

St. Catharine's College MCR Open Meeting Friday 24th February 2023, 5pm

Committee members present:

Praharsh Babu, Co-president
Marianne Mansour, Co-president
Amelia Whitehead, Secretary
Tom Willis, Computing officer
Samuel Ryan, Formal Hall officer
Tobia Nava, Accommodation officer
Zara Niven, Welfare officer
Kiyo Chan, Social secretary
Hana Azuma, Social secretary
Yuxuan Cai, Food and drinks officer
Barbara Neto-Bradley, Education officer
Maria Izmirlieva, Green officer
Livia Wilod Versprille, Treasurer

Committee members not present:

Fiona Connolly, Women's and non-binary officer
Elsie Greenwood, Access officer
Ananya Kaushik, LGBTQ+ officer
Laurence Fredricks, LGBTQ+ officer
Sohane Ines Mousseid Yahya, BME officer

Special postgraduates' and fellows' events upcoming

- International women's day and neurodiversity celebration week – 8th and 15th of March
- Committee members can promote to anyone who may be interested!

Budget

- Committee members can see their budget on a sheet on the drive
- Separate sections for certain events (burns night, midsummer dinner, LGBT+ history month, etc)
- Anyone unhappy with their budget please contact Livia
- It's looking like there should be enough budget for everyone
- Can everyone please check their tab in the expenses sheet to ensure everything that you have spent money on is accounted for
- We now own a card reader linked to the MCR bank account, Livia to put it in the MCR locker – contact her for details for the app if you need it

Newspapers

- Currently get: Sunday times, financial times, iDaily, international new York times
- Considering getting rid of the financial times as it's available for free online with the university and we spend £4.80 a week
- To ask around the MCR to see if people actually want them

Coffee machine

- Livia to print out copy of the manual to keep next to the machine so people can attempt to fix themselves when they're trying to use it and it breaks
- We do not have access to the customer service account attached to the coffee machine company - Praharsh to ask Souradip
- The cupboard containing the beans should be locked to prevent people breaking the machine while they try to fix it

Hugh's Hall ball partnership

- We usually partner with corpus and sometimes Homerton
- Everyone on board with a partnership with HH, Praharsh to contact and discuss increasing the number of free tickets we'd receive

Events

- If planning on spending over £50, contact Livia to approve budget
- Everyone happy for Livia to oversee this, she'll contact the president's if she's unsure or the request is particularly big
- We should host more regular low-cost events
 - Board games every other week (Sunday?)
 - Bar event every other week – karaoke, pub quiz, open-mic nights, pool tournament, cocktail events
 - Monthly film and documentary nights
 - Squash and badminton evenings
 - Social secs to organise and set up sheets on the drive to allow others to sign up to host

Inventory

- Praharsh keen to make a doc on the committee drive to document everything we own
 - Many committee members happy to help
 - A date to go through the lockers etc. to be set

Welfare

- Yoga
 - We pay £30 a session during term time and the JCR covers the other half
 - Outside of term time we need to pay the full £60
 - Zara to organise a survey to assess interest outside of term time with the view to potentially reduce more expensive sessions

Committee stash

- Praharsh asking around about pricing and items
- To send out a poll to gather committee opinions

MCR executive committee

- Praharsh proposes a smaller sub-group (5 people) within the committee, similar to the one the JCR currently has

- This would serve to settle disputes between presidents and make decisions more quickly that don't require whole-group input
- To push the college to invite them to events that the president's get invited to
- Would be a large amount of work to put through college and change the constitution
- Both presidents, treasurer, secretary, another person? (ideally an odd number)
- Other committee members who feel strongly that they would like to be included could put themselves forward

Open meeting for the end of term

- To schedule this weekend and send out information ASAP
- To consider changes to constitution such as executive committee and associate memberships

Worcester swap

- 8th of March, Oxford arriving around 12pm
- Catering to prepare brunch for 12:30pm – Not yet paid, social secs to sort
 - Do we pay for their brunch?
 - Not unless they pay for something for us when we're there – social secs to debate with Worcester
- Time for them to wander around town
- Walk to Grantchester – tea room
- Rainy day contingency = museum crawl?
- Dinner and pub – finish by 9pm
- Social secs to send a sign up form on Monday

Handover docs

- Please start thinking about making handover documents for those who'll be taking over the role from you next year
 - Describe the role and the duties it includes as well as any benefits

If you have any suggestions or feedback you'd like to give the MCR, please get in touch by emailing mcr.secretary@caths.cam.ac.uk