



Jordan Rogers for Equal Opportunities Officer (BME Officer)

About Me



Hello everyone! My name is Jordan Rogers and I would like to be one of your Equal Opportunities officers. I was born and raised in Houston, Texas; however, I have previously spent time in New York City. I am currently doing an MPhil in the Sociology of Marginality and Exclusion within the Sociology department. Although I have only been a student at Cambridge for a short period of time, I have been impressed and excited with how warmly I have been welcomed at Downing. Within my short time here, I have come to view Downing as a home away from home. As Equal Opportunities officer, I would work to ensure that an environment of diversity and inclusion continued, specifically as it pertains to racial equality. I would do so by: providing a safe space (as necessary); hosting meetings and outings; and providing space for discussions, which highlight issues faced by BME students in general and here at Cambridge. Plainly, I would work to make Downing a second home for others as well.

Plans for Equal Opportunities

- Outside of promoting an inclusive environment at Downing, regardless of identity, I would host bi-weekly meetings – during which I would: continue hosting film night, consisting of BME films (which would also focus on the intersections between gender, class, and sexuality) and a conversation on that film; and facilitate an open discussion, of which the topics can later be decided.
 - I would also coordinate with the other Equal Opportunities officers (i.e. Women’s officer and LGBTQ+ officer), as many issues faced by minority groups can be intersectional.
 - I would plan outings – whether it is to talks/events being held around Cambridge, a pub, or simply dinner together.
 - As a way of providing information on movements in Cambridge, I would create and disseminate a spreadsheet consisting of student groups that are focused on engaging with issues relevant to diversity and inclusion, so that any students may attend as needed.
 - I would work with the Welfare officer and other Equal Opportunities officers to host a mental health workshop and a micro-aggressions workshop, as these issues disproportionately affect those belonging to minority groups.
 - Lastly, I would hold private appointments, where any MCR member can chat with me – whether it is about inclusion at Downing, BME issues, or just a casual conversation.
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Why Me?

Based on my previous experience, I believe that I would make a great Equal Opportunities officer. At my undergraduate institution, Columbia University, I served on the executive board of our Black Student Organization and was not only charged with providing an inclusive and safe space for BME students at Columbia, but also was tasked with providing an informative space, in which anyone, regardless of identity, could respectfully engage with issues faced by BME students. Aside from this, I believe that I am the right candidate for Equal Opportunities BME officer because I not only care about the continuous betterment of our MCR, but also am passionate about diversity, inclusion, and wellbeing. I am positive and hopeful that, as Equal Opportunities officer, we can accomplish much!
