



JCR Meeting 1.2 Minutes (19/10/2023)

Apologies

Approval of Minutes

Correspondence

Motions

PGM Committee Expansion Motion

Creation of a PGCE Rep and General Member Positions on PGM Comm

Participation Fund Panel Motion

Clarify standing orders concerning makeup of the Participation Fund Panel

DSU Assembly Elections Motion

Create new Standing Order for the election procedure for the Cuth's SU Assembly Rep

Welfare Campaigns Manager and Social Media Motion

Motion to allow the Welfare Campaigns Team Manager access to the Welfare Social Media Platforms

Assistant Librarian Requirements Motion

Motion to change requirements necessary to run for Assistant Librarian

Break

Raffle

Elections

Assistant International Rep (II)

Assistant WCS Rep (II)

Assistant SwD Rep (II)

Assistant POC Rep (II)

Assistant LGBTQ+ Rep (II)

Trans and Non-Binary Rep (II)

Local Students Rep (II)

PG Welfare Rep (II)

Michaelmas Ball Manager (II)

Formals Manager (II)



Assistant Librarian (II)

Sports Rep (II)

Societies Rep (II)

JRO x 2 (II)

Correspondence - PT

- ran gym intros, applications still open for green machine comm!

Motions

PGM Comm Expansion Motion

This JCR Notes:

- Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee represents all Postgraduate students
- At Postgraduate level there are a wide variety of degree types including PhDs, MAs, MRes, PGCE etc.
- There is no dedicated position for PGCE students on Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee
- PGM Comm runs a variety of different events throughout the year including social events, academic events, Inter-MCR events, etc.

This JCR Believes:

- That PGCE students have very different commitments and workload compared to other Postgraduate degrees.
- That because of the intensity of these commitments, PGCE students don't usually get involved in Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee
- That it would be beneficial to have a specific position for PGCE students which would allow a PGCE student who wants to get involved the opportunity to do so, and also ensure that the PGCE perspective is on Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee.
- That it would be beneficial for there to be General Committee members on the Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee to allow the committee to put on more events without increasing pressure on the existing positions.

This JCR Orders:

Positions of the JCR Order

10. Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee

10.1.4 It shall consist of:

13) PGCE Students' Representative, and

14) General Committee Member x 2.

10. 12 PGCE Students' Representative

JCR Meeting (1.1) Agenda



10. 12. 1. Elected via: Method III

10. 12. 2. Their duties shall be to:

- 1) Represent the views of PGCE students to the committee, and
- 2) Ensure that PGCE students are welcomed and informed about events run by the committee.

10. 12. 3 The overseer for this role shall be the Postgraduate and Mature Students' President.

10. 13 General Committee Member

10. 13. 1. Elected via: Method III

10. 13. 2. Their duties shall be to:

- 1) Assist members of Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee,
- 2) Offer ideas and suggestions to Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee, and
- 3) Help out at Postgraduate and Mature Students' Events.

10. 12. 3 The overseer for this role shall be the Postgraduate and Mature Students' President.

Proposer: SM

Secunder: WS

No Questions

No Amendments

Passed on General Aye

Participation Fund Panel Motion

This JCR Notes:

- The role of Treasurer has replaced the Finance and Compliance Office for the academic year 2023/24 which was formally a full time sabbatical position.
- The role of Treasurer is now undertaken by a student volunteer.
- Currently the Treasurer sits on the panel for the Participation Fund.

This JCR Believes:

- Due to the considerable responsibilities that the Treasurer has taken on from the Finance and Compliance Officer, some of this workload may need to be delegated.
- The Finance Committee member has the full integrity and trust of the Treasurer in a decision making capacity on the panel.
- The Finance Committee member will gain great experience by sitting on a panel such as this.

This JCR Reveals:

Fund Order



2.4.1. The panel should usually consist of:

- 1) The President of the Society,
- 2) The JCR Chair,
- 3) The Finance & Compliance Officer, and
- 4) The Sports & Societies Chair.

This JCR Orders:

Fund Order

2.4.1. The panel should usually consist of:

- 1) The President of the Society,
- 2) The JCR Chair,
- 3) The Finance and Compliance Officer, or a member of Finance Committee that the Finance and Compliance Officer deems suitable, and
- 4) The Sports and Societies Chair.

Proposer: SB

Secunder: BT

No Questions

No Amendments

Passed on General Aye

DSU Assembly Elections Motion

This JCR Notes:

- Due to Durham SU updating its governance in light of the increasing number of independent Common Rooms, the SU no longer feel comfortable with Common Rooms electing the College Representative position to SU Assembly.
- We can only continue to run the election for our College Representative at SU Assembly ourselves if we sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the SU and run an election in accordance with the rules stipulated in that MoU.
- The MoU is currently being reviewed and should be signed and in place soon.

This JCR Believes:

- That the JCR should adopt a new Standing Order specifically outlining the election rules for how to elect a College Representative to DSU Assembly.
- This is a temporary format for SU Assembly elections for the 23/24 academic year, and will be reviewed again by the end of 2023 to update our election procedure.

This JCR Orders:

DSU Assembly (College Representative) Elections Order

JCR Meeting (1.1) Agenda



This Standing Order is available to view as an appendix to this motion.

Proposer - BT

Secunder - MkA

No Questions

No Amendments

Passed on General Aye

Welfare Campaigns Manager and Social Media Motion

This JCR Notes:

- The Welfare Campaigns Team Manager does not currently have access to the Cuth's Welfare Instagram.

This JCR Believes:

- The Welfare Campaigns Team Manager should have access to the Cuth's Welfare Instagram in order to run campaigns more efficiently and effectively.

This JCR Orders:

Positions of The JCR

7. Welfare Campaigns Committee

[...]

7.1.5.2. Access to the Cuth's Welfare Instagram is restricted to the President of the Society, Senior Welfare Officer, Welfare Officer, Female Welfare Officer, Male Welfare Officer, and the Welfare Campaigns Team Manager. Confidentiality shall be managed in line with the JCR Welfare Policy.

Proposer: MP

Secunder: DM

Questions

AB: would this give Campaigns Team Manager access to Welfare Instagram DMs?

MP: Yes, though people can reach out via Get In Touch Form or email welfare officers directly if they want to remain more anonymous. If they DM the Instagram, they would do so knowing the Campaigns Team Manager might see it – entirely up to them

No Amendments

Passed on General Aye

Assistant Librarian Requirements Motion

JCR Notes:

- Current standing orders for the Assistant Librarian position state that one must have been a library volunteer for at least two terms in order to run for the position.

JCR Meeting (1.1) Agenda



- The same rule does not exist for stock managers, despite the reality of the two positions being pretty similar.

JCR Believes:

- The Assistant Librarian role is not a time-consuming one, and does not require extensive prior knowledge of the library in order to perform successfully.
- Any gaps in knowledge could be rectified by a short discussion with the Society Librarian.
- The rule that a volunteer must have been a volunteer for two terms – in essence, a year – to run for assistant librarian therefore seems arbitrary. Especially as it is not the case for Stock Managers, when the difference between the two roles – from experience – is marginal at best.
- The two term rule also has implications for those who may want to get involved:
 - Fresher's cannot be involved.
 - PG students who are perhaps only in Durham for a one year masters cannot get involved.

JCR Repeals:

- Section 15.2.3. of the standing orders:
 - 'The Assistant Librarian must have already been a librarian for two terms prior to their term'.

JCR Orders:

- 15.2.3. is removed from the standing orders.

Proposer - AS

Secunder - CZ

AF: Note, if you run for assistant librarian later in this meeting, old rules still apply. Motion kicks in after the meeting has finished.

No Questions

No Amendments

Passed on General Aye

Elections

Assistant International Rep (II) [SK, KW, RON]

SK Hust

network with students, create an inclusive culture, open doors for international students' voices, work closely with international rep etc.

KW Hust

from Hong Kong, experience from school with social media/promotions, I would help to show that Durham Uni is a good place for international students to be.

JCR Meeting (1.1) Agenda



AB: Remember, caucus voting! Abstain if you don't identify with the group represented.

KW wins!

Assistant WCS Rep (II) [SG, RC, RON]

SG Hust

Whilst frepping talked about money troubles and class divide in Durham with fresh, wants to make formals cheaper (implement grant scheme like with balls), works 2 jobs, 93% club member.

RC Hust

Passionate about working class experience at Durham, I'd advise about Durham norms and traditions which might feel unfamiliar to working class students.

JB: What's the main thing you'd be looking to do with the role?

RC: would particularly like to increase awareness about legal rights.

SG: Instagram, collaborate with other colleges (bring communities together).

RS: How would you help people reach out who might feel slightly uncomfortable, perhaps due to stigma?

SG: Firstly, being working class isn't anything to be ashamed about, but maybe offer anonymous options, raise awareness about the variety of working-class experiences and/or struggles at university – so community feels more welcoming.

RC: being working class is a wide spectrum; if you identify with being working class, you likely are. I'd use Instagram to encourage people to reach out.

LJ: What's a misconception about being working class in Durham?

RC: tradition of formals can be quite daunting. I'd explain them in more normal terms so people from all backgrounds can feel more included.

SG: Other Durham students might have misconception that working class students are only from the north; also misconception that you can't put food on the table, when really there's a very wide range of experiences, e.g. parents' wages fall under margin for higher maintenance loan despite working two full-time jobs.

SG Wins

Break

Raffle!

Assistant SwD Rep (II) [CR, RON]

CR Hust

autism advocacy work during gap year; 3 main things: accessibility, awareness community.

MB: One of challenges with being SWD rep is you represent a broad community; how would you open yourself up to different people's experiences?

CR: The key thing is to listen, whilst also acting as a centralised voice for others.

NR: What did you do at your old school (in year out) in terms of autism awareness?

CR: assemblies about different (hidden) disabilities e.g. autism, ADHD.

JCR Meeting (1.1) Agenda



AB: note for next time, you can't direct questions at a specific candidate since there could be another candidate who also has to answer the same question.

SL question: if your main rep, *hypothetically* wasn't available and there was a main event coming up, what would you do?

CR: I would immediately look for support system e.g. rest of Comms Comm; but I wouldn't be scared by it or cancel the event last minute, we'd make it work.

CR Win

Assistant POC Rep (II) [YA, MB, RON]

YA Hust

Masters student, used to being only PoC in the room e.g. worked in predominantly white school in Windsor, was effectively PoC rep in school; good baker of apple crumble (Comms Comm), idea of Eid tree and Muslim-appropriate catering in formals, eager to get involved in JCR.

MB Hust:

First year, not just PoC – also LGBTQ+ and dyslexic; intersectional approach, creative e.g. when it comes to socials/social media, good baker, fun, good member of a team. PoC people less likely to talk about LGBTQ+ and neurodiversity so I would bring that to the table.

SL: One of the goals of Comms Comm this year is to focus on intersectionality. How would you approach that?

MB: I sit at the intersection of lots of Comms Comm e.g. I am autistic, dyslexic etc. so lived experience for me.

YA: There are lots of different ways people can experience oppression.

RS: Relationship between college and JCR can be difficult. How would you balance that relationship personally, especially if there were disagreements about PoC issues?

YA: Focus on what the college opposition is. If it's logistics, work out a way around it e.g. catering for meals.

MB: Gather all the data as to why there's an issue (with college). Get thoughts across in a calm way so that they can't be misconstrued.

HS: Are you interested in fostering a relationship between Cuth's JCR and wider DU associations/communities e.g. DPOCA?

MB: I'd make sure people of Cuth's know about wider events happening in Durham e.g. advertise via Instagram.

YA: I'd invite people from DPOCA to Cuth's events; cross-college events.

SG: for example, there's a black history month formal this month, how would you ensure to represent other ethnicities?

YA: Ramadan, Hanukkah etc. make sure there are appropriate events for people of different religions/cultures e.g. for those who don't drink.

MB: I'm only one person with one experience, so I'd act as representative and ask questions. It's all about communication so I can then put things into place.

RS: as PoC rep, you obviously represent a small part of the PoC community. How would you plan on supporting the existing PoC rep to represent other groups?

MB: Raise voices of people in other communities e.g. getting speaker in (DPOCA?), different events e.g. Chinese New Year.

YA: Open to learning, important to engage with others/listen to them. I'd make sure I'm a friendly face so people feel able to communicate with me.

MB Wins

Assistant LGBTQ+ Rep (II) - run over

JCR Meeting (1.1) Agenda



Trans and Non-Binary Rep (II) [SMu]

SMu Hust

I feel more confident in myself since coming to Durham and feeling able to go by pronouns I want. I have the JCR to thank for that, as well as Comms Comm. I was in Comms Comm last year, but “not as anything gay”. I am, however, gay.

MB: What campaigns would you do as part of Comms Comm?

SMu: Campaign with welfare e.g. what’s going on with the government right now.

LJ: Note, this election isn't an enforced caucus since there wouldn't necessarily be anyone trans/non-binary in the room. I would however prefer for those who vote to be people who identify as queer if possible.

SMu Wins

Local Students Rep (II) - run over

PG Welfare Rep (II) - run over

Michaelmas Ball Manager (II) [SB, RON]

SB Hust

I'm a 4th year, I've been on social comm for 3 years, I was Michaelmas ball manager in my 2nd year (Vegas theme). Theme this year would be winter wonderland: snow globes and mention of reindeers. It would be at Beamish – like Vegas ball – so I know how to decorate the halls etc.

RS: Summer ball last year wanted a donkey, but that idea was quickly shot down due to ethical concerns [sorry vegans, love you]. How would you go about getting reindeer?

SB: I heard about that. Obviously I can't promise a reindeer, sorry. Wouldn't necessarily keep it strictly Christmas themed, more winter wonderland vibes!

SB Wins

Formals Manager (II) - run over

Assistant Librarian (II) [RR, RON]

AB: POI- Motion that passed earlier doesn't apply here; you still need to have volunteered for 2 terms.

RR hust

Cuth's library can be more accessible space than Billy B for many, Scout leader and frep team leader, knows how important volunteer-led organisations are; volunteer socials would help create team vibes and help with issue of no-shows, Canva experience with Purple Radio publicity, continue collaborations with other Cuth's groups e.g. welfare campaigns.

AS: Publicity is major part of this role, how would you help with that?

RR: Get info out on social media as much as possible [didn't catch rest]

SMu: Classic, what's your favourite biscuit?

RR: Ginger crunch creams

mumblings, but AS agrees so it's okay

YA: What's your favourite herbal tea?

RR: Lemon and ginger, and peppermint.

RR Wins



Sports Rep (II) [GS, RON]

GS Hust

Captain of B team football, runs in running club occasionally, signed up to rowing this year, sports are vital part of Cuth's, I live with the Sports and Socs Chair! I want to work with social media manager to advertise things better and improve relationship between Cuth's sports and JCR, work with Comms Comm to improve inclusivity in Cuth's sports.

BW: This year we're looking to have a greater relationship between sports/welfare, how would you go about this as sports rep?

GS: I was at the sports and socs talk which brought up idea of welfare reps in sports groups, which would be a good place to start.

AS: When was the last time you were on a football pitch?

GS: Last time I was on the football pitch, I was injured. I engage with a lot of sports; I watch a lot of sports.

CZ: How would you get engagement from every sport in Cuth's? Wide variety!

GS: Social media is really important, I'd get results of smaller sports with less people on Team Cuths page, work with CZ to promote things to wider Cuth's JCR.

AB forgets to run vote for election whilst GS awkwardly waits outside the room

GS Wins

Societies Rep (II) - run over

JRO x 2 (II) [VP, LG, RON]

LG Hust

I want to get involved and meet new people, keen to go to Gov Comm meetings and see what happens before meetings/elections.

VP Hust

I want to get involved with the JCR, it's a good entry position, maybe I'll run for something else in the future. I frepped this year and I liked the freps so it made me want to join in. It would be good to know what's going on in the JCR so I can tell my friends and get them more engaged.

LJ: is there anything you think could be improved about current election methods?

LG: can be quite tedious? good in that elections are traditional and stuff, but if there was a quicker way of doing it, that would be good?

VP: make candidates feel comfortable as they're often nervous.

AF: can you give an example of something you've returned successfully?

VP: I return library books successfully.

LG: I returned my best friend when she was drunk; got her out car/into bed.

YA: would you be willing to wear the tiger paraphernalia?

VP: if it is washed!

LG: I will let the person who wears the tiger costume continue to enjoy the tiger costume.

VP and LG Win