



Communities Committee Meeting - 07-12-2020

Attendance: GG (WCS Rep), HM (EM Rep), CH (Assistant LGBT+ Rep), TAF (Assistant International Rep), SWC (President), MP (Vice-President)

Apologies: DM (Assistant EM Rep)

Absent: RM (Assistant WCS Rep), AJ (Local Students Rep), LH (LGBT+ Rep), AD (Trans & NB Rep)

Communities Chair

SWC We will hold a very brief meeting in a few days to elect a chair. Please all attend.

Updates & Thoughts for next term

HM I submitted the report for the JCR meeting. I held anti-racism workshops and set up anti-racism soc. Hopefully more in person events next term, including small scale events either in person or online. Build more on anti-racism. A Newsletter might be upcoming.

GG Been involved with WCS Society. It needs more effort put into it. Need to get the forums started. I have a vision for it but it needs more work. Things being in person could help us. Helped MW with participation fund.

TAF I've been doing care packages for international students in durham. Some cute responses to my form. Over Xmas we'll do weekly pub quizzes. Hopefully an in-person event at some point. Thinking about making an international society.

SWC I like the societies that mirror the positions for the social side.

CH Had a meeting a couple of weeks ago for unsuccessful halloween social. LH met with college LGBT+ Reps. We are putting things on but we aren't having much success. Planning a social media campaign over Xmas that could improve engagement. We might do mixed college socials to up engagement.

SG Obviously quite new to the role. Next term plan to get to know the large community in Cuth's. A lot of disabilities are hidden disabilities. ES (SwD 19-20) did hidden disability campaigning. Talking to other SwD reps is important. Durham isn't a great place to be disabled. We need to improve Student experience. Small steps. Just waiting on handover.



Forums

SWC This was a plan from earlier in the term – would focus on different ones for different groups. Mix of open discussion and focus. I'm there so that you can give me action to take. We could do forums as specific as necessary (e.g. specific Trans Forum in addition to an LGBT+ Forum). What are we going to call it?

SG “Identities Forum”. For me, you probably don't need subsections for SwD. “Disabilities Forum”.

CH I'd just be worried with engagement if it's too split down. Would have to talk to AD and LH.

SWC Shall we pick a name now?

HM I'd go for Cuth's Communities Forum.

SG “Speak out forum”

HM “Speak up forum ft. Cuth's Communities”

SG We should go for cheese over clinical terms.

TAF “Speak out” sounds a bit #MeToo.

MP We should just go for HM's original suggestion. We aren't going to find a perfect solution. We can include these terms in the marketing.

SWC Congrats to TAF and HM on their palatinate articule. Cuth's onward! Good Term!

Meeting Adjourned