Bursar’s Presentation/MCR Open Meeting 24 November 2016

Bursar’s Presentation

* Bursar’s biographical details
* What does a bursar do?
	+ Everything in the college that is not academic!
	+ Finances (£8m income/expenditure; £55m investments)
	+ Management of college estates: refurbishment and maintenance issues; Edwards endowment has helped look after college buildings
	+ Catering/conferences
		- The college allows the use of their facilities outside term time to raise money
	+ HR: over 100 staff in the college
	+ IT: supports infrastructure
	+ Porters
	+ Wider university roles: 70 committees requiring bursar representation
* College finances
	+ £8m income, £8m expenditure
	+ College is a charity, not out to make a profit
	+ Need to have a surplus, because we have borrowed funds to repay (like loans from bank, unforeseen maintenance problems)
	+ College collects tuition, pays it to the university, who gives a portion back
	+ Endowment income: free money, comes from £55m investments college hold
		- Cannot spend the £55m; can only spend the income from that money
	+ Everything runs at a loss, education is subsidized; vast amount of money goes to educational costs for undergrads/grads (more indirect for graduates)
* Benefits to students
	+ Most of the subsidies, scholarships, and awards go to undergraduates because there is more of them (but the larger single awards probably go to graduates)
* Student catering and conferencing
* Commercial catering and conferencing income
	+ About £1m of commercial activity per year
	+ Important to make sure this activity doesn’t get in the way of student life
* Questions?
	+ How are the rents figured out?
		- Costs related to accommodation: recovery of the costs of building things, maintenance, staff
		- We are a poorer college, and cannot afford to charge little compared to the richer colleges with more money to subsidize
		- Amount chosen for rent is based on what the bursar feels right
* Green matters
	+ Food: allergens, religious observance, preferences and choice
	+ Waste: in the college, beyond the college
	+ Energy: procurement and usage
	+ Investment: socially responsible investment, fossil fuels
		- Chose organization CCLA: manager’s view to socially responsible investing, has a well-developed ethical strategy
		- Fossil fuels: divestment from fossil fuels is not the right thing, because the college would no longer have a say/any influence in the actions of fossil fuel organizations, use shareholder stake to influence company decisions

Open Meeting

* Constitutional changes
	+ Give general member positions the possibility to specialize, and have this reflected in their title (this will be beneficial); does not have to be specified before the election—AMENDMENT PASSED
	+ Sub-committees for committee positions may also be instituted—NOT PASSED
* Social secretary matters
	+ Organizing winter wonderland party, outdoor barbecue Sunday 18 December (potentially at St. Edmunds)
		- Sausages, sourkraut, hot chocolate, pretzels
		- Ticketing, charging people?
	+ Social with Fitz, free drinks at 8:00pm
	+ Swaps
		- Two swaps next term already arranged (Clare, Pembroke)
		- Downside: only 10 people allowed
		- The pre-warnings are good when signups are released
	+ Low-key events like games night
	+ Bop
		- Requires ticket purchases not exceeding £5 (could possibly offer a free drink with ticket)
		- DJ will do exciting things with Dome
		- Need help! Can ask JCR, also would like volunteers; Tapoka volunteered
		- Please invite outsiders
		- 25th February
	+ Trip to varsity match (rugby); not extremely popular
	+ Welcome-back breakfast/tea (mad hatter’s tea party?)
	+ Would like to have an event focusing on the art
* Green Officer/Green Team
	+ Bursar chat
		- Clarified how the recycling works: all the recycling goes to the same bin; it’s our task to bring the recycling outside but the cleaners have been doing it
	+ Green officer email to the graduates about recycling
	+ Compost: trying to sort it out with the Chris Pope/Bursar
	+ Funmi will continue the Edible Garden project; it is not a specifically college event
	+ Waste event in MCR: we should have recycling in the MCR to recycle (bags have to be clear)
	+ Vegan/vegetarian options at formal: to publish in advance would be extremely difficult because changes are made on the day
		- Might do an all-vegetarian formal, regional/seasonal food formal
		- Represents a big logistical problem
		- Meat-free Mondays? Stopped buying beef/lamb
		- Keep respectful interactions in mind—we are not entitled to formals!
* The new MCR website
	+ Updated links, rethought the kind of information on the website
	+ The calendar on the website makes it easy to see events/export to your own calendar
	+ Booking the MCR (Zoe is working on this)
	+ Website could be a bit more lively
	+ Website photoshoot on 2-3 December
	+ Committee information: what we are up to
	+ MCR blog: if you would like to be an MCR blogger, contact Lisa
	+ Things that should be on the website?
		- Photo tour for prospective students
		- Possible photo competition
		- More photos of the interior, seeing what it will be like
		- Profile of the graduate community
* Sarah will be arranging events for people who don’t live in college, about the rental market
* Zoe has sent an email about a series of talks about professional experiences, based on our college grads