



Grey College MCR

Executive Committee Meeting

12/02/2014

Minutes

In attendance: Jia Liu (Alice), Craig Fisher, James Collinson and Noah Schwartz.

Members absent: Charlotte Walsh, Christie Kin-Cleaves, Katy Sherratt.

1. President's Business

- There was an email miscommunication, in which people thought the list had been sent to Collingwood when it was not. This is a result of four people trying to do one persons job. This needs to be cut down to one person doing it. At MCR Presscomm a list of social secretaries was compiled, and formal info will be sent to Social Secs instead of Presidents. Christie needs to compile a manual for how to use the formal booking system (since he will eventually leave). The sooner we do this the better as it gives us a trial run.
- Between Alice and Katy, a social sec will be assigned to each formal. They will be responsible for the formal from start to finish. This includes: receiving info from other college, send out email telling people about the formal, arrange and send out a link for online booking, after the booking is closed collecting the list together, once the list is compiled they should send it on to the relevant college. When the email to the college in question is sent, it should **always** CC the MCR Exec.
- The MCR Website is open to non-members currently (one of the people who booked onto the Collingwood formal was not an MCR member as they did not pay their fee). The former president from 2005 can still log into the MCR website, which is bad. James has a list of the MCR members, he will email them to Christie who should make sure that only MCR members can log into the MCR website.
- This is one of the main meetings of the term. One happens every term, and Craig must present a form to the college.
- Action plans: Our agenda with the MCR exec meetings needs to match up more with the action plans. At the end of each meeting, action points before the next meeting should be discussed. This will make us more official, which is important considering our further integration with the college. This makes us more efficient and accountable.
- Website updates: one email account (e.g. Grey Social Sec) needs to be created. We have to look into making this happen. We need to create a handbook for

the formal booking system. There are two MCR Websites at the moment, and they need to be combined into one website. We can't have two websites. Loose ends need to be tied up, there lots of links from the JCR website and College website that lead to the old one. These need to be corrected. Craig needs to create his little blurb for the website which he will do for Monday. Paypall needs to be brought up. It would be handy to be able to pay for formals via paypal. This is not a priority but would be nice.

- Social events: the social secretaries need to learn to use the online booking system. We need some new social events – and social events that will appeal to everyone. The social secretaries should organize the easter egg hunt, and potentially a St. Patricks day celebration.
- Livers-out: there should be an in town social event, or an event that caters more to the livers out who may be too busy to come to college. Café in town, day trip to York etc. discussed. In the next couple of weeks an event needs to happen.
- Facilities: recycling/toilets. We need to organize poster making to be put up in the kitchens explaining the recycling procedure. A page in the handbook should be added to explain proper recycling procedures. Craig will talk to be Pete about making sure the handle on the shower turns all the way closed so that the shower doesn't leak.
- Welfare: the JCR presidential elections happened. Congrats Nick on winning the election. Craig spoke with Nick, who is the current welfare officer, and asked what welfare facilities the MCR has. This is something that we need to sort out, as we don't have welfare reps. This is something more long run that we should work out. Given that we are now talking about further JCR-MCR integration, this is a good time to push for more MCR welfare stuff. Noah mentioned ensuring that special training is put into place for international students to ensure that their unique welfare needs are met.
- Meeting minutes: the meeting minutes need to be uploaded online to the new MCR website when it is completed. Noah needs to format the meeting minutes to fit to the same format. He then needs to email them to Christie to put up.
- Handbook: Needs to be amended to include washroom and recycling issues. Furthermore, Alice has been working on a special international students handbook that can be added. The handbook will be emailed to everyone before the start of term.
- 3rd Years: an event for the current third years, thinking of staying on for next year. This would be a good way to sell the MCR to them. This way third years and current members could mingle and chat, and learn about the MCR.

2. Treasurer's Business

- Need to predetermine budgets for MCR social events, as Chinese New Year cost more than sushi night, Channukah, Halloween, and cocktail night put together. This way we can know whether people should be charged a nominal fee (e.g. £2) to come along.

- Anyone still not paid the MCR fee is now to be removed from the 4th year mailing list [Christy].
- Formals - can James also be forwarded the relevant info about formals when booking closes, so James can prepare a cheque in advance. The exec should be cc'd into everything.

3. Research Business

- PhD Student meet up will occur in town on Sunday 23rd Feb. People who are thinking about doing PhD's will be invited.
- MCR research seminar on 3rd Mar.
- Alice is trying to organize dissertation workshops for MCR students. James will contact language center about getting a speaker in.

4. Social Secretaries Business

- Katy (in absentium): "I do not think it is right that members of MCR should be prioritised over others for events such as formals. Priority should always be done on order of booking or other methods that are not opinion based. I think this should be included in our constitution as members of the exec should not be allowed to remove people from a formal because they feel this is the right to do. Example of this being that all exec members were initially excluded from the two spaces available to Grey members for the Collingwood inter-MCR formal without said individuals having a say in the matter. To say one person has more right to go to a formal than another opens up too much room for argument and therefore all future decisions of this sort should be made on concrete information, not an opinion."
- Craig raised the issue that it is important that the MCR be accountable for mistakes made, even if it's not blamed on an individual. A lot of our decisions are made on opinion rather than concrete information. This was a last minute decision, and decisions in real time are never perfect, nor can they always be based on "empirical" information.
- This particular example should not come up again because of the formal booking streamlining
- It would be difficult to quantify in the constitution
- The reason this was done was because it looks quite bad for the council, and unfair towards the rest of the MCR, if the exec had declared that formal was cancelled and then two members went along.

5. Secretaries Business

- An MCR Exec cellphone list will be made so that exec members can be rapidly reached
- It is important when trying to make something happen to call out a specific person.

6. Targets for next meeting

1. Write instructions for formal booking system (Christie) and train the social secretaries (Christie + Social Secretaries)
2. Combine websites, and update them (removing loose ends) (Christie)
3. Deny access to website to non-MCR members (Christie + James)
4. Organize one social event within the next two weeks – doesn't need to be big just something (Social Secretaries)
5. Organize a livers out event within the next month (Social Secretaries)
6. For further down the line organize an Easter or St. Patricks Day event (Social Secretaries)
7. PhD Meetups and research seminars (James)
8. Put minutes on the website (Noah + Christie)
9. Talk to Nick about welfare (Craig + Charlotte)
10. Recycling posters, poster making session??? (Social Secretaries with input from all of us).
11. Craig needs to meet with Christie to explain the changes that need to be made
12. Alice needs to contact the JCR to find out why we didn't get a table at Valentines and ensure that we are getting the information we need.