

JCR Committee Meeting 1 - Minutes

MT20, Sunday 18th October



Presidents' Business

- **The Danson Fund (£10,000 granted to JCR for welfare/social purposes):**
 - Bring ideas and proposals to the next meeting.
 - Sanaa will be in a Development committee meeting this week – if you let her know of any ideas before this meeting it will allow her to indicate to college the direction we are going.
 - Looking for activities/opportunities that will benefit as much of the JCR community as possible.
- **Subject Drop in:**
 - Freshers have been out of academics for a long period of time – opportunity to give them extra support.
 - This will be done virtually to avoid the faff of room booking/cleaning:
 - Using 'Gather'- has online avatars that can walk up and talk to others.
 - Sanaa to discuss plans with Ciaran.
- **Library scheme:**
 - Please help advertise the sign-up sheet
 - Any more ideas on how we can make life better for isolating students?
 - Maya and Robb to follow up on welfare packs. Keep Sanaa in the loop.

Vice President's Business

- **Black History Month (Bilal and Shreya):**
 - Only two weeks left of the month.
 - MCR BAME Rep suggested an event on Friday 30th:
 - A raffle – maybe with stash prizes.
 - Pub Quiz about Black History
 - The winner could choose which charity a donation is made to.
 - Hopefully this could be the groundwork for an annual event.
 - A celebration of Black History on the quad:
 - A slide show
 - Musical performances, celebrating black composers and artists.
 - Alumni speeches (will contact Shannon about this possibility)
 - Black history reading group:
 - Asking for volunteers to help organize/run this. Any help would be great appreciated.
 - Movie Screening suggestions:
 - Could be in the MOTL/ Tsuzuki Lecture theatre
 - Potentially an outdoor screening (larger capacity, more inclusive).

- Could use Netflix Party or create a Discord server so that people can chat and discuss as they simultaneously stream.
 - Pippa's film suggestion: *African Apocalypse*
 - The MCR seems more comfortable with virtual events/ avoiding face-face gatherings as cases are going up outside of college grounds.
 - Sanaa is very keen on more collaboration with the MCR in general. This supports a sense of unity when postgrads, in particular, are even more isolated from the rest of college.
 - Chloe suggests offering a selection of workshops (e.g. on removing racial bias).
 - This was supported by and discussed with college last year – will be followed up.
 - A 9-step plan to improve racial awareness, including the use of workshops, was agreed with the governing body last year. Plans were paused due to coronavirus but will be resumed asap.
 - Not just applicable to Freshers, but all students and staff too (including tutors)
 - SU website has many events like this - we need to work to advertise them.
 - Only to send out a list of events so we can then allocate people to push these opportunities on the JCR page.
 - Ciaran suggests committing tutors to a diversity review of their reading lists.
 - This is applicable to all subjects
 - Proposal to use subject reps to put pressure on faculties to make changes to their (often non-existent) racial diversity.
 - Try and organize a meeting with all the subject reps (or equivalent) to explain and discuss ideas.
- **Virtual Woman's Formal (Bilal and Amy)**
 - Have asked college what their plans are regarding celebrating the centenary, but their answer was relatively vague.
 - Lots of information, but not really any active celebration.
 - Having an online event will allow more speakers to contribute.
 - One college has managed to do virtual formals – can we look into and replicate this?
 - MCR Woman's Rep is keen to collaborate
 - Important to make sure we have another event that everyone (students and alumni) are welcome to join. Not just exclusive invitation only.
 - Use breakout rooms with smaller groups, mixing alumni and current students
 - My Room, Your Room approach.
 - Amy to get in contact with SAS.
 - **Virtual Tour/Access Events (Bilal and Rebecca):**
 - Access events are currently very limited – need a way to give prospective students a chance to see St Anne's in detail.
 - Could make a video tour (see the 'Wellington College 360° Tour').
 - We already have Nora's college tour on Instagram:
 - But looking to include more detailed information on what is it like to study/live here.

- This is also a good opportunity to collate data (such as pictures of various rooms) and distribute it to current students so that they can make informed choices during the room ballot.
 - Who is willing to work on this?
 - Sanaa volunteered to do some editing – but is under a lot of time pressure and has many other commitments
 - Ed to research more.
 - If you can think of any more Access opportunities – let Rebecca know asap.
- **Ecotrash bulk order (Bilal and Emily):**
 - Some colleges (Johns, Catz and Worcester) have brought trashing equipment from Ecotrash in bulk to sell off to the students.
 - Price example: one standard pack costs £7:50. A mini pack costs £5 (includes confetti, a party hat and shaving foam.)
 - Either we make the investment, or we just advertise the company to the JCR (as Bilal has already done).
 - The SU already runs a green trashing campaign where they sell the same products during trashing season.
 - However, unlike Ecotrash, all profits go to a charity for marine conservation.
 - But we can't trust that the SU will go through with this during the upcoming year. This is due to pressure from the university, the coronavirus pandemic and their general history of unreliability.
 - Colleges have reported that students are more likely to buy this eco-friendly equipment from Ecotrash than the SU.
 - Emily requests that, either way, we talk to the undergraduates about environmentally friendly trashing practice and options. For example, telling them not to go in the river when covered in shaving foam (poisons the fish), or suggesting how they can make their own products (reduces packaging waste).
 - If you buy a bulk order, can you use it for a few years?
 - Yes, if we don't sell it off this year then we can try again next year without buying more stock. Potentially a long-term investment.
 - Eve stresses the importance of the trashing experience. Reports that trashing still took place this term, however, during peak exam season the authorities may be much stricter.
 - Orly highlights some concerns:
 - There were groups of more than 6
 - There was a lot of litter around the parks for weeks after
 - Not all 'eco' products are actually 100% environmentally friendly – e.g. biodegradable glitter does not fully degrade.
 - Trashing is against university policy. Are we allowed to endorse it as part of a college?
 - Potential fines of up to £300
 - Counter argument: The JCR is separate from the college itself. If people are going to partake in trashing then it is best that we minimise the damage to the environment.

- Are the SU products environmentally better?
 - No, all the products come from the same supplier.
- Advantage of SU is that you don't get a set pack but can pick and choose instead – easier to avoid and discourage shaving foam and glitter.
- Alternatively, we can bulk buy our own paper confetti
 - Can we cut out the middleman and go straight to the supplier?
 - Emily to do more research and a price comparison.
- Welfare Teas leading up to exam season could include crafting eco-friendly trashing material – also a chance to teach Freshers about responsible and sustainable trashing behaviour.

Any other business:

- 1) Virtual Tour follow up discussion
 - a) University website already has a detailed virtual tour of St Anne's
 - i) Can we find out who created this?
 - ii) Add to the resource rather than make our own.
 - b) St Anne's website also has a similar tour
 - i) How can we make this easier to find?
- 2) Are there any Freshers currently living in access rooms?
 - a) 4 in RDB6, however only one is in an access room.
- 3) Some reminders from Dilan:
 - a) Make sure you keep the receipt of all purchases on behalf of the JCR. We will be payed back.
 - b) Will contact individual reps about their budgets soon.
- 4) Bike Scheme
 - a) Emily has reviewed the bike scheme:
 - i) Could extend the loan to 20 hours
 - ii) Does the price have to change, or can it remain at £9?
 - iii) Topic to be discussed with John Ford. Most of this cost goes towards insurance.

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