



MCR Committee, St. Catharine's College

Open Meeting (including By-Election Hustings) held on **Tuesday, October 27th, 2015**

MINUTES

Present

Michael Rivera (Co-President), Ravi Raninga (Co-President), Rachel Lai (Secretary), David Wade (Treasurer), Charlotte Northrop (Welfare Officer), Helene Mobbs (Education Officer), James Elderfield (Computing Officer), Erin Oerton (Social Secretary), Izzy Everall (Social Secretary), Marcus Fantham (Food and Drink Officer), David Battersby (Formal Hall Officer)

Absence with apologies

None.

The meeting was called to order and chaired by Michael Rivera. Rachel Lai recorded the minutes.

71	<p><u>Minutes of previous meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catz MCR Symposium – MCR members will be presenting their respective research and Co-Presidents are still working on the programme. 3 out of 4 keynote speakers have been settled. As soon as four keynotes are confirmed, the line-up will be released and call for student abstracts will be sent out. • Christmas formal – RL has confirmed with the MCR that Christmas formal has now been shifted to December 5 • College policies – RR and CN met with Senior Tutor, Paul Hartle, on October 26 to review college policies. CN, RR, and JCR Welfare Officers to sit down and track changes on policy document regarding sexual harassment and bullying • Sky subscription – JE has contacted JCR president. This was supposed to be followed up by JCR Treasurer, but no response has been made yet • Freshers' week feedback – one event was cancelled due to lack of approval from Dean <p>ACTION: MR and RR to continue working on Symposium</p> <p>ACTION: RR and CN to work with JCR Welfare Officer and Paul Hartle to continue work on College policies</p> <p>ACTION: JE to e-mail JCR Treasurer once more regarding Sky subscription cost and set-up for MCR</p>	MR RR CN JE
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72	<p><u>Positive Investment Cambridge (PIC)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PIC has been working to improve social and environmental awareness about work done by the University and the College's usage of endowment funds • Cambridge has agreed to set up a working group to review funds and to divest investments that are unenvironmental • Alex Scott introduced a motion for JCR's and MCR's to pass in support for this endorsement • PIC is an apolitical group • DW suggested that the committee should also encourage the College to align its investment practices with the College values. • Suggested motion: "We endorse all efforts of the University of Cambridge to investigate ways of more closely aligning its investment practices and policies with its own stated values, as outlined in its Mission Statement. We encourage and will actively support St Catharine's College to align its own investment practices and policies with the College values." <p>ACTION: Alex Scott to e-mail motion to MCR Committee, and RR/MR to assist PIC in raising awareness of their work among the MCR and around College</p>	MR RR
73	<p><u>Hustings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External Officer – Joe Cooper and Andrew Kornienko are running for External Officer • Green – Alex Scott and Naim Bro-Khomasi are running for Green Officer • MR has set up election poll on CUSU • RR has several ideas for the Green Officer and will bring up the ideas after the election ends • Voting period will last for 72 hours with a total of 251 voters. MCR will find out in next Monday's bulletin who has won the elections. Ineligible voters are stated in the constitution (e.g., 4th year undergrads, ERASMUS students, and affiliate/associate members) <p>ACTION: RL to circulate manifestos to MCR along with election link on Tuesday night</p>	RR RL
74	<p><u>MCR bar quiz</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The charity event was successful in raising £72 for Teenage Cancer Trust UK, a foundation suggested by Craig, the College Bar Manager • MCR Constitution states that we cannot use MCR funds make donations – there was intention to top-up the funds raised to a total of £150 <p>ACTION: IE and EO to discuss pub quiz date</p> <p>ACTION: DB to liaise with Martin regarding passing of bucket at Halloween formal to top-up donated funds in an alternative way</p>	IE EO DB

75	<p><u>Charities the MCR supports</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As part of the College Consultative Committee Meeting on November 5, the CCC asks the MCR which charities they would like to support • Eleanor Chan pointed out that the College traditionally prefers local, small charities – monies contributed will have more significant impact for them and impact that is close to home • MCR members suggested Wondergears, Camfed International, Jimmy’s Night Shelter, HVP Nepal and St. George’s Court Care Centre <p>ACTION: RR and MR to bring up relevant charities at CCC</p>	RR MR
76	<p><u>Points to be brought up at CCC</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heating at RS – we’re being charged a very high amount for heating • DW to ask Martin about fees that we’re paying. Needs more accountability and transparency on website. This includes the Kitchen Fixed Charge that students are required to pay • Possibility of double beds in graduate accommodations <p>ACTION: RR and MR to bring up relevant points at CCC</p> <p>ACTION: DW to check regarding transparency of KFC with Martin</p>	RR MR DW
77	<p><u>St. George’s Court Care Centre</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A College fellow spent his last weeks at the Centre, and St. George’s would like to build a stronger relationship with the College (<i>e.g.</i>, with MCR visits) • Eleanor Chan has suggested that Catzapella can sing at St. George’s <p>ACTION: MR and RR to follow up with the Centre, the MCR and the College to establish stronger ties with the Centre</p>	RR MR
78	<p><u>Decorating of MCR</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newspaper rack needs to be ordered – CN happy to help • MR suggested a photography competition or submission of photographs to be printed and mounted on walls • EC has mentioned that the college also has beautiful art collections • One more oar can be purchased for the MCR <p>ACTION: CN to help MR with decorations</p> <p>ACTION: MR and RR to invite submission of photographs by MCR members and look into art collections</p> <p>ACTION: Joe Cooper (present at the Open Meeting) and HM to follow up with Peter Wothers regarding purchase of one more oar</p>	CN MR RR HM

79	<p><u>Q1 accounts</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Q1 accounts are almost ready. Sarah highlighted some issues that needed fixing. DW will send it out as soon as it is settled • Duplication of formal swap items have been sorted – Accounts Office to e-mail out notes this week to involved parties. MCR members should be encouraged to check college bills before paying them • DB to consider bumping up formal costs by £1 per person • DW asked for MCR Committee to be more cautious about expenditure. If a cheaper alternative can be sourced without substituting experience, each bit adds up over time <p>ACTION: DB to see Simon Summers regarding formal costs</p> <p>ACTION: DW to put up a sheet on how to be more prudent</p>	DB DW
80	<p><u>Sexual health</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CN has prepared condoms and candy bowl to be placed in MCR • MR suggested having a Welfare tea where members will be provided a platform to discuss sexual health <p>ACTION: CN to send e-mail out on hushmail, condoms, and pregnancy kits</p> <p>ACTION: CN to look into possibility of a Welfare tea</p>	CN
81	<p><u>Current website feedback</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work is being continued on the new website • Graduate survey performed by the College Tutorials Office has been passed on to the Co-Presidents, which includes points on the website <p>ACTION: All MCR members to send suggestions for improvements/additions to the old/new website to JE</p> <p>ACTION: RL to sort through graduate survey and e-mail the MCR Committee with feedback points relevant to each Committee member highlighted</p>	MCR JE RL
82	<p><u>Double beds policies</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One member has asked for the College policy on double beds to be reviewed • At present, bedders are instructed to report if double beds are present in graduate residences as they are a safety hazard <p>ACTION: RR and MR to check policies with College</p>	RR MR

83	<p><u>Airbeds at Russell Street</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jonathan Mak and MR to manage the airbed at RS RL to source for an airbed or camp bed <p>ACTION: MR and RL to follow up on getting an airbed for Russell Street</p>	MR RL
84	<p><u>“Women’s only hour” in gym</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issue was not brought up with Peter Wothers – a procedural error on JCR’s part. RR/MR assumed that Eli Bond (JCR President) would go through Wothers Suggestion made that a timetable could be put up on when certain groups of people are scheduled to use the gym (<i>e.g.</i>, male rowers in the College) RR/MR to tell Eli that MCR cannot approve this <p>ACTION: RR/MR to check with JCR regarding putting up a schedule</p> <p>ACTION: RR/MR to inform Eli/JCR that MCR does not approve of the women’s only hour initiative at the College gym</p>	MR RR
85	<p><u>Organisation of formal hall swaps</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DB expressed a wish for help in the organisation of formal hall swaps <p>ACTION: DB to follow up with the newly elected External Officer</p>	DB
86	<p><u>Mini-socials planning meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A mini-socials planning meeting will be held at RS on November 4, 2015 Any suggestions should be e-mailed to IE/EO/DB/MF/RR/MR before then <p>ACTION: Social suggestions to be e-mailed in to the ‘Events Team’ by all Committee members</p>	ALL

There being no further items to discuss at this time, the meeting was adjourned.

Next meeting to be held on **Monday, November 23rd, 2015, 6:00-7:00pm** in the **Rushmore Room**.

The next open meeting will be held on **Monday, December 7th, 2015, 6:00-7:00pm** in the **MCR**.