

# GREY COLLEGE MIDDLE COMMON ROOM

## Third Meeting – Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm

### Minutes

**Present:-** Michael Cannon, David Clark, Iain Devlin, Peter Swift, Chris Lomas, Will Ball, George Whalley

**Apologies:-** Steven Rimmer

#### Matter's Arising

- **Furniture Proposal:-** The initial proposal using University suppliers (Knightsbridge <http://www.dur.ac.uk/grey.mcr/commonroom/InitProp.pdf>) was far too expensive. However, a new proposal using Ikea and other providers (see <http://www.dur.ac.uk/grey.mcr/commonroom/AmmProp.pdf>) has been submitted to the Master who has okayed it, and passed it on for the Bursar's approval. Capital for this is been provided by the Grey College Trust, with an extra £200 being provided towards tea and coffee facilities (fridge, kettle etc.).
- **Phoenix Room:-** Has been cleared but is at present in use for a conference.
- **Magazines and Periodicals:-** *New Scientist* would cost £85.50 per annum (student rate), whilst subscription to *Nature* is £74 per annum (student rate). *The Economist* subscription price cannot be found on the web. These can probably be paid from out of the composition fee.
- **Swipecard:-** The proposal by G2 Integrated Solutions (<http://www.dur.ac.uk/grey.mcr/commonroom/SecQuot.pdf>) has been rejected on grounds of cost. We will look into setting the swipecard system up ourselves, at a fraction of the cost.
- **Letters to prospective students:-** Have been produced and sent out to new Postgraduate students and returning 4<sup>th</sup> years (Thanks to Julie!)

#### Constitution

Mike Cannon has produced a draft constitution (available soon). This was discussed and the following points were raised:

- A 4<sup>th</sup> year-rep ex-officio position needs creating on the Exec. Committee, thereby allowing 4<sup>th</sup> year views to be represented to the common room.
- Election procedures were mentioned,
- 25% of the membership was thought to constitute quorum for voting.
- Formal ticket allocation was discussed and it was suggested that one table be allocated to MCR members at two formals per term. Next year, online booking for formals will be up and running, giving people a fairer chance of managing to buy tickets.
- MCR dinner – it was thought that the best time for this would be the third term; the second term is already too full with dinners etc, and the first term was felt to be too early for an important social event.

- Collaboration with the JCR was discussed, including ways of using JCR systems for the MCR, (ents cards etc.). The implications of this need considering with the JCR constitution.

#### **A.O.B.**

- **Away day:-** The college officers have an away day for forward planning, to which the JCR and SCR Presidents are invited. Therefore should the MCR President have the same privilege? This needs looking into with College.
- **JCR relations:-** George Whalley commented that the JCR are very much in favour of reforming the MCR. It is important if Grey is to be a College rather than a Hall of residence.
- **JCR President:-** What role will the JCR President play in the MCR? It was felt that the JCR as a whole need representing to the MCR, as well as of course 4<sup>th</sup> year views. Therefore the JCR President should have equal voting rights as MCR members, and also be an ex-officio Executive Committee member.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> years:-** It was thought that it would be a good idea to invite 3<sup>rd</sup> years who will be going into the 4<sup>th</sup> year to the last general meeting of their 3<sup>rd</sup> year, so as to give them a flavour of what the MCR has to offer.

#### **Things to do**

- **Lockers:-** The Chemistry Dept. has just purchased ones very like those we would like. Find out cost and supplier - [Mike](#)
- **Constitution:-** Revise it for the next meeting taking points considered into account – [Mike](#)
- **JCR/MCR integration:-** Look at implications of this, and the possibility of Postgraduates taking part in Sport etc., without having to pay the full levy – [George](#)
- **Budget for Composition fee:-** Find out the MCR allowance from the composition fee and liaise with JCR treasurer about ordering periodicals etc. – [Peter](#)

**Date of next meeting:-** Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> September, 7.30pm in the bar