that
- k. DSB
 - i. Haven't been able to do too much
 - ii. Forum on Tuesday
 - iii. Things like rent prices across colleges were discussed
 - iv. Officers will make a survey to make stats about their colleges to compare and discuss disparities
 - v. MB(P): Would be good to have an in-college class act forum before the next SU forum, so people from our college can voice anything if need be

I. SS

- i. Went to Barclays on Friday, handed in the mandate form change. Waiting for the bank to process those forms
- ii. Hopefully before the end of this month, we can get access to the bank account and start reimbursing officers

m. PW

- i. Plant sale went well, 103 pounds in profit
- ii. Box for food bank has gone missing, went missing between last Sunday and Thursday
- iii. Spoke to Gordan and Lea for a sports day charity. So, on sports day we will go around with a card reader and a charity sign asking for donations
- iv. Also going to do a raffle for charity using plant sale profits. Need to contact local businesses for this.

n. MB(V)

- i. Was there for AMAL meeting, JCR bid is looking good
- ii. JCR booking sheets are up on the JCR noticeboard

o. HT

- i. Fresher's ballot happened this week
- ii. Last year's form to be carried forward this week
- iii. Breakfast is likely happening in a limited form – Starting in Easter, it will happen in the bar (coffees and pastries between 8 and 10 am)
- iv. Fresher's marriage formal will likely happen
- v. Halfway Hall
 - Seating for halfway hall needs to be organized
 - ENTS can organize the categories for the formal
 - MB(P): Get rid of pick me
- vi. SK: Vegan formal deserts are just bowls of fruits, would like this to be fixed

p. CM

- i. Doing weekly showing of woman focused/led shows
- ii. Helped start up the film society again and will look at collabs with the 1988 society
- iii. Also arranging social sessions with Lucy Cav in Feb/March
- iv. Also, cam-wide woman's officer meet that will be attended
- v. MB(P): Any intersectional events?
 - Looking into it
 - MB(P): Can work with BAME. Maybe a BAME x femsoc event or some discussions?

4. Pepys Dinner

a. Raised by SS

- i. The emergency meeting happened so haphazardly because there wasn't any procedure to follow. Did not go as well as it should've, was not meant to be negative at all.
- ii. Majority agree that it should not have been an open meeting
- iii. JW and SS: If there is a disagreement between the ex- and new JCR president, this should be a private meeting that could be mediated by a secretary
- iv. Can try to make a JCR policy to be voted upon
 - Can be drafted and reviewed next closed meeting
 - Could then be voted upon in an open meeting, for transparency' sake

- v. SS: the policy should reflect the outcome of the emergency meeting. It should be the former and incumbent JCR president and the former committee.

5. Any Other Business

- a. Minnie Peacock
 - i. President of Magdelene Bingo Society
 - ii. Once the soc is more established, could do something with Greens and Charities
- b. HR
 - i. No evacuation chair present on the second floor of Cripps
 - ii. Difficult for someone to get into Cripps late at night if on wheelchair
 - iii. No briefing on fire and safety and what to do, especially considering there is no evacuation chair
- c. SK: Next meeting clashes with Sports Day
 - i. MB(P): everyone to send availabilities for Friday and Sunday the coming week for moving the closed meeting for the coming week
- d. MB(P): Would be good for welfare to help people who are affected by any negative magdfesses
- e. JW: Committee stash update?
 - i. MB(VP): Will look into that