

March 17th - OPEN MEETING agenda, MCR president chairing

1. Apologies: Guangying, Xiaokun, Grace, Josie
2. Minutes of last open meeting to be approved: no objections
3. Reports from officers:
 - i. Nicky
 - a) Committed MCR committee, going to meetings more than JCR committee
 - b) Slightly more micro-managing the MCR committee members to get role-specific events and budgets spent
 - c) Projector fixed
 - d) Burn's night, refreshers week, midway, Lincoln - all seem good
 - e) The fridge ultimatum - has been made. Deadline soon. (ACTION: Nicky)
 - f) 2016/17 Ballot up and coming (ACTION: Nicky & Ed)
 - ii. Ed
 - a) CUSU council update -
 1. generally short & sweet, 1 emergency motions I voted in favour of (and was accepted close to unanimously) 1: "EMERGENCY MOTION TO CALL FOR A FULL INVESTIGATION INTO THE DEATH OF GIULIO REGENIEM".
 2. CUSU/GU hustings and elections. (for the record the results were
 - i. President - Amatey Doku
 - ii. GU President - Chad Allen
 - iii. CUSU Education Officer - Roberta Huldisch
 - iv. CUSU/GU Welfare & Rights Officer - Sophie Buck
 - v. CUSU Access & Funding Officer - Eireann Attridge
 - vi. CUSU Women's Officer - Audrey Sebatindira
 - vii. University Councillor - Umang Khandelwal
 - viii. NUS Delegate - Olly Hudson, Connor MacDonald, and Joe Toovey)
 - b) back door update - it has been mysteriously revealed that actually there is no listed status covering that door, so actually all we need is planning permission, or rather permission that we don't need planning permission, so this is currently with Cambridge Council and timescale is unclear, once we know we'll decide whether to get keys or not.
 - iii. Max
 - a) organised Burn's Night, Midway dinner, Lincoln swap, various formal swaps - successful term in general
 - b) Coming up: pub crawl (early April), Garden party & miniball planned (Aug)
 - iv. Guangying - provided by Nicky
 - a) Average profits on a Friday Night behind the bar ~£150,
 - b) Standard spending of £10 per week on T&C, £5 on movie night.
 - c) General accounts available on request.
 - v. Josie (provided by Nicky)

- a) “Moving over to the new website, if you have any feedback would be fantastic (<http://downingmcr.soc.srcf.net/>)
 - b) Now getting menus from College and sending out in the weekly newsletter. Try and get this as expediently as possible, but it is difficult to sometime extract from catering.”
- vi. Charlotte & Izzy
- a) CUSU training
 - b) Welcome packs
 - c) Seminar night
 - d) planning next seminar night going ahead 11th May
 - e) Music room talk by Jan’s boss - vaccination related, linked to a formal
 - f) Condom conundrum - trying to get a new way around - maybe just a condom bowl in the MCR/ nearby bathroom. Action: Charlotte investigate again.
- vii. Alex, Aditi, Gabe
- a) Done: alcohol for burn’s night & midway, refresher’s week events. Weekly events: TV night every night, & board games at T&C. dishwasher fixed after last committee didn’t get it working. New board games: pandemic, coup, carcassone. New mugs, & items at the bar/coffee machine, tennis rackets, tabletennis paddles, balls etc
 - b) Will happen: loan casino to churchill in response for them working at the miniball.
 - c) Want to get: tablecloth for the pool table, guitar, wii games super smash bros? batteries?
 - d) Possible to open bar during holiday - suggested every Friday still, with board games, but not officially organised yet. T&C and films continuing over easter.
 - e) To do: new price list for the bar, change profit margin from 30-50% to more even margin at less than that and more round numbers, add weekly specials. Writing on the board.
 - f) Projector: functional but cable isn’t major
 - g) Speakers have ongoing problems - Ross suggests switch box in the office to help with this
 - h) Matric photo being chased.
- viii. Xiaokun - provided by Nicky
- a) Done: chinese new year, reclaim the night, Reclaim the night - anti-harassment campaign
- ix. Tessa
- a) MCR hoodies left over from last committee
 - b) Beer tasting & chinese new year - both great
 - c) Event suggestions would be appreciated
 - d) Coming soon - international food day - towards start of next term.
 - e) Singer is becoming (but not yet) international storage.
- x. Wen
- a) Switch off quiz - gold award 3rd after newnham & Catz
 - b) Silver in switch off week.

c) Future:

1. Need more events
2. Environmental film screening - Al Gore? Chasing Ice? Food based?
Action wen & Alex
3. Vegetarian/vegan food day

d) Alex suggests: When is Earth day/ Earth hour? All of us turn everything off for

(ACTION: Wen & Alex)

4. **Report of rent negotiations** (Nicky & Ed): There weren't really any "negotiations" as such because the bursary had decided not to increase rent, which suited both the JCR and MCR. The main topic for discussion was around which rooms were allotted to JCR and MCR. Whilst we had evidence all of Battcock lodge was promised to the MCR, there was also an apparent promise that the JCR had been promised all undergraduates should have a room in college should they want it. In the end it was decided by the bursary that 4th years would be regarded as MCR members for the purposes of accommodation. Those having to pass exams/get certain grades were reserved rooms in Battcock Lodge (14 in total). The 4th year medic/vets were also tagged on to the MCR ballot. It later became evident that whilst the rents are to be maintained the "catering facilities charge" that we all pay £100 for per term, is to be added to our imobile rent, at an increased rate of £13 per week, for every single week of our contracts. Which amounts to an extra 300-400 for graduates living in college for the whole 48 week contract, which represents a 4-5% increase in living cost (rent + KFC), slightly less for Mphils on shorter contracts etc. This increase is not an increase in overall income for college, but a re-distribution for the income. The JCR will actually pay less (due to less weeks in a year), and graduates living out will pay nothing at all - a large improvement for a large number of MCR members, whilst those living in college will pay at an equal rate to the JCR. None of us at rent negotiations were aware of this change, indeed all that was mentioned by the senior bursar was that the KFC will be moved. The reason was deemed as "fairer" to all students, because cost is proportional to length of contract.
5. Hardship fund - underused, hundreds of thousands to get - encouraged people to apply for these.
6. Any Other business?
- i. Motion by Liron & Andreas, rejected for discussion due to being beyond the MCR's ability. "Please refrain from suggesting joke motions, be sensible."
 - ii. Ross Hubble: suggests Film night Eddie the Eagle at picturehouse
 - iii. John Morgan: Website says 2016/17 which is the incorrect - update.