

Nominations for MCR Committee 2018-19

Name	Position(s)
Alison West	Social Secretary
Ana Gomes	Treasurer
Anna Gibbons	General Member
Emily Evans	Social Secretary, Welfare Officer
Grainne Hutton	Green Officer
Helen Caldwell	Social Secretary, Welfare Officer, General Member
Ivetty Estepan	Social Secretary
Jenny O'Dowd	Computing/Communications Officer
Katie Piner	Treasurer
Lucy Rycroft-Smith	LGBTQ+ Officer, General Member
Melony Dilshad	Social Secretary
Rebecca Lynes	Social Secretary, General Member
Tara Moulson	Social Secretary

Election details

Full details of election rules are online: <https://memcr.soc.srcf.net/about/elections-2018-19/>

- Voting is online
- Election opens – 12.01am Saturday 27th October*
- Election closes – 11pm Mon 29th October
- New committee announced – Tues 30th October

* the election was originally scheduled to open on Friday 26th, however CUSU ballot rules require that elections are 3 days max. If this causes any concern, contact Tamzin on mcr-president@murrayedwards.cam.ac.uk

Thanks all for nominating! And don't forget to vote.

x MCR love

Tamzin Byrne
Returning Officer

Alison West

Nominating for: Social Secretary

Email: afw40@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Helen Caldwell and Fiona Amery

Hi! I'm Ali, and I'm from Seattle. I'm an MPhil student in public policy. I joined Murray Edwards this year honestly not imagining that I would get particularly involved in College life; being unfamiliar with the College system, I had no idea what kind of community awaited me in Cambridge. However, having been here several weeks, I can't think of much more exciting than the prospect of helping to facilitate the unique culture here through putting on social events. I am running to join the MCR both for this reason, and because I bring a unique set of event planning skills with me. As an undergraduate, I helped to plan large-scale events and balls catering to several thousand guests. I have since organized everything from political fundraisers to bar crawls. As a social sec, my goal would be to collaborate to plan events for Medwards grads— whether it's a cultural celebration to remind international students of home or a grander event to which we invite our friends from across the university— and to facilitate closer connections and swaps with other colleges to allow our students to broaden their experience of Cambridge as a whole.

Ana Gomes

Nominating for: Treasurer

Email: ada31@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Grainne Houlton and Tara Moulson

Ladies and Ladies, my name is Ana Gomes and I'm currently an MPhil in Development Studies student. I am running for treasurer for three main reasons. Firstly I believe I would do a good job at handling the MCR finances. I have worked in treasury before and learnt how to control bank accounts, make payments and handle budgets. I believe my past experience and the fact I am an organised person will allow me to handle the MCR finances effectively. Secondly I have several fun ideas on how we can actually use our budget this year. I think a dumpling making session around Chinese New year could be a fun event that showcases the incredible diversity that Medwards possesses. Also, and perhaps more importantly we should set-aside part of the budget to ensure that the MCR members that live out-of-college are logistically able to join in as many events as they like, for example by supporting their travel costs or organising family oriented events. Lastly, the MCR has been crucial in making Medwards feel like home to me. I can only hope that as treasurer, a part of the MCR committee I am able to help build the MCR to become an even more welcoming, fun, diverse and fun community. Thank you so much!

Anna Gibbons

Nominating for: General Member

Email: amg91@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Izzy Ashby and Tamzin Byrne

Having served on the JCR as an undergraduate at Medwards, I would love the opportunity to get involved with the student body and college life once again. On the JCR I was the inaugural 'Logistics Officer' so have experience of working with accommodation, catering, and maintenance. It would be great to run for the sports position; I have rowed within the college, captained the swim team for college, and do pentathlon for the university so it would be great to increase sports participation and engagement among the college graduate body.

Emily Evans

Nominating for: Social Secretary, Welfare Officer

Email: ee271@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Grainne Hutton and Ella Halcrow

I really struggled as an undergraduate at Cambridge with maintaining my mental health. I know all too well how tough the pressure can be, and how difficult life can be for many different people in a 800 year old university that hasn't fully adapted to the fact it is 2018. I had a few saving graces – the excellent University Counselling Service, the support of my tutor, and finally my amazing Welfare Officer. I would love to be able to pay it forward, and help other people navigate the tricky tightrope that is a Cambridge degree!

In particular, I'd love to use my knowledge of Cambridge life, and the resources available, to help people navigate this year. Whether that means just grabbing a coffee and having a chat, or directing people to the UCS, to Student Minds Cambridge (who do excellent work) or attending difficult meetings. I have noticed how incredibly difficult it can be to access free emergency contraception in Cambridge, so would make that campaign a particular focus, but all while keeping the sexual health stash in Murray Edwards fully stocked! Finally, I wish I had discovered mindfulness and yoga earlier in my Cambridge life. It may not be everyones cup of tea, and I would be open to lots of suggestions for Welfare activities, but I would love to host a free regular mindfulness and yoga session in college.

Grainne Hutton

Nominating for: Green Officer

Email: gbh26@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Tara Moulson and Fiona Amery

Hi, I'm Gráinne and I am running for your MCR Green Officer. I have always considered myself to be quite a passionate advocate of environmental causes and sustainable living, and would love to bring that to the Murray Edwards graduate community, which has so quickly become home 😊. I am currently part of the Zero Carbon Society here at Cambridge, and will be working in the near future on a new project in Cambridge called Healthy Planet to promote awareness of climate change and sustainability and how this can affect health and healthcare.

Outside of Cambridge, I help run a start-up on ethical clothing combatting the detrimental environmental and health effects created by the fast fashion industry (which will be coming to Cambridge next term – stay tuned!).

I have already established a relationship with the environmental coordinator of Cambridge, who works to improve engagement with sustainability issues across campus, and will be able to work directly with her as well as the College and our graduate community on a number of initiatives throughout the year – including the edible garden project and the addition of compost bins in the graduate rooms on campus to minimise food waste (and work with the gardening team to see the viability of decomposting our waste and repurposing for fertiliser for our beautiful gardens!)

The relationship between public health (my studies) and the environment is so closely linked, and I hope to be able to play my part to make Murray Edwards more environmentally friendly.

Helen Caldwell

Nominating for: Social Secretary, Welfare Officer, General Member

Email: hfc40@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Tamzin Byrne and Tapoka Mkandawire

Hi! I'm running for the MCR because even in the short few weeks since we've gotten here, Murray Edwards has come to feel like home to me, and I'd like to help make sure it feels like a welcoming and safe home for everyone else. I'm running for Welfare Officer, Social Secretary, and General Member but in any role I would like to focus on student wellbeing. I'd love to plan some wellness-themed activities like yoga classes in college, talks on mindfulness, and things I generally find restful like baking/crafting/etc (also would definitely want to crowdsource what kinds of activities other people find relaxing and plan accordingly). I would love to give back to Murray Edwards however I can and would be happy to be able to do that through the MCR.

Ivetty Estepan

Nominating for: Social Secretary

Email: ie245@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Gráinne Hutton and Tara Moulson

A good social secretary would understand the importance of events in building community. As social secretary, I plan not only to understand this importance, but also to ensure that such events are inclusive and reflective of the many different personalities, values, and walks of life seen in the graduate cohort of 2018-2019. Of course, many enjoy the casual party and pub night, but social events can be so much more; like spa nights, craft nights, or even the occasional holiday movie screening with hot chocolate. It would be nice to share our cultures through cooking nights or even language days. These are just some of the ideas that come to mind as I think about the space this role gives to make this place our own, even if only for a short year. If chosen as a social secretary, I promise to find innovative ways to bond, build community, and perhaps even leave our lasting mark on the Murray Edwards Community.

Jenny O'Dowd

Nominating for: Computing/Communications Officer

Email: jco31@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Helen Caldwell and Julia Carrasco-Zanini

I would be keen to increase my web design skills and help keep our website sleek and updated. I would also like to make our instagram account more active and help keep people up to date on there.

Katie Piner

Nominating for: Treasurer

Email: cp639@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Tamz and Akhila

I was the MCR's treasurer last year, so I am familiar with the running of the MCR's accounts. Importantly, we are in the process of switching bank accounts, so my continuing through this next academic year would make this transition much easier. I love Murray Edwards and want to help make sure we have an excellent and well financed year!

Lucy Rycroft-Smith

Nominating for: LGBTQ+ Officer, General Member

Email: Lr444@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Tamzin Byrne and Akhila Jyothy

I'm here for women and LGBTQ+ students; I'm here for collaboration over competition and transparent fairness. I've had plenty of experience on committees of many colours and am interested in thoughtful progress, swift analysis, and timely decision-making.

Melony Dilshad

Nominating for: Social Secretary

Email: md712@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Tamzin Byrne and Ji Ying

I would love to be one of your social secretaries for this upcoming academic year and look forward to organising some fun bops, weekend drinks, pub-crawls, cinema nights (with Vue's comfy chairs!!) and the occasional brunch/dinner meet-ups, not just for the new students who joined us this year, but also for those of us who have stuck around for a while, starting a new course at MEdwards or pushing through with our PhDs. I would also love to coordinate or organize weekend get-aways around the UK based on suggestions and/or interesting events/parties happening around! Looking forward to a fun and eventful year ahead!

Rebecca Lynes

Nominating for: Social Secretary, General Member

Email: rll40@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Tara Moulson and Anna Anta-Pires-Gomes

I have absolutely loved my time at Murray Edwards so far – I have never found any community so accepting, supportive and inspiring. Everyone here is amazingly creative with a wide range of interests in the arts, from Irish dancing to trombone to oil painting. I am running for one of the social secretaries with the intention to manage the arts portfolio. I feel I'm in a good position to take this on, as I'm personally very interested in the arts both in my masters (Film and Screen), and my free time (currently in socs for life drawing, photography, ballet and pole dance). During my undergrad at UCL, I directed a project called FemFilm, an all-female short. It was one of the best experiences of my life and showed me what a productive atmosphere an all-female team promotes.

Chatting with people over the last few weeks about running, I have received a million and one fantastic ideas, from Wine and Design to Drag Nights, but there are also smaller-scale weekly events we already have the resources and interest to be running right now which I would be keen to start as soon as possible, such as Life Drawing classes, and of course building our calendar of exceptional visiting speakers.

If elected, working closely with the LGBTQ+ officer and the BME officer to use arts events to promote inclusion would be a huge priority. I would do my absolute best to bring arts-based fun to every single week, striving to help you talented girls have every opportunity to shine.

Women + art = power!

Tara Moulson

Nominating for: Social Secretary

Email: tnm29@cam.ac.uk

Nominated by: Grainne Hutton and Catherine Hooper

Hi Medwards! My name is Tara and I am running to be one of your MCR social secretaries. Even though it's only been a few weeks I already feel at home and supported within this college and I'd love to get involved even more! At my home University, I was involved in several committees and councils that were responsible for big event planning at college, which included a Harry Potter Pub night, lip sync battles and pancakes lunches. If elected – I hope to bring this same level of enthusiasm to the planning of events and socials, and especially the BOP, for grads at Medwards :)