

## MCR Meeting 27<sup>th</sup> of May 2013

**Present:** Tehnuka Ilanko (President), Maryam Serajiantehrani (VP), Janja Soldo (Treasurer), Katharine Moore (Secretary), Catherine Taylor (Social), Katy Hedgethorn (Social), Hannah Haberkern (Computer Officer), Hima Balachandran (Welfare), Irushinie Wedage (Green), Itxaso Barriuso (General), Jelena Illic (General).

**Apologies:** Annie Yue Zeng (Social), Nishtha Lamba (Social).

### 1. Freshers' Week (Catherine)

- Catherine attended the freshers' planning meeting with College.
- This year, unlike normal, the graduate students will arrive a week earlier than the undergraduate students.
- Therefore, there will be no catering provided in the dome as it will be out of term time.
- It is important to ensure that as part of the MCR freshers' week programme there will be lots of food based events in the first week for the new students as they won't necessarily be able to go to the supermarket or find alternatives to the dome.
- College have agreed to pay for the MCR finger buffet. They have also agreed that there will be brunch available in the Dome on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup>, which we will advertise as an MCR event.
- The graduates are expected to arrive on the 25<sup>th</sup> of September with matriculation on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Matriculation dinner will be held that evening.
- It is important to note that the weekend that the grads arrive, there will be an Alumni event held in College. As usual, we plan to run guided tours of College and town.
- During freshers' week, there will also be welfare and safety talks for the MCR and JCR. The police will be coming in to talk about safety and the Head Porter will give a talk. We also need to schedule fire warden training for some grads.
- David Jarvis has asked that there also be an alcohol awareness talk. This could be by our welfare officer or we could ask the CUSU/GU welfare officer. A section on sexual awareness should be included.
- Usually there is a bike helmet sale by the JCR during freshers' week but this has not been popular. Catherine suggested that selling bike lights might be more popular as they are cheaper and people are more likely to buy these second hand.
- The planned MCR programme for Freshers' should be confirmed to college soon.

### 2. Graduate symposium - thanking the Fellows (Tehnuka)

- As in previous years, the MCR would like to send a card and a bottle of wine to the fellows who judged the graduate symposium (Alex Piotrowski, Elsa Strietman and Peter Forster).
- Katy and Maryam will organise this.

### 3. Elections (Tehnuka)

- There has not yet been much interest among the MCR about the upcoming elections.

- In the next two weeks, the committee need to be encouraging people to put themselves forward for the election.
  - Katharine will update the facebook page to promote the elections.
4. Personal attack alarms (Tehnuka)
- These are available from the Porters Lodge for £2.50 each (cost price).
  - There are a lot left over from the last freshers' week.
  - They will be promoted by Tehnuka in an email and again when new grads join in September.
5. Keys (Janja)
- It was suggested by Janja that copies of the keys for the MCR cupboards should be made as currently Maryam has the key for one cupboard, and there is just one set of keys for the rest with the porters.
  - Janja will first check whether the copies can be made through college with the MCR paying; otherwise we will need to get the keys cut ourselves.
6. Drinks at formal (Janja)
- It was suggested by Janja that the MCR could provide non-alcoholic drinks at formal as not all grads drink the wine provided.
  - This idea was well received.
  - It was agreed that Maryam would contact the catering staff to see if it would be possible for them to serve juice purchased by the MCR at formal and find out how much this would cost. We estimate about ten jugs or bottles of juice (i.e. 1/6 people) might be needed.
7. CUSU Updates (Tehnuka)
- CUSU's Students Deserve Better campaign is conducting a survey of students, to understand and improve college welfare provision. They would like MCRs to publicise this.
  - The computer service is currently working with CUSU to get eduroam wifi in town.
  - This year they expect to put in ten points at indoor sites; over the following four years they hope that 10 spots per year will be added, both indoor and outdoor.
  - The societies fair for freshers' week will be held on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> of October.
  - CUSU are planning on holding student awards such as 'JCR & MCR of the Year' and 'Society of the Year' and are seeking nominations from students. Awards will be presented at the CUSU garden party.
8. MCR developments
- Katy has found a suitable bookcase for the MCR from Argos (£12.99). This will be ordered for the MCR.
  - The last MCR brunch was a success and it is hoped another one can be held on the 9<sup>th</sup> of June.
  - Jelena has bought 11 DVDs at £3 each for the MCR.
9. Lighting in College (Catherine)

- It has been noted that better lighting is needed around the college in particular behind the bike sheds of Canning and Eliza, and on the path from Canning and Eliza to College past the fellows' garden.
- This is something to be brought up at the next college meeting (most likely Grad Liaison) and for the next committee to follow up on.

*Next meeting: TBC*