

Xiaokun SUN – apply for the role of equal opportunities

I am Xiaokun, a first year PhD student majoring Sociology. I am very happy to apply for the role of equal opportunities officer in MCR. I still remember how I was impressed by MCR committee members' passion and enthusiasm of welcoming me as fresher to join in the big family of Downing College. Their warm welcome helped me adapting to the new environment with joy and gratitude. Our MCR provides us equality and diversity as part of the culture of Downing. As an international student, I have been impressed by the warm and equal environment that MCR offers for me. Providing a learning and social environment which could enable MCR members to fulfil their personal potential equally to feel like being at home is what is inspiring me to apply for the role of equal opportunities officer in the next academic year.

I genuinely wish I could help provide such a learning and social environment which equally treats everyone and promote diversity so as to develop everyone's full potential without any discrimination. I feel that the emphasis of supporting to all members from MCR fairly and consistently could benefit everyone to communicate regardless of our gender, age, disability, race, religion, political belief, and sexual orientation. As a first year PhD student majoring Sociology, I am confident of my capability for undertaking the role of equal opportunities. My subject of Sociology offers me a wide range of views in developing an equal opportunities practices as I benefit from the ideas from different cultures, genders, religion/political beliefs and so on. I have always been enthusiastic in participating volunteer jobs which aim to help children or people who are vulnerable and marginalized because of disability. Those projects gave me an awareness of the need for a group to thoroughly promote of equality and diversity as part of the culture for our MCR.

I would try my every best to develop equal opportunities policies as everyone wishes if possible. In addition, I will support equalities events or projects through working with other university organisations such as CUSU Women's Campaign, Minority Ethnic Campaign and so on (including organisations relating to general equal opportunities policy, gender, LGBT, faith, physical and mental health). Moreover, I believe a strong linkage between our college and graduate students would benefit everyone. Furthermore, I am thinking a mailbox could be set up in MCR so as everyone could anonymously make complain or provide suggestions about his/her own private issue about equality. Meanwhile, more events relating to cultural diversity, such as food buffet and karaoke competition, could be held with the International officers of MCR in order to provide an equal environment where everyone feels free to communicate with each other.

I will contribute my efforts into creating an equal environment to everyone. It is the old MCR committee members who gave me a deep impression on the idea that I am warmly welcomed by everyone. I do wish I could pass on the same feelings of being welcomed to everyone in MCR. I sincerely wish to contribute to our MCR to become better.