

CAITLIN BONES FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES OFFICERS



Hi, I am Caitlin, originally from North-East England and I study Criminology. Many of you may know me already as I am currently the MCR Women's Officer and de facto Secretary. This year, I hope to be your Equal Opportunities Officer as I would love to continue making the MCR a friendly, inclusive place!



My Plans for Equal Opportunities Officer:

- Work closely with and support the BME, LGBTQ+ and Women's Officers in promoting an inclusive, welcoming and friendly atmosphere in the MCR for all students.
- Ensure that anyone who feels the above Officers do not represent them, still have a Committee member they can contact in confidence for any issues of inclusion or any other problems/questions.
- While representing all member who feel they have no dedicated officer, I will organise activities and support MCR members with families, disabilities, religious beliefs and social disadvantage.
- Organise termly events e.g. film night to bring together all MCR members
- Arrange events for MCR members with families e.g. Easter Egg hunt / pre-firework night activity
- Run a board games night and other non-drinking activities so there is something for everyone!
- Create a Fresher's Dictionary to introduce members new to Oxbridge to the terms, customs and traditions we forget were confusing once – how long was it before you knew what the Plodge was?
- Promote relevant UK and International support days (for example, International Day of Disabled Persons) and events happening in Cam linked to these – for some I will also organise MCR events.
- Advertise University and College organised events and talks that I believe would be of interest to MCR members, for example, on religion, disability awareness and social inclusion.
- Support members and offer 1-to-1 meetings, alongside the Welfare, BME, LGBTQ+ and Women's Officers, who need further support (i.e. financial / mental health) from the University/College/MCR.

Why Vote for Me:

I am passionate about ensuring that the Downing MCR remains inclusive, accepting and supportive for all members to feel comfortable and get involved in events. As well as, making sure the MCR has a variety of events suitable for every member and that the MCR remains a friendly and safe space for all.

I have plenty of experience relevant for this role: for example, I was the International Officer when studying in the Netherlands at Undergrad so organised inclusion events and represented the views of the students. I am also the first person from my family to attend not only Oxbridge but University in general so I understand how odd and overwhelming it can be. Plus, I know how perfectly planned studies can go off-track but how support via college, the UCS and the sexual assault and harassment advisors can help. Finally, I know the ups-and-downs of being on the MCR Committee and hope my experience of knowing what needs doing, along with having good relationships with College will be beneficial! 😊

Proposer: Jake Longhorn

Secoder: Josh Newman