

Minutes for the MCR General Meeting on Tuesday 22nd October 2013

Meeting begins at ~8.15pm.

Apologies: Bobby Brooks (Male Welfare Officer), Matt Watson (Computing Officer)

Committee Reports and Notices

Secretary (Matt S)

- Has been chasing up mural; see motion.
- Lists of supernumerary and honorary MCR members have now been compiled and these members are now on MCR mailing list.
- Please talk to Matt S about tech stuff in the absence of Matt W.
- Problems with logging on to MCR computer and bunker digital box are being looked into.

Sports Representative (Sam)

- Funding for the football team is now secured.
- Linacre gym offering membership to Jesus members: £50 for 12 weeks, or if join in first two weeks then £30 for 12 weeks. Option to view the Linacre gym first. N.B. we get free membership of the university gym. Straw poll suggests enough interest for Sam to investigate.
- Let Sam know if you are interested in stash.

Vice-President (Iwan)

- End-of-term event will be on Friday of 9th week (13th December). Ignore date on termcard. Sign-up via the intranet. Cost will be £10 at maximum; ignore what the intranet says the cost is.
- Iwan acknowledges all the work that Ariel has done recently in her role as President.

Social Secretaries (Megan, Hanna and Patrick)

- Hope you enjoyed freshers' week. Thank you for feedback.
- Events are on the termcard. These are under control.
- Speak to Meg if you are interested in a jacket similar to those worn by the committee during freshers' week.

Welfare Officer (Ellie)

- Upcoming welfare events as per the termcard.
- Free yoga starting this week. Will happen about once per fortnight.

Treasurer (Emrys)

- Newspaper subscriptions have been revised to reflect results of the start-of-term survey.
- There was a punting accident over the summer; please be careful.

- Ask Emrys if you have any queries about battels bills.

Ariel

- Kitchen cleanliness and rudeness to hall staff. See Ariel's MCR email.
- DACC office organising International Food Night; details to follow. Hall staff will be interested to receive recipes from international students. Straw poll suggests significant interest.
- There will be a sub-committee regarding relationship between College and the MCR. OUSU will be interested in how we do this. Let Ariel know if you are interested in being on this sub-committee.
- The plant in the MCR is dying.

AOB: Membership

- A supermajority of those present votes to discuss two AOB membership motions at this point. These are attached.
- Emily Winkler is made a supernumerary MCR member.
- Rune Troelsgaard Pedersen is made an honorary MCR member.

MCR Mural

- See attached agenda for motion.
- Advance apologies for vague minutes on this; I became a bit involved in the debate.
- Why these four panels? Could History be included? These represent the four disciplines traditionally singled out by the University.
- Are there other options for MCR decoration? Yes.
- There are moral issues here: artist and everyone else were under impression that we were bound to this commission until very recently.
- Does the mural have to go on the South wall? According to motion wording, yes.
- There is a responsibility to uphold the wishes of former MCR students who passed the original motion.
- Vote: 20 for, 16 against, 5 abstentions.
- Motion fails.

First-year Rep hustings

Ben and Lucy

- Main responsibilities are representing first-years on committee and brunch.
- Want to be sure to continue the current inclusive social atmosphere.
- Interested in doing social events (e.g. Film night)
- Past experience. Lucy has been a food critic and a student rep. Ben is French.
- Warm food for brunch.
- Ben will bring food for first brunch back from Paris if elected.

Jess and Sioned

- Want to do an international-themed brunch. Open to suggestions.
- Bacon and eggs.
- Want to be approachable, maintaining the MCR's friendly atmosphere.
- Very keen that everyone should be involved in things.
- Jess has shown dedication by offering her flat as the venue for the Blues party in 5th week.

Thais and Garreth

- Garreth absent from meeting.
- Want to make sure that everyone's brunch preferences are represented.
- They have a boy-girl dynamic.
- Garreth knows the Oxford system already as a result of his undergrad at Trinity.
- Thais is Brazilian so will do cheese balls.

Questions from the floor

- For Ben and Lucy: Food miles? Ben thinks French cheese is better and therefore worth it. However, all nationalities of cheese will be available.
- A sexy dance is proposed. All candidates refuse. However, Jess does the splits.
- What mural would you paint for the MCR? Jess and Sioned would have a giraffe and a Welsh dragon. Ben would just like a lot of pictures. Lucy thinks the MCR is good as it is, but would like to paint the ceiling. Thais would like a world map.
- Who is your favourite Star Wars character? Thais is not a fan. Jess is a fan: she watches the TV series/read the books and her favourite character is from there. From the films, Jess likes Han Solo. Ben likes Boba Fett.
- How would you cater for the MCR's varied dietary requirements? Jess and Sioned would make sure to include a bit of everything in their brunches, and would talk to people so as to learn their preferences. Jess can point out the vegetarians and vegans in the room already. Lucy would email about dietary requirements (like for the pre-meeting formal) and compile a list. Emailing would also allow to scope attendance. Thais is a Biomedical Engineer and would therefore be sure that she had the necessary information before holding a brunch.

Wine Steward hustings

Jeremy

- Doing a DPhil on the Australian Wine Industry.
- Interested in getting good wine at a cheap price.
- Did a wine-tasting course and came in the top 100.

Dragos

- Has a passion for wine.

- 3 WSET qualifications. WSET is a well-known international framework.
- Is able to appreciate wine from an intellectual point of view as a result.

Questions from the floor

- What would you do if someone had already drunk a whole bottle of wine and wanted more? Dragos would say no. Jeremy would refer them to the social secretaries.
- What wine-themed events would you do? Jeremy would organise college wine cellar tours. Dragos would do wine and food (e.g. cheese) evenings.
- How would you integrate this role with the MCR committee's current wine system? Both would liaise/communicate with the committee.
- What is your favourite wine? Dragos likes two from 1976. One is German, one is Romanian. The best one was like "liquid beauty". Jeremy likes Red Cabernet Sauvignon Malbec and also a bottle of vintage 2006 champagne that his girlfriend opened on Valentine's Day.
- Are you interested in other liquor at events? Both are open to the idea.
- What would you buy with a budget of £6? Jeremy would go for something Italian or Portuguese; these are slightly better value. Dragos would go for Italian or Romanian.
- What ideas do you have for educating the MCR about wine? Jeremy would organize wine tastings. Dragos is interested in tastings on a large scale.
- Red or white? Jeremy drinks red but knows more about white. Dragos used to prefer white but likes red now since it is more complex.
- Would you provide more of red or white for MCR events? Jeremy would do a survey. Dragos would get feedback from tastings.
- Answer this is one word. Rosé? Dragos: decent. Jeremy: summer.
- What would your ideal meal-with-wine combination be? Jeremy would go for steak with an Argentinean Malbec. Dragos would go for Alsace with a salad.
- Would you consider providing beer at MCR events? Jeremy loves beer and notes that people drink it a lot in Australian wineries. He thinks beer options are a good idea. Dragos knows little about beer but is keen to learn and is happy to cater to demands.

Three Stags Editors

- Two candidates, Richard and Rachita, were nominated. Usually there are two editors. This is a sub-committee so doesn't constitutionally need an actual election.
- A straw poll suggests that the MCR is happy for Richard and Rachita to co-edit the Three Stags this year.

AOB: Broken coffee machine

- Upkeep of the coffee machine needs to be a collective MCR responsibility – not just the VP.

- Is an espresso machine a better option? It is more expensive and we would have to consider using battels to pay for it.
- Could we spend even more money for a high-quality machine that wouldn't break?
- Could we spend even less money to get an easy-to-use machine? It would probably break and would be hard to keep clean.
- Instructions will be made available so that people know how to empty grounds container, etc.
- There are MCR members who are happy to check that a new machine will be maintained: Jess and Matt S.
- A straw poll indicates that people want a new coffee machine.

Meeting closes at 9.46pm.