HT2015 - Sunday 2014 - Week 7

1. Apologies of absence:

VP- Johnny Mitchell E and E- Helen Tatlow Careers and Alumni- Robyn Murphy Charities- Sarah Peel and Lydia Ream

President (Rosie Petersen)

- Meeting with Senior tutor and Dean about Freshers' week stuff, will all be decided in 8th week, will send out an email detailing decisions
- Rent negotiations commencing

Vice President (Jonny Mitchell)

• Bar has requested we stop bringing alcohol into the bar, don't want to have to take this further and bring the Dean into proceedings

Treasurer (Kate Dickinson)

- We have punts!
- finance committee- promised 3rd years and everyone that they will have decent wifi by Trinity

Secretary (Scarlet Unsworth)

Nothing

Welfare (Zoe Larkin & Joel Hide)

Wine and Cheese will be returning, watch this space

Equal Ops (Rachel Hulme)

Film screening on Friday in association with CRAE went well

Accommodation (Matt Hawes)

Still dealing with aspects of the Freshers' room ballot

OUSU Rep (Hossein Sharafi)

Big OUSU meeting this Wednesday, 6 Keble students coming. Still election positions.

Freshers' Week President (Katie Millard)

Nothing

Charities (Lydia Ream & Sarah Peel)

Nothing

Entz (Beth Tapsfield, Leanne Robinson, Olivia Hadjinicolaou)

- Film night rescheduled for next week, on Saturday.
- Bop on last day of term, will be releasing more info- mythical fairytale theme

Arts & Pubs (Kath Baxter, Lily Mackow-McGuire & Mina Ebtehadj-Marguis)

Nothing

Environment & Ethics (Helen Tatlow)

• E and E themed posters coming soon

Careers & Alumni (Robyn Murphy)

Absent

Academic Affairs (Alice Duffy)

2 big school visits next week, need volunteers for each day



HUSTINGS

Male Welfare Officer: Wesley Nelson, Jake Spitz, Fergus Whimster

Equal Opportunities Officer: Ell Potter

Jake-

- My main 4 objectives are: Anonymity, information, approachability, college families
- Anonymity is extremely important for welfare, people might feel embarrassed to ask about problems. Ensure max anonymity. Add a webpage with a box by which people could ask anonymous questions. More private, as anonymous as possible.
- Information- First few weeks there was an overload. Will create a sheet of useful numbers. Taxi numbers, addresses, doctors, college nurse, chaplain. Circulated at the beginning of each term, all put on the website so all information is in the same place.
- Approachability- face to face is important, increase approachability by meeting as many Freshers as possible in the first few weeks. Going round during sexual health talks. Brunches and picnics.
- College families- build on it as much as possible. Branch out more into relations like uncles, aunts, grandparents. As inclusive and useful as it can be. Encourage families to be active with their families throughout the whole year. Teams of family for pub quizzes. Rounders match.
- I feel Anonymity is really a key part of welfare officer.

Fergus

Ladies and gents of the JCR, For my speech I want to set a high bar. So I've taken some time, And made my speech rhyme. Hope you don't think I've gone too far!

I've put my manifesto for you now into a list, But do check it out in case there's anything I've missed. The current excellent welfare standard I want to maintain, Wine & cheese, brunches and the Trinity fair I'll continue all the same.

Contraception, infection and erection protection.
All of these also deserve a mention.
The C-Card scheme is here to stay,
So that you can get condoms the easy way.
By pidge, from Boots or even straight to your door.
Don't get the clap, wrap your chap,
maybe even my opponents could score.

My first action concerns college families, For some freshers, I hear, Were not contacted at the start of the year -Truly they were in agony. Parents, a quick message or text Can put them at rest And relieve their stressful malady. In Michaelmas we could hold a family quiz night, Just something relaxed and fun, to help you bond with your daughters and sons, Which could make the first tense weeks alright.

Next up, how about a college pet?

Now Susy, please don't fret.

I don't mean to steal your idea,

I think it's brilliant – let me make that clear.

Cats and dogs may cause problems with allergies, that's why I suggest a couple of bunnies!

Rabbits are cute and cuddly,

And may cheer you up when you study.

So if a college pet is something you'd like to see, don't hesitate, vote for me!

The last thing I'd like to mend,
Is the low profile of Keble Welfare,
So that when the blues hit and it feels like all your mates are being bellends,
You know where to find someone that cares.
A friendly termly reminder e-mail I'll send The information's all on our website, but not enough people know it's there!

Now thank you all for your time,
And I hope that you've enjoyed my rhyme.
I wish my worthy opponents all the best,
As the JCR puts us all to the test.
But if you think your promises and ideas have got me scared,
I say only this - 'don't care'

Wes-

- Three main ideas- Freshers' week, events in the year, peer mentoring
- In freshers week consent workshops really useful, promoted safety. Not enough debates in certain groups, could be improved. The Welfare brunch was a good idea, but not publicised as much as it could have been, would like to improve on this.
- Events in the year- cheese and wine has been great. Would like to make this more inclusive, perhaps pizza and beer.
- I have been chatting to people around college for events that would make everyone happy. Ideas include: Trampoline on quod. Hide and seek. Rent some pets. I will endeavour to make a poll and decide on a fun new event we could all take part in.
- Peer mentoring- hasn't received much publicity at all, but they have the capacity to bring most help to everyone in college. Will ensure everyone knows right from the beginning who they are, what they do. Perhaps post days where a peer mentor's door will be open so they can receive anyone who wants a chat.

Questions-

Keble condoms aren't used as much they could be, how could you improve this?

Wes- Must be some funny things we could do to raise awareness, someone dress up as a condom.

Jake- C card letter looked intimidating and medical, could shove a few condoms in there to make it look more friendly.

Fergus- I think it's actually a serious and important matter, would probably approach it more seriously. Just give it maximum publicity, make people more aware, really simple and easy.

Wes- don't you want to take the stigma away though?

Fergus- is there a stigma?

What event could you put on to get finalists through finals?

Fergus- Trinity fair important- heard good things. Free food, bouncy castle.

Jake- text a toastie would be good, create a more regular service if people are studying late **Wes**- Best people to ask would be the finalists themselves. They'll know what they might want to do. Like the consent workshop, would like to put on a workshop to help people chill out before exams so they know what to expect

College families- some people who don't want to be part of it, how would you fix this?

Jake- Branching it out- not just done through parents

Wes- Adoption- some parents like the idea of having kids more.

Fergus- I was going to say that. Unofficial adoption. Not just about parents, brothers and sisters are also important.

Do you find it easy to contact the welfare officers?

Wes- Yes I imagine I would, but I didn't know there were peer mentors until two weeks ago. A lot of people also didn't know.

Jake- Didn't have any specific problems but Zoe was very open and encouraged people to contact her if

Fergus- Easy to talk to, Quick and easy to arrange. Would still try and raise profile of welfare

If you were a type of condom?

Jake- Ribbed for your pleasure because I care so much

Wes- Mango?

Fergus- Trojan extra large.

Equal Opportunities

EII

- Inequality particularly important in Oxford, issues of inequality can be distant. We have a privilege. Important that discrimination remains a topic we are comfortable discussing
- Team up with entz to put on film nights which are relevant. Like to continue film screenings, shouldn't be to celebrate a single month, should be ongoing throughout the year. Could show Pride, The Help, Selma. Mulan. Things which raise issues about equality, maybe discuss them afterwards. Make distant ideas seem more relevant
- There Should be a way to talk about little throwaway remarks pertaining to gender, sexuality. Should always be ready to talk about how things like that make us feel.
- Envisage working with welfare closely. I would always here in a personal capacity.
- I'm a people person, friendly, involved in Keble arts, Martin Esslin, and I'm in the café a lot. Easily approachable, important for hands on way to address inequality. No one

should suffer in silence, would do my best to make Keble a welcoming and open place

You mentioned being there to support individual people- equal opps doesn't have peer support training. Would you be interested in peer support?

I feel it's important to get proper training to support people properly, and there should be an overlap with welfare. Can seem very distant. Peer support could help with that. I would definitely be interested.

2. Motions:

Motion 1- Minority gender welfare roles

Proposed by: Rosie Petersen Seconded by: Jack Remmington

This JCR notes that:

- The current Welfare Officers are described as 'male' and 'female' in the constitution.
- This prevents people who don't identify as either male or female—ie those of minority genders—from running for the role of Welfare Officer.
- Several other JCRs have, in recent years, updated their constitutions so as to allow people of minority genders to run for all committee positions.
- In addition to Welfare Officers, the JCR also has a group of peer supporters who receive lots of the same training.

This JCR believes that:

- A person's gender should not prevent them from running for roles within the JCR.
- It is important to maintain a mix of genders within the welfare team, so that members of the JCR have someone to turn to for specific problems and advice.
- The peer supporters are an important part of the welfare team, and their contribution and capabilities shouldn't be undermined.
- The LGBTQ rep, as the JCR's main voice for students who are of minority gender, is likely to best understand and represent the concerns of these students.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Change the names of the Welfare Officers in the constitution to 'Female or minority gender' and 'Male or minority gender', such as to allow people of minority gender to run for the role whilst ensuring that the two officers are of different genders.
- Ensure that there is at least one male and one female peer supporter, so that, should one of the Welfare Officer roles be occupied by a person of minority gender, everyone still has someone of their preferred gender to talk to.

Issues Raised:

Can we have a cis man or cis woman, and then can we have a third officer? Vast majority of colleges have 1 or 2, spoke to LGBTQ, no need to have 3. A lot of administration, don't want to inflate committee, harder to micromanage. There will always be a female and male peer supporter. Trained in the same way to talk to you about it. Welfare sit on committee, but all go to the same peer supporter training. Peer supporters and welfare get the same training- at present peer supporters don't have the resources welfare have, but could easily make it so that one of the female peer supporters was given the supplies. Only problem would be visibility.

Votes for: 40 Votes against:0 Abstentions:0

This motion: PASSES

Motion 2: Oxford University Canoe and Kayak Club (OUCKC) grant

Proposer: Helen Tatlow Seconder: Matthew Hawes

This JCR notes that

- 1. OUCKC is an active and growing half blues and discretionary full blues university sports club that trains and stores boats at Port Meadow
- 2. It rents the shed where the boats are stored from the Keble College Boat Club, who wish to build a new shed in the place of the current one with more facilities. They have asked that in order to keep our waterfront location, road access, and storage facilities, that we and enter into a partnership with them and contribute £20,000 towards the cost of the new shed. In 6 months OUCKC has been unable to find alternative locations for storage or grants from the university, so must raise the £20,000 themselves or face the prospect of having to sell the boats/ store them wherever it can, lose its training and boat storage facilities; effectively the end of a half blues level sport.
- 3. OUCKC has already raised £6000 towards the total through ongoing fundraising efforts. 4 college JCR/ MCR motions like this one have already been successful this term (proposed by other club members)

This JCR believes that

- 1. OUCKC has active and former members in Keble JCR who have benefitted from the sport. Members of the JCR could benefit from the opportunity to try the sport
- 2. 'It's better where it's wetter'

This JCR therefore resolves to

- 1. Donate £200 to OUCKC towards the new shed
- 2. In exchange OUCKC will
 - a. Offer a discount Trinity Term membership to all members of Keble JCR of only £10 (normally £18)
 - b. Provide a 'come and try it' session during the 2/3rd May (end of 1st week of Trinity term) for Keble JCR members (even if not members) to come and try kayaking on Port Meadow, have a BBQ, and generally a fun time on the water

Issues Raised:

Proposer- Keble boat club have a whole rowing complex, random shed in the middle is ours. If we want to store our boats we have to raise 20 grand, a lot of money for a small club. 4 motions passed in other JCRS, going through 2 more. Any member of JCR can come and try the club.

- How much is overall cost of shed? We're paying 20 grand or 40 per cecnt. Estimated at 70 grand. A high cost.
- How much money do we have? Get ten grand over the year for general spend, plenty of money for this kind of expenditure

Votes for: 36 Votes against:0 Abstentions:6 This motion:PASSES

Motion 3: Students for happiness This JCR Notes That...

- although we are educated on an infinite array of subjects at Oxford and school, we are rarely taught anything about happiness, well-being and mental health.
- In response to this educational deficit, the non-profit organisation Students for Happiness that is partially run by students in Oxford looks to provide invigorating and thoughtprovoking intellectual discussions surrounding this crucial topic. Their vision is to create a
 movement for positive social change with no commercial, religious or political affiliations in
 order to reduce the stigma of mental health issues and readdress our attitude towards
 happiness.
- Their discussions draw on the latest research in the fields of psychology, philosophy, politics, the arts, science and economics, approaching the idea of happiness from a myriad of perspectives.
- They have garnered the support of various influential figures and organisations, including Professor AC Grayling, Dr. Rowan Williams, Alain de Botton, The School of Life (www.theschooloflife.com), Action for Happiness (www.actionforhappiness.org), Mental Wealth UK (www.mentalwealthuk.com), The Oxford Mindfulness Centre and The Empathy and Compassion in Society Conference.

This JCR Believes That...

- not only is it vitally important to foster worthwhile organisations about the wellbeing of students, in which Keblites have an active role in, but it is also incredibly important that the university provides education in the field of mental health, happiness and wellbeing to assist those affected by mental health issues and to reduce stigma and/or ignorance surrounding mental health.
- Mental health, wellbeing and happiness can sometimes be compromised or worsened in the
 pressurised university environment, and it is important that education plays a key role in
 combatting the issue, as well as just medical support services at the university.

This JCR therefore resolves to...

- assist in the start-up of Students for Happiness at Oxford through their first Oxford event in May 2015, which will be a panel including Barry Schwartz, who is a world renowned leading psychologist who has agreed to come if we can pay for travel expenses (his Ted talks have had over 10 million views), Dr Ilona Boniwell (confirmed speaker) who is a leading international positive psychologist, Mark Williams of the Oxford Mindfulness Centre (confirmed speaker) and Nic Marks (confirmed speaker) who runs new economics foundation and the centre for well being looking at promoting happiness in the work place.
- This JCR proposes assistance in the form of funding for hiring a venue for this incredibly insightful panel and the travel expenses of Barry Schwartz, which is estimated at £400 based on the cost of hiring the St. John's auditorium hall.
- Provide up to £400

Issues Raised:

Proposer: Bringing the institution to oxford- would be really grateful if Keble could be a leading force in that.

- What specific benefit would this have for Keblites? Colleges are ecosystems, if one person doesn't feel good then everyone else suffers. Would love to kick start a wave of awareness. Film competition next year, social events. Positive to get awareness through panel.
- Is this a charity? No, it's a not for profit organisation. Has a charitable aim but not a charity. Want Keble to fund the panel and Benny fund future events.
- Benefits for JCR?- Keble is a small group of people and a strong community, issue would work well with welfare. Opportunity for personal issues to be in public atmosphere. Able to go somewhere more public. Forum for discussion. Professionals. Very beneficial for everyone.

Votes for: 32 Votes against: 0 Abstentions:7

This motion: PASSES

Motion 4: Political Posters in the JCR Proposer: Matt Scott & Jake Spitz

Seconder: Rosie Petersen

This JCR notes that:

- Currently there is no JCR regulation regarding the display of posters within the common room.
- Certain posters in the JCR are of an overtly political nature, and not necessarily in line with the views of Keble's undergraduate body.
- There are many public areas within Keble, other than the JCR, where posters may be displayed, including outside the Porter's Lodge and in the Cafe.

This JCR believes that:

- The JCR is the political and social centre of the undergraduate body, and therefore the presence of political posters within the JCR suggests that the student body approves of such a poster's point of view.
- Limiting what posters are displayed in the JCR does not impede anyone's right to free speech, but potentially protects members of the JCR from content that could be offensive to them.
- Having a more formalised system regarding the displaying of political posters better enables members of the JCR to take action in the event that something they deem offensive is put up.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Ensure that all political posters wanting to be displayed in the JCR are run by the JCR President and Committee for approval.
- Discuss and formulate a communal opinion within the JCR meetings as to where to draw the boundary between 'political' and 'non-political' posters.
- Encourage those wanting to display political posters to use alternative spaces to the JCR.

Issues raised:

• Point of interest: Not other spaces for people to freely advertise, college have to approve any other posters in other spaces

- *JCR- are we an apolitical body?* If so, I don't want to sit on a committee and make political statements. Deeming posters offensive is a political act in itself.
- Don't think we're an apolitical body, we do have opinions. Run by JCR committee assure some neutrality. Free for all system more likely to offend. The JCR should be a space people feel comfortable in.
- Friendly Amendment- 'Political posters' shall be replaced with 'Propaganda posters'- thus political posters need not be approved if they are advertising talks, however outright propaganda or posters with overt propagandistic message are henceforth not allowed to be put up.
- But what if we're advertising what's happening in Oxford?. When is something stating something and when is it propaganda.
- Where do you draw the line? It's subjective process. Things people do find unacceptable.
- Create a Feedback system instead? Bring it to the JCR if they feel it's a big enough issue. Big decision to be made very frequently, big administrative task.
- Proble with taking something to committee meetings is they only occur every 2 weeks.
- Hyperbole, but: say someone was advertising westboro Baptist talks- would they be propaganda? If words jump out, if it appears as propaganda. Politically charged words which will upset people. Impossible to draw an exact line.
- If people want to put up a poster go to the JCR? Too much bureaucracy
- Can we not just have welfare or equal opps get an email? People can express if they're feeling offended. Good idea- something people won't complain often. Won't be a frequent occurrence
- Email welfare officer and can pass it on to committee- big issue if people don't feel comfortable. Get welfare or equal opps to look into any posters which people have an issue with. Up to welfare rep's discretion. If someone's upset, good enough reason to take it down.
- Friendly amendment- People can message welfare if they find a poster makes them uncomfrotable. Welfare officer or equal opps have right to remove a poster at their discretion.

Resolves clause as it now reads:

- Prohibit people from putting up posters which could be classed as 'Propaganda' (this does not
 include posters advertising events or talks going on around Oxford, even if political in nature)
- Introduce a system whereby if someone feels uncomfortable about a poster they can email either the Welfare or Equal Opportunities Officer, who will then use their discretion as to whether to take the poster down.

Votes For: 22 Votes Against: 9 Abstentions: 15

This Motion: Passes

HUSTINGS CHALLENGES

4. AOB

- Boycott divestment sanctions- OUSU motion to ote on whether or not we will support boycott
- Israel doesn't listen to BDS, poisonous in general. Not to censor.
 Pushes Zionists to the right. Awful movement.
- Any possible movement towards anonymous voting?

- General feeling amongst Freshers they haven't been able to oppose anything
- Oxford Hub- get involved!
- Guest nights too pricey, not advertised enough