



JCR Meeting 1.1 (06/10/2024)

Attendance

Apologies

HH, JP, LN, SS

Approval of Minutes

Reports

Correspondence

Motions

Updated Social Media Election Rules Motion

Motion to update the social media election rules to include instagram, BeReal and TikTok

Additional Material Loophole Motion

Motion to restrict additional campaign materials to information contained within the manifesto

Postgraduate and Mature Students' Welfare Representatives

Motion to change Mature and Postgraduate students Welfare representation from method II to method III

Rethinking the Role of Stool Motion

Motion to add the management of live streaming to the role of stool

Creation of Cuths Karaoke Society

Motion to establish Cuths Karaoke Society

President's Inaugural Address Motion

Motion to mandate the president to give an 'inaugural' address

Break

Raffle

Elections

Development Officer - RS, RON (I)

Tech Manager - TM, RON (I)

Bar Officer - RS, RON (I)

Environment Rep - EJ, LM, RON (I)

Music Rep - CZ, RON (I)

PG Treasurer (II)



Stool (II)

JRO x 3 (II)

SU Comm Member x 3 (II)

Formals manager (II)

Reports

President - DM

- Met with the Exec at the very beginning of my term as President and a fair few JCR officers to discuss plans and goals for our terms in our roles.
- I attended this year's Alumni weekend, and have been in contact with Elena at the Alumni Association to plan some projects for the rest of the year.
- I have been elected as this year's PresComm Chair and received the nomination for the SU's JCR President's Representative.
- PresComm has had weekly meetings and met with members of Team Durham to discuss the issue of their centralised 'attempt for equal opportunity for all student sportspeople' and how that affects College sport. We also have invitations to Hannah Sheppard Senior Manager Community Relations and Housing to discuss the effect of increased numbers on the housing market for this year. Along with Dan Longsdale and Eleanor Scolah at the SU to discuss the MoU common rooms have with the Students Union.
- I have set up a subcommittee of PresComm to deal with the University Mental Health Charter chaired by myself, with membership including 4 JCR Presidents (Cuth's, Grey, Mary's and Mildert) and 4 Welfare Officers (Cuth's, Stephenson, Trevs and Butler). This committee is going to elect 2 members then to sit on the University working group on the Mental Health Charter one of them being me as the chair and then a rotating Welfare Officer depending on their availability and expertise.
- We have had our first Pres Forum with Jeremy Cook Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Colleges and Wider Student Experience. Discussions took place around provision the University were taking to mitigate over subscription resulting in upwards of 200 undergraduate freshers not being offered college accommodation. We discussed Frep meal provisions during Preparation week and Freshers week itself, which was dismissed by the PVC, but resulted in a campaign which ran during Prep Week entitled 'Feed the Freps'. And finally we looked at the new model for Formals the university is using this year, which



again was splintered by the PVC. Yet I was able to gain a working group with Div SMT to look at the future of formals at Durham University.

- We had our first ever meeting of the Board of Trustees for my term as President, more will be detailed in the trustee report.
- Attended College committees such as: College Induction, College Management, Bar Committee and College Health and Safety.
- Freshers' week 24' happened!
- With a couple issues, one being a rodeo sheep that was killed by a tripped fuse, both Prep week and Freshers Week itself ran as a success.
- More members than ever who have had no volunteering experience with us are engaging with opportunities we are provided (e.g. for Frepping 35 of our 63 Freps (including Exec, Welfare, MGR and President) have not held a Method I, II or III position before volunteering).
- We've managed to decrease the price of our Club entry wristbands by £2 and non-clubbing wristbands by £1 leaving us as £34 and £23 respectively. And sold out of both Clubbing and non-Clubbing wristbands.
- Levy intake has gone very well, with 90-95% of the incoming Freshers having bought membership to the JCR.
- We've got 2 rentals of our Silent Disco headphones in the book, to both Johns and Mary's. Gathering about £900 of income from our assets.
- Michaelmas Ball planning is full steam ahead.
- The contract has now been signed, and deposit paid and we are booked into Beamish Hall for the 4th of December. This date is surrounded by Grey on the 3rd and Van Mildert on the 5th, through which we have already saved £600+ on tech hires as we are splitting set up and takedown costs.
- Together Van Mildert and I have worked together to create a tech register of what our group of events need, and have cut down on additional £600 costs of additional music tech that between the JCR we own. And in partnership we are being supplied and supplying these assets at no extra cost.
- The Michaelmas Ball budget has been put together by the Treasurer (SG), VP (CR) and I. So come early Michaelmas when Social Committee members have been selected they now have a set budget to work to and pricing which means our ticket pricing (for JCR members) will remain the same as it was last year.
- I've also visited the venue for Summer Ball alongside the Van Mildert JCR President, secured a provisional date and had confirmation that the venue hire would cost less than Hardwick did in 2024.
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Vice-President - CR



- Created the JCR Handbook and had fresh tell me they had read it before they arrived. Managed to only make a few spelling mistakes and caught a lot of them before it was printed!

List of all the places I worked on the handbook

- house 13
- my house (castledawson and durham)
- bob n berts magherafelt and belfast
- the queens library
- my friend rory's house
- stansted, newcastle and belfast airport
- Paris
- cuth's library and the exec office

List of all the places I thought about the handbook

- everywhere I was over the summer

- Created the JCR officers group chat after struggling to access the email for two hours. Created a reminder of the auto-VONC system.
- Interviewed freps!
- Made some instagram posts and struggled to think of any fun facts about myself.
- Arrived in Durham ridiculously early and spent a few weeks with DM organising some of the details of Freshers' week and Michaelmas ball (prices and location).
- Took the frep orders for our frep social at Tango and then proceeded to get sick and not able to attend myself!
- Started minuting minutes from last year that were incomplete.
- Organised the MGRs and the first Communities Committee meeting.
- Frepped with Team Ru and ran the Bleed Green and TGIF events! Was on the move-in carousel in Brooks bar. Did a few club nights and helped out at the Pub Quiz and Cuth's goes Wild.
- Open day repped and started to shake some of my Bailey pride as I fell in love with Parson's.
- Read over applications and selected the SCSCFS vice presidents.
- Missed the first trustee meeting but wrote up the minutes using DM notes.
- Mourned the loss of Guinness at Cuth's bar but celebrated the cheaper Frog.
- Began to reformat posted minutes on the JCR website to make sure they are ordered.
- Started writing the Freshers' Week portion of my handover.
- Wrote some motions that are coming up soon!



Treasurer - SG

- Budget for freshers week
- Preliminary budget for Michaelmas ball, and paid deposit for venue
- I created an information leaflet about the JCR levy to help sell it, DM sent it out to incoming freshers
- Sold lots of levies on carousel
- SOLD OUT of freshers week wristbands 🙌
- Assistant Treasurer applications are open, link in @cuthsjcr on Instagram
- Set up payroll, management accounts, paid invoices and reclaims
- Talked to Hatfield treasurer about Wildcats cheer club

Acting PGM President - SM

- Spent the majority of summer organising PG Freshers' Week, putting together the PG Handbook and working with people across the JCR, College and wider University to make sure everything was in place for the beginning of term.
- The last couple of weeks have been very busy with Freshers' Week where I have been overseeing PG move-ins and our specific events aimed at Postgraduate and Mature students which have included quizzes, games nights, trips to Newcastle, the PG Welcome Formal, etc. Massive thank you to all the freps who helped out, genuinely couldn't have done it without them!
- Alongside our events within Cuth's, I also coordinated the Inter-MCR pub quiz (a Cuth's team regained the title of the champions!)
- We have PG College Family Night happening next Friday so I will be organising that this week. There is still time to sign up if you would like to be part of a family.
- Finally PGM Comm applications are open now so if you want to get involved there are plenty of different roles which might appeal so do check it out.

Society Librarian - JB

- Library renovation talks have been ongoing over the holidays and are ready to be set in motion
- The library was taken over for frepping but is back to normal ready to open week 2 of term
- Went to a Freshers' fair to recruit for the library!
- Library volunteer applications are open! (please join)



Senior Welfare Officer - LN

Delivered by CC (FWO)

- Over the summer I created the Welfare Handbook completely from scratch which was printed and published.
- Stock checked the Welfare room to ensure that we had enough sexual health supplies for freshers' week and Michaelmas.
- I worked closely with the Freshers' Week Taskforce (DM, MB, CR, VC, SM, HT) to plan training, Welfare provisions for freshers' week & interview freps.
- Met with a sub-committee of prescomm to discuss the University Mental Health Charter and how we can improve and standardise Welfare across all JCRs and the Wider University.
- Introduced the team on our Instagram and the Calman Talk for freshers.
- Successfully ran the Consent Workshops again! A big thank you to all of the facilitators for doing an amazing job.
- Trained the MGRs so they can hold drop ins, with plans to train assistants when elected.
- Had discussions with the Bar Steward to ensure Welfare provisions are up-to-date in the bars.
- Had regular meetings with college to discuss plans for Welfare throughout the year.
- Freshers' Week overall was a success! Ran Welfare Corner Tea and Toast (shout out to the incredible work of CC, FA & NP), ran drop-ins and used the walkie talkie for the last time on club nights.
- Welfare Campaigns applications are officially open!.

Sports and Societies Chair - OW

Delivered by LG (JCR CHAIR)

- Organised Freshers' Fair, ensuring every society gets fair representation.
- Provide support on forming the Exec's of multiple societies who ran no elections last year
- Compile a complete list of members of every exec
- Enter teams into the DU sports league
- Book trial and taster slots for any sport who requested one – with the goal of creating a set day for people to try many Cuth's sport
- Aid in finding multiple sports and societies a venue for weekly gatherings and practice



- Ran the Team Cuth's social media putting out Introductory Posts for each of the Sports Teams, reposting content and circulating the plan for Freshers Fair and the Taster Slots.
- Run the sports Day during Freshers Week

Social Committee Chair - VC

- Since taking over the role of Social Chair, my main efforts have gone into planning and facilitating Freshers week, alongside the Freshers task force team. I think it went really well, selling out of wristbands for the first time, is a huge achievement on behalf of the task force and the freps by doing an excellent job keeping the freshers informed about events.
- The week entailed events on both Cuths sites to ensure there was a suitable variation of activities for every fresher to go to - I thought this was really important and seemed to be a good idea since all events were popular.
- Over the summer I had started to look at the event's calendar for the year, with Michaelmas ball approaching fast and this year we have decided to bring back Oktoberfest!
- This week application forms for the committee will be released, interest in applying for Social Comm has been high for freshers and other year groups so I am excited to start picking a team for the rest of the year.

Publicity Officer - TC

- Successful Social Media advertising of Freshers' Week
- Prep and Fresher's stash designed
- Set up Cuth's Tiktok
- Stash drop set for week beginning 14th of October
- Working on Cuth's news beginning next week!!

Outreach Chair - EB

- I tidied up the @cuths.outreach Instagram account, posted my introductory post, and made a new logo.
- I created the 'International Day of Charity' post which got so much positive engagement, a HUGE thank you to everyone who got involved.
- I've contacted the bar/ college about the first Outreach campaign to twin Cuth's bar toilet through the charity Toilet Twinning. We need to raise at least £60 per block so please look out for the campaign coming out soon!!
- I had the best time frepping: helped facilitate consent workshops, gave Calman/ PG talk, and pulled off Caleb's suit better than him.
- Attended Cuth's freshers fair on behalf of Outreach.



- Created the Outreach comm application form which is ready to be posted!!

JCR Chair - LG

- Created my meeting handbook, if anyone wants to read it, it should be on the website soon or we do have a couple of copies if not.
- Took over @cuths_jcr_elections with RF (the SRO), have been really advertising positions and it seems to be working!
- Finalised meeting dates for this term - find them on the instagram
- Held GovComm on Friday
- Frepped, and had a stall at Freshers Fair
- Pushed for people to apply for various positions which was successful and we only have PGM Pres and POC rep left to elect
- Tried to encourage people to run for the GovComm positions available tonight there's 4 (stool and 3 JRO's) - please do consider running!

Students' Union Representative - LB

- Over the summer I've been working on the livers out handbook which you can find on cuths.com I've been helping the university with housing seminars for the new livers out students and been helping with the Cuth's livers out when I've been able to during frepping.
- I've also been planning the housing campaign with Welfare so keep an eye out for that on Instagram.

Communities Committee

Delivered by RC

- WCS Representative - RC
 - Held my event which people attended and answered their questions
 - Made myself known to a lot of the freshers and got quite a few followers for the Instagram
 - Made a formal wear guide for freshers
 - Established contact with other college "working class reps" - trying to plan something currently
 - Garnered interest for a potential Cuth's Working Class Student Society
- LGBTQ+ Representative - ST



- Epic highs and lows of Freshers' Week! Kicked off LGBT Soc with a paint night (afternoon) met with LUKEWARM ATTENDANCE! Many masterpieces on scrap pieces of cardboard were created.
 - Helped MM promote her gay bar nights at The Library— it'll be on Monday nights and have themed events so be sure to come along.
 - Feeling optimistic about this year of LGBT Soc overall, we've got a bar crawl in the works and hopefully some more chill/sober activities throughout the year.
- SwD Representative - CJ
- freshers week was difficult but rewarding- got to help with the early arrivals programme for autistic students, held my event
 - matriculation- i took measures like walking at the back in case anyone wanted to join away from the noise
 - matriculation was difficult because of the change of exit- only found out too late that i could've gone through the café- something to note for next year if the same thing happens
 - been making some instagram posts- started up a series where i work with people in the community to highlight information about different disabilities- link in my bio if you want to get involved anonymously!
- Local Students - MM
- Instagram - took over the LSR instagram and made a few posts, introduced myself and noted where students can contact me
 - Coffee morning for local students - held during freshers. attendance: 0. I'm not fully convinced the local students know I exist. Going forward I need to think of ways to find and reach out to more of them. I know there's quite a few local post grads so that might be a good place to start.
 - Freshers - unfortunately did not meet a single local student, hopefully will seek them out in the future

International Representative - HT

Int freshers week:

- 17/9 banner painting for International and PG Freshers Week
- Early move-ins for International and PG students starting from 24/9
- One of the best early move-ins and International Freshers Week, we have set up a carousel in both bailey and parsons and we have very organised frep team rotations
- Cuths events integrated with pg comm: Pub quiz, big tesco trip, Newcastle trip



- Wed Pub quiz
- Thurs PG did game night at Brooks while UG had ISA great hall silent disco
- Fri PG had welcome formal while ug had International Orientation Day in the morn, ISA welcome night and Jimmy Allen Club Night in the evening, all our wristbands sold out
- Sat newcastle trip
- Mon “Meet with MGR” board game event

What’s coming on soon:

- International Committee Recruitment
- Hopefully the comm can be formed in October

Plans for rest of term:

- Pushing forward the Study Buddy Scheme this yr to be launched in
- Late Oct - Early Nov (in collab with Cuth’s dev)
- A possible Cuths Int X Cuths POC panel discussion on POC identity and experience in Durham and Cuths
- Continue to make informative festival campaign post on Instagram

Student Trustee - JB, JP, JS

Delivered by JB

- Was elected Exec trustee at the start of the holidays!
- Then was asked to be Acting Vice-Chair so made the agenda for the first Trustee Meeting in September.
- We discussed DM’s start to his Presidency, as well as the financials of the Society as a whole.
- Discussed nominations for new members of the Board of Trustees
- Set up the initial meetings for Exec-Trustee mentorship
- Set a date for the next meeting in November

Head Frep - MB

- wrote frep applications with dan and interviewed with caleb, dan and louise (plus others who filled in when they weren’t available - thank you!)
- made our first frepping handbook !
- spent far too much time making spreadsheets - several timetables, put together frep teams and stash orders from freps.
- organised general freppy bits in freshers week, had a great time finally getting my hands on a walkie talkie.



- recruited open day reps and organised them for pre application open days in september!

Motions

Updated Social Media Election Rules Motion

This JCR Notes:

- The standing orders currently make no reference to the social media people use to campaign: stories, BeReal, group chats and TikTok.
- The standing orders do make reference to outdated social media use such as profile pictures which people do not use.

This JCR Believes:

- The rules around social media usage should be clear and up to date.
- Profile pictures are no longer a viable campaign method due to the lack of popularity of Facebook and it being a bit much.
- The rules currently leave too much up to GovComm and there exists a grey area.

This JCR Repeals:

3.3.1.2 Candidates or campaign team members may change their profile picture to the images approved by the SRO for campaigning purposes without reference to other candidates.

This JCR Amends:

- 3.3.5. On Sports and Societies group chats and Facebook pages, candidates, captains and group admins may advertise elections but they may not endorse any particular candidate.
- 3.3.5.1. Personal and unofficial Sports and Societies group chats may be used to advertise elections but not to endorse any particular candidate.
- 3.3.5.2. Any 'Freshers' Group chat' may not be used.

This JCR Orders:

- 3.3.6 Stories may be used to campaign. Candidates must post both manifestos at roughly the same time and size.
- 3.3.6.1. Stories that include a link to vote must have the link on both candidates' manifestos.
- 3.3.6.2. Stories that do not include approved campaign materials may be used but must include no new information and posted with reference to other candidates.
- 3.3.7. BeReal may be used but only as a reminder to vote but not as self promotion.
- 3.3.8. TikTok may be used for a candidate's additional material but must be posted with the google drive link created by the SRO.



Proposer: CR

Secunder: SG

Passed on a general 'Aye'

The Additional Material Loophole Motion

This JCR Notes:

- In meeting 3.1 of last year we had a brilliant discussion about the election rules for hours and decided to amend 1.2.1 to allow candidates one additional campaigning material.
- This additional material is currently unregulated.

This JCR Believes:

- There is nothing stopping a candidate using their additional material as a second manifesto to avoid having to share their competition's manifesto.

This JCR Amends:

1.2.1

4) Optionally, one additional audio/video/visual campaign material which must be distinct from a candidate's manifesto and include no new information.

Proposer: CR

Secunder: RS

Passed on a general 'Aye'

PG Welfare Representative Motion

This JCR Notes:

- That the Postgraduate Welfare Representative is currently a Method II position elected in Meeting 1.2
- That this position was vacant last year.
- That all the other positions on the Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee are Method III positions with the exceptions of the Postgraduate and Mature Students' President, the Postgraduate and Mature Students' Vice-President, and the Postgraduate and Mature Students' Treasurer.

This JCR Believes:

- That one of the reasons why this position was vacant was that it was an elected position rather than being available via application.



- That it is important that we have the Postgraduate dedicated role on the Welfare Committee and Welfare Campaigns Committee, and there is someone to provide a link between Welfare and Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee.
- That this position should be changed to an a Method III position instead of Method II
- As this position sits on the Welfare Committee and Welfare Campaigns Committee the Senior Welfare Representative should be a member of the decision panel.

This JCR Repeals:

Positions in the JCR Order

10.11. Postgraduate Welfare Representation.

10.11.1 Elected Via: Method II, Meeting 1.2

Method III Rules Order

1.4 Selection Procedure

1.4.3 For Method III appointments conducted for the Postgraduate and Mature Students' committee, the PGM Vice-President will be invited to be a member of the panel.

This JCR Orders:

Positions in the JCR Order.

10.11. Postgraduate Welfare Representation.

10.11.1 Elected Via: Method III

Method III Rules Order

1.4 Selection Procedure

1.4.3 For Method III appointments conducted for the Postgraduate and Mature Students' committee, the PGM Vice-President will be invited to be a member of the panel, and for the Postgraduate Welfare Representative, the Senior Welfare Officer will also be invited to be a member of the panel.

Proposer: SM

Secunder: LN

Passed on a general 'Aye'

Motion Rethinking the role of Stool:

This JCR Notes:

- The role of stool is an important position within the JCR, acting as a redundancy plan should JCR chair or Stool be unable to attend, or acting as JRO should the positions be vacant, or JRO's not be able to attend meetings



- The position of stool is required to complete a number of responsibilities within the JCR (for further clarification of these roles, please refer to pg 17, Positions in the JCR)
- The JCR has, over the last number of years, developed its streaming, and online footprint, especially in terms of making meetings and voting accessible to those unable to attend meetings in person, but to futureproof the JCR for the next number of years, an update needs to be considered.

This JCR Believes:

- The role is required, in some form, acting as additional voice in Governance committee meetings, and aiding in the role of Chair, JRO and Chairing meetings should the Chair not be present, which is required.
- Within the role of the stool, there are some elements which are , and are becoming redundant – 4.4.2.2 – ensure only JCR members attend meetings, and 4.4.2.3- keep a board of statistics during each JCR meeting: being key examples of this
- With a proportion of JCR members being on year abroad, or unable to attend meetings in person, the role of stool should adapted to include aiding the publicity officer with livestreams of JCR meetings – taking the form of managing the livestream, and liaising with the SRO to discuss a practical voting system for those unable to attend in person who wish to engage.

This JCR Repeals:

Removal of two elements from the standing order:

4.4) Stool

4.4.2) their duties shall be:

.3 - Keep a board of statistics during each JCR Meeting

This JCR Orders:

Creation of new duties

4.4) Stool

4.4.2) their duties shall be:

5) Support publicity manager, or any other relevant bodies in the management of life stream systems – set up, streaming, management and archiving.

Proposer: RF

Secunder: SG

Questions

GG: Are we still having them act physically as a stool during the election?

LG: Yeah, that needs to happen.

Passed on a general 'Aye'

Cuth's Karaoke Soc Proposal

The JCR Notes:

JCR Meeting (1.1)

06/10/2024



- There is currently no Karaoke society.

The JCR Believe:

- A karaoke society would provide a positive, stress-free environment for students to make friends and put aside worries about their education for a moment.
- Other college members have expressed an interest in participating in a karaoke soc.
- This would provide a musical outlet for those who might not want to be involved in something more formal/serious
- This society would not be expensive to run as Brooks Bar has the capacity to hold karaoke and there are spots in town as well.

The JCR Resolves:

- To establish a Karaoke society in St Cuthbert's Society JCR.

The JCR Repeals:

- To remove the Karaoke Club in the sport and societies order 2.34.

Proposer: AP

Supporters: EP, LG, AD, RH, AS, AB, AH, HG, DM, RF, CR, LE, SM, LC

Questions

GG: What venues are they thinking of using and what about using Brooks bar?

No answer as no relevant party there

JB: Favourite karaoke song?

LG: Celine Dion

SS: As a member of bar staff can I request they not use Bailey Bar.

DM: We have access to the Bailey Bar.

Opposition so went to a vote

Motion has passed

The Dan Mercer Inaugural Address Motion

This JCR notes:

- There is a longstanding tradition that the President of the Society must deliver an inaugural address on a subject chosen by the members of the JCR.
- In recent years this address has been delivered in Spanglish.

This JCR mandates:

- The President of the Society must deliver an address on circuses in Spanglish.

Proposer: CR

Supporters: CC

Questions

JB: What is the word for circus in Spanish?

Commotion as no-one knows the word for circus in Spanish

ST: POI- el circo



RS: I- as a member of the JCR- have heard the President speak French and dare I say it was a little bit sexy. Could we have the President deliver the address in Franglish?

LG: That's an amendment, not a question.

Amendments

RS: Could we have the President deliver the address in Franglish?

MB: What's circus in French?

LG: Le cirque

RF: I have been informed that the President took 20 credits in Japanese.

RS: I would like to repeal my amendment.

LG: The new amendment is that the President will deliver his inaugural address in Japanese.

Amendment passed on a general 'Aye'

Question

RS: When will this happen?

CR: 1.2

Passed on a general 'Aye' with amendment

Break

Raffle!

Correspondence

DM delivers a Dweebs Comedy Night Advertisement on behalf of JS. Go to Dweebs on the 27th October. Now in the Assembly Rooms Theatre.

Elections

Development Officer - RS, RON (I)

RS' Hust

Hi everyone, my name is Rosie, (I've currently got freshers flu so please bear with me) and I'm running to become your development officer for Cuths. A little bit about me:

I'm a second year Spanish and Italian student, I like house music, coffee shops, and thrifting; I'm a proud member of cuths baking soc and was recently awarded the title of Chief Whisk, which I wear as a badge of honour. If you haven't seen me before, it's probably because this is my first time ever attending a JCR meeting, but please, please don't let that put you off (I can explain I swear!) So, after spending most of my first year in the company of the mysterious one Mr James Allen, I realised that it was probably time to expand my horizons and that I wanted to get involved with the JCR, so I applied to be a frep.



It was a great, if not intense experience that dropped me straight into the deep end of all things JCR, and it offered helpful insight into what the JCR actually is, how its run, and its importance within Cuths. So here I am, I'm running to be your development officer because I believe I've got the right experience, lots of motivation and willingness to put in the effort, and would always try my hardest to be approachable and passionate if I was voted into the role. I've got previous experience as a fundraiser, contacting an alumni community acquiring donations but also speaking to them to help maintain a constructive relationship, and as development officer I think could confidently engage with alumni to build a really strong link between alumni and the JCR, which would be really useful when organising career events, q+as or connecting students and graduates on a personal level for specific careers/development help. I also have my own ideas that I want to bring to the role, mainly the creation of a careers handbook so there is an information centre, for all things careers/development including opportunities for volunteering, graduate schemes, internships, further education, lots of signposting to resources and events, and advice from alumni. I think this would be a really useful point of guidance, as for most people, deciding what they want to do after graduation can be really stressful and can make you feel quite lost or like you don't know where to start, So I think having a detailed handbook, so that everything you could want to know is right there and available, offers a really good, useful starting point and would also help students feel more supported by college when considering these decisions. I also want to hold weekly drop-in sessions to make sure that personal, friendly guidance and help is easily accessible. I would also make sure to collaborate with other JCR reps and committees, and university societies too (like business soc, DULSA and more), to make sure that all members of the JCR feel like careers help and information is accessible – this would look like hosting events and promoting careers opportunities for specific groups of students, such as a postgrad q+a or continuing the study buddy scheme alongside the international rep. I think that career opportunities can sometimes feel restricted, or inaccessible by the 'who do you know' game, which I want to challenge and change, to make sure all members of the JCR feel supported when considering careers as it's such a massive decision in life. All in all, I'm outgoing, friendly, motivated and really, really keen, and I think I would make a great development officer this year. Thanks for your time and remember to bleed green. Thank you!

Questions

TM: What kind of support would you offer in your drop-in sessions?

RS: Signposting and using the alumni network so they can get real advice from professionals. If someone wants to do consulting I want to connect them to someone in that career sector. Acting as a middleman between students and professionals.

FA: How do you plan to maintain and build alumni relationships?

RS: By asking and noting their connections with the university. If they love the JCR, we celebrate that but if they didn't enjoy their time showing how it's changed. I want to reassure people that university has changed. It can be quite a sensitive topic for people but I want to be empathetic and work with them rather than harass them.

DM: Cuth's JCR is quite broad. How do you aim to make it more niche and more personal for alumni?

RS: By asking questions. Asking what they enjoyed at university. People who aren't sporty won't support our sports teams. I want to build personal relationships and not just have a general approach but campaigns. I want to be curious and I want to ask questions instead of firing off general emails asking for help. I could maybe build a team to contact alumni in the sectors they care about.

Personalise. Personalise. Personalise.



Tech Manager - TM, RON (I)

TM's Hust

Hello everyone! My name is Tom Matthews and I'm running to be your Tech Manager. You might not know who I am. I am a fourth year French student who very recently made the decision to get involved in the JCR. An excellent one I must say, you should too. Over the past two weeks I've been frepping and getting to know some of you. I've also seen for myself what an asset the JCR is, how it creates unforgettable and enriching experiences for students, fosters a real sense of community and offers a welcoming, inclusive and friendly space for all. I am deeply committed to supporting the JCR's activities and being a hard-working and committed member of the Exec. As a Team Leader during Freshers' Week my team and I were responsible for a very successful pub quiz, thanks mainly to our fabulous MCs. I also started to get to grips with the JCR's tech, setting up light and sound in the evening and taking on the heavy burden of powerpoint operation. I also set up lighting for Friday's silent disco. Having started to get to grips with the 'Green Machine' I am excited, if elected, to address what I consider the greatest problems and opportunities for growth. As Tech Manger, I would ensure all the equipment is organised, operational and optimised for every event. As I found running tech for events during Freshers' Week, where to find and how to use the tech can be quite confusing. As Tech Manager, one of my first priorities would be to create an updated inventory of tech as well as clear labelling of the 'Green Machine'. I would also create an accessible step-by-step guide for using our tech so that every member of the JCR feels empowered and confident when using it. As Tech Manager, I would like to offer those interested in the role support and training using the 'Green Machine' so as to ensure a smooth transition for future Tech Managers. Our tech is an important asset and as Tech Manager I would work to make it a reliable source of income. To do this I would support and increase current efforts to rent out gear to societies and colleges in Durham, raising awareness of the services we offer and ensuring that services are delivered to the highest possible standard. Finally, my most important qualification: I was considered the unofficial Tech Manager in my secondary school where I helped my teachers turn on the sound when we watched Youtube videos. Thank you so much for listening. You can depend on me to work closely with the JCR to make our tech profitable and easier than ever to use.

Bar Officer - OC, RS, RON (I)

OC's Hust

Hi my name's Orlagh if you don't recognise my face from around Cuth's you've definitely seen me pour a pint behind the bar. I've worked in the bar since first year so that's 7 terms and I'm now in my 4th year. I also work at Wetherspoons and have lots of experience in a bar setting. One thing I want to do for you as Bar Officer is work for soft drinks in the bar. The non-alcoholic toad syrup that we used to use is no longer available so I want to work alongside the Bar Steward to make this more accessible. Secondly, I want to work for events. Whether that's with music reps, Fashion Show, Welfare or Outreach holding music events or quizzes. Anything to give access to these societies and the bar. I want a good relationship with societies and sports through using back bar and Brooks for private functions. I'd like to work along the Bar Steward to bring business to Brooks which ultimately brings money to the JCR. One way I would do this is by holding a Beer Festival in the final term similarly to other colleges. I'd also like to create a google form to hear from the people what they want from the bar because Cuth's bar is the soul of the community and we should all get a say.



Ultimately, I would like to be your Bar Officer as Cuth's bar is a big part of my time at Cuth's and I'd like to make it great for everyone.

Questions

NP: How would you support Brooks bar throughout the year?

OC: I would like to work alongside both sports and societies and the Bar Steward to run quizzes and open mics. 12 South Theatre has held a lot of comedy nights for example that we could hold in Brooks. Bailey bar is supported by other colleges so Brooks bar can be a place for Cuth's and Cuth's students.

GG: I'm a big fan that you want to open Brooks bar but what if people aren't keen and don't buy in?

OC: If it doesn't work we move the events to the Bailey because we want the exposure for these sports and societies and to raise money for charity. Pushing Brooks if we have that space is important. In this role highlighting that that is a nice space to use.

RS' Hust

Hello, my name is Ru and my pronouns are she/her. If you're a fresher you may know as the person who was like racism- no. If you're not a fresher you may know me from standing behind the bar and pulling you some pretty atrocious pints- but always served with a smile. Some of you may not know what the role of Bar Officer does so I thought I'd start by explaining it. Basically, the bar is separate from the JCR and ran by college. The Bar Steward only answers to college and can be nice to the JCR if they wish. The Bar Officer is the middleman, primarily with loyalties to the JCR, which is where the role has gone wrong as people don't commit to the JCR. I've been involved in the JCR since meeting 1.1 of first year so I've been in this for a while which comes with an amazing array of knowledge and great relationships that I spent years fostering. I would love to have everyone have a say on the bar- it's so sad that not everyone gets the chance to work on the bar or have a say in how it's run but as Bar Officer I would create a JCR version of the college bar committee that JCR officers could sit on and share thoughts, comments and concerns on how the bar is run. Also, college meets once a term so I would host drop-ins so that people could tell me their grievances- what's working, what's not working- that way I could present them to the Bar Steward who could present them to college. I would also provide some sort of presentation in JCR meetings so you know what's going on at the bar. A lot of the time the JCR doesn't know what's happening at the bar and there's miscommunication. My main goal is to bridge that gap with my JCR and college understanding while working with the Bar Steward. One of my main main goals would be alcohol-free options- by talking to people within college I realised this is a real issue and I'd like to get your ideas. It's your bar, you're the ones using it and I don't think it's fair college gets most of the say. Vote for me.

Questions

SB: Who would be on the JCR bar committee?

RS: A representative from Welfare campaigns, Outreach and sports and societies. Some JCR elected members so that people who don't get the chance to work for the bar still get to understand how the bar runs.

NP: How would you make ordering alcohol-free drinks more acceptable?



RS: I think part of that is down to bar staff. Familiarising the bar staff with what's on offer and trying some of the alcohol free options. If we give bar tabs as prizes we can enter alcohol-free options into conversation more.

General Questions

OW: Bailey bar is often crowded. How do we make it more accessible?

OC: With the booking form we could make sure that the society who have booked it out have priority and have a set time for them to arrive at the bar. We could open the back bar and Brooks to make it a more private event and ensure access to the bar all night.

RS: I would suggest alongside the booking form I'd also coordinate with Cuth's societies so we don't have to rely on them filling out the form. Reenforcing JCR relations and not relying on social sec members to fill in a form instead relying on the relationship we have built.

DM: Bar Officer is a JCR role that's taken on by a college member of staff and serves on a college committee. How do you aim to represent the JCR towards college?

RS: My bar committee and drop-ins would allow me to know what the JCR wants, not what I think the JCR wants. The elected members could share their opinions as well. I've spent a lot of time in the JCR and know how the JCR wants to use the bar and I would listen. I would also be happy to sit on other committees if they wanted to plan something using the bar.

OC: The google form being open on the instagram throughout the year would help. As a JCR we are working for the students but this bar is famously one of the most popular bars in Durham. We have a bar that is popular in the wider community so we want access from everyone. I like the idea of drop-ins but having sat on the Bar Committee previously with the previous president as a college committee they are money orientated and as a JCR we also want profit.

VC: Adding on DM's point- we have a lot of Cuth's events like OctoberFest coming up- how do we make the bar special to us and exciting?

OC: It's a free facility for us to use and we can use special drinks for events. I think we are lucky we have a nice bar that people want to use and maybe we can commit to themes more. Maybe the Bar Officer could sit in on SocialComm and help out more.

RS: The bar is primarily a college thing and I think I would be equipped to build those relationships. To make it more interesting from a JCR perspective, having a centralised committee would allow that. If we discuss, negotiate and reach a compromise we can work together to make both the bar and JCR excited for the events and know what works.

Environment Rep - EJ, LM, RON (I)

EJ's Hust

Hi I'm Eloise. I'm a current third-year student studying IR and Geography and I'm running to be your Environment Rep. First of all, I know this position hasn't been filled in a while so I think it's important to restart our socials. I couldn't find an instagram so I would start that and recognise the work completed by existing JCR societies and initiatives such as Gardening Soc and university wide initiatives like Green Move Out which could be promoted better. I would like to champion volunteering opportunities that centre around sustainability. There's often a lot of gardening opportunities in the historical gardens which are important to spread out to our wider JCR community. I would reach out to other JCR Environment Reps to partner on events such as plant pot painting socials around the same time as SU plant sales. I would like to build the Outreach of the socials to



circulate information. I have good relations with the Fashion Show and the Social Chair which I would use to push sustainability. For example, with Fashion Show I would focus on sourcing collections regionally to cut down on emissions from postage and shipping. I would also champion our media student community and further collab with Bailey Wardrobe to help charity formal donation points and promote sustainability. I worked with Panto last year and think it's important to have practical solutions. I'd reduce consumption by circulating information and having upcycling events and book swaps. Yeah... that's it.

Questions

EB: You mentioned working with Outreach. Are there any events or charities you'd like to work with?

EJ: In terms of specific events, I would like something arts and crafts that is low commitment but spreads awareness of Environment soc and pushes for environment based charities. Whether it's tote bag painting or using JCR existing resources.

CS: You mentioned working with Fashion Show to promote sustainability. Do you have any more specifics on how they can be more sustainable?

EJ: It's about where they source clothes from and keeping it local. I know last year they had people drive across County Durham which I think is good. Also Fashion Show run a lot of events which charity is at the forefront of and I think it's important to collab and allow the people to be aware of their sustainability.

LM's Hust

Good evening everyone, it's a pleasure to be talking to you all. My name is Lily Morgan and I am running for the position of Environment Representative. So a bit about me... I was fortunate enough to be raised by a mother who truly cared about nurturing the world we live in, she has shown me how to be kind to the Earth and I am now someone who is passionate about educating others on the benefits that making simple, sustainable changes to their lifestyles will have on the environment that they live in. If elected I would aim to: Encourage biodiversity in the woodland area surrounding Parson's Field by hanging up bird boxes and feeders on the trees. Students lucky enough to have a view of the forest from their windows will get an added bonus of being able to enjoy the sight of beautiful birds enjoying their natural habitats. Unfortunately, I am not one of those students.

Furthermore, this will hopefully create a stronger link between us and the Durham locals, as it will attract more wildlife for them to admire on their daily walks. I aim to avoid the risk of our recycling bins being contaminated with general waste and ending up in landfill. Most of us can relate to the awkwardness of having to let our flatmates know that they've put something in the wrong bin, or maybe you are that flatmate. Anyway, I believe that redesigning the informative posters which are hung above the bins in shared kitchens, to make them more concise and visually stimulating will be a simple and effective way to make it easier for people to know what can and cannot be recycled in our area. Reduce pollution of our local waterways by replacing all cleaning chemicals used by the college with an environmentally conscious alternative. For example, ChemEco, which is a brand who do not use any substances such as chlorine and phosphates in their products as, when these contaminate our waterways they kill aquatic life as well as lead to a massive increase in eutrophication. Having been employed by a conservation charity for the last 8 months, I have seen first-hand the actions which can be taken to make an organisation more sustainable. I am confident in my ability to educate other members of our college on issues surrounding the environment and steps we can take to try and solve these issues. I am someone who enjoys working with people and gathering different ideas and



opinions on a topic as I believe that this is the best way to come to a fair outcome. Therefore, if elected, I look forward to participating in meetings and working with the wider JCR. I am aware that this position will be a big commitment, but it means more to me than just 'something to put on the CV. Throughout recent years I have volunteered for the green party candidate in my local area, and thanks to this, I have been inspired to take a more active role in politics, in my opinion this position would be the best place to start. I can promise you all that I will take it seriously and put all my effort into doing what is best for the environment, because I really want to. Thank you for listening to my speech and I hope it has inspired you to trust me with your vote.

Questions

FA: Do you worry about the financial aspect of asking people to change products?

LM: There could be but the National Trust and Cuth's are both charities and funds are organised in a similar way. There can be financial implications but we can do it slowly, using even one less chemical would make a difference.

AH: You mentioned adding bird boxes and things like that. What would be your process to install these?

LM: I would figure out everything we need and hopefully build a committee. Environmentalism is building especially among young people. I know it's my job but I'd open it up to the community and try to find incentives for people to help.

General Questions

RF: How would you get Cuth's students to care about the environment and their impact on it?

EJ: Circulate more social media information. Durham is a walkable city and back to recycling-livers-out don't understand recycling bins so I would focus on that and push the Green Move Out Scheme so that people don't just chuck stuff anyway. Reuse and recycle and contribute to the wider Cuth's community.

LM: Education is one of the most important ways to reach people. I went to a state school if I didn't have my mum I wouldn't know. Maybe holding workshops like we have for consent and race awareness. I've seen people start to care once they see and understand and know the facts. When I speak to people and help them understand they do care and start to change.

GG: Being a catered and self-catered college food wastage is a big problem. We are on to Good-to-go but have you any suggestions on how to reduce this?

LM: I'm unsure as a self-catered student but I think it's very difficult to predict what people are and aren't going to eat. Doing it for so many years we should be better at predicting what students are going to do. College staff knowing what events are on would also help.

EJ: I think being catered I think full self-service would work so people wouldn't throw stuff away and have better control of their portions. I would better promote packed lunches to reduce further food waste in the library and throughout university.

HT: What is your favourite plant?

EJ: Aloe vera. I had one but it did die in summer. I still have the jellycat.

LM: I would say lily but I am biased.

GG: Do you have anything to combat buying new equipment for sports and societies?



LM: Taking the initials off jerseys so they don't have to be bought every year. Equipment wise if it is old we can donate to schools. Schools are always looking for new sports equipment and we can clear some space to buy some in.

EJ: My school appreciated donations hugely. A donation point for current students to donate their personal equipment. If we can reuse we should.

Music Rep - CZ, RON (I)

CZ's Hust

Hi everyone I'm Chloe Zander. I use she/her pronouns. You might know me through my sister, as a random freshman or you might not know me at all. I'm a first-year doing combined honours and social sciences and I'm running for Music Rep. Over the last week I wanted to use the music room and realised that we didn't have a Music Rep yet to give inductions and I thought if no one else will I'll put myself forward. I then realised it was a Method I position but here I am. I would like to make sure all the music equipment is up-to-date, that the pianos are in tune semi-regularly as well as the string instruments being in top shape. I would continue the register of everything in the music room. I would liaise with other committees to make sure all musicians in Cuth's can be heard- playing in balls, the bar or an open mic night. If there are no bands I'll look in the wider Durham community. I play a few instruments and have been in a few bands and it can be hard to find opportunities to play so I want to facilitate that. In terms of experience I was in bands, played a few instruments, was a music teacher for a year and that's about it. I want to make Cuth's music great.

Questions

TC: You spoke about reaching out to bands. What is your ideal event to get people involved?

CZ: An open mic night at the bar. Giving the opportunity to play will always attract people.

TM: You mentioned your struggles to get into the music room as a fresher, how would ensure this doesn't happen again?

CZ: If there wasn't a music rep elected for next year, I would come in early to make sure freshers get inductions.

PG Treasurer (II)

Stool (II)

Saf explains the role of Stool

JY's Hust

My name is Jasper. I'm a first year international student from Hong Kong. I'm new to Cuth's but I feel like it's a very warm community, friendly and productive. I have past experience as a general secretary in my previous school so I'm confident in my skills of paperwork, management, event organising and coordinating as well as dealing with elections. I think I have experience in this field and I hope I will make the JCR experience fun.

Questions

LG: As chair you are my second in command. Have you read the standing orders? If so, what's your favourite standing order?

JY: I haven't read them yet but I can read them very quickly.



GG: Can you give us your best impression of a stool? Physically?

JY does his impression of a stool with shouts of raffles

MB: With the tragic loss of Yorkshire Trading Company, what's your top location for raffle prizes?

JY: I would look at local options and offer them exposure for their goods and expand the types of raffle prizes we offer.

JY is elected as Stool

JRO x 3 (II)

RF explains JRO in 5 words: Gossip, Fun, Brunch, Spoons and Bar

GCT's Hust

This was a last minute decision. Last year I wasn't involved at all but over the last two weeks of frepping I met so many people that I love. I love rules. I'm a rules stickler which for JRO is a great thing. Also, I have a lot of free time and will be there when I need to be. Thank you.

Question

RS: What's your favourite rule?

GCT: Being a rugby boy there's international drinking rules that I love but I can't mention. I'll choose that I can't name any of the JCR officers while I'm up here because it was all I could think of during my hust.

JB: This is like speed dating.

ED's Hust

Hi, I'm Ebonee a 3rd year psychology student, my pronouns are she/her and I'm running for JRO. I think the best way to prove my dedication to the JCR has been this past freshers week. I made the decision not to frep, I didn't fancy sleep deprivation on my birthday this year. However, after 4 hours of arriving in Durham I was at the Bailey creating content for Cuth's tiktok and even joined in a clubbing night. If that doesn't show my dedication to this JCR, I'm not sure what does. Anyway, I would love to be a JRO as I have never sat on GovComm. I want to experience a new committee and learn a whole new side of the JCR through all of the gossip. This is my last year at Durham and I would love to help make an impact throughout this year within GovComm. I won't keep rambling on any longer, so thank you for listening and I hope you consider me for your vote.

Question

GG: What impact would you like to make on GovComm?

ED: I'm a really good gossiper and I would like to bring that to every GovComm meeting.

TG's Hust

So, hello everyone I'm Tim and the only fresher in the group so I have more longevity. I'm the JCR Chair's son. I'm fun and friendly and make friends easily. The freps have been lovely and I want to be involved and be like them. Maybe not be president but I'd like to try my best.

Question

RS: You mentioned your parent is JCR Chair. How would you work against claims of nepotism?



TG: I don't actually know her name so that might help. Someone told me that apparently she's my parent but I'm not sure.

AH's Hust

Hello, I'm Alex, I use he/him pronouns, and I am in my second year of engineering. Now as some of you may know, many of the closest people I know at uni worked in and around govcomm last year, and so I was exposed to a lot of how the JCR works and is able to function as an elective body.

I was intrigued at the time and then realised that I was checking people's posts during the election campaign to see if they were sticking to the rules - I know, weird - but I genuinely was intrigued to see if I could spot if any rules were. And as a former goody two-shoes, at least for the first half of Highschool, I know a thing or two about sticking to the rules. So given that, I would be delighted to be your JRO this year, and thank you for listening to my lil spiel.

EW's Hust

I haven't eaten dinner yet and I didn't realise it would be this long. My experience being walked out this room was subpar at best and I would want to change that.

Question

RF: Can you show us your best aeroplane steward hand signs?

EW showcases excellent aeroplane steward ability

General Questions

NC: What's the best piece of gossip you would bring to GovComm?

GCT: I can't think of any off the top of my head.

ED: I can but I'm sworn to secrecy and only GovComm will know.

TG: When I was in year 11 we had awards on the wall. There was one called 'Biggest Gossip' and that was me.

AH: I'm not one for gossip that interests anybody. If there is anything juicy or interesting (unlike our SRO) I will keep it to myself.

EW: As a ski-instructor I won biggest shit stirrer and if you tell me something it will be passed on.

MB: What does JRO stand for:?

EW: Work experience for a flight attendant.

AH: Just, Really attentive, Open and accommodating.

TG: So I can be top of Cuth's in 4 years.

ED: Junior Returning Officer. You need to be factual and non-biased in GovComm.

GCT: Being a stickler for the rules and helping out. Boring but the only answer I have left.

TG, AH, GCT elected

SU Comm Member x 3 (II)

LB provides one word description for SU Comm: Policy

ED's Hust

Hi, me again. I didn't get JRO so I'm back to my roots. I'm Ebonee, a third year student and I'm once again running to be an SU Comm member. For the past year I've been part of this role, helping to



bring motions from college to the student union, and helping to create canvas on the SU Instagram. As well as being on the SU committee, I was also part of the Welfare campaigns team. This is where I truly learned my canva skills and could bring them over to SU. I want to continue in this role because I did truly enjoy it despite its boring reputation. I liked learning about the different motions and having my say on behalf of our college. So, if you vote for me, I will continue to make the SU Instagram look pretty as well as attending the meetings so you don't have to.

CP's Hust

Hello I'm Cassidy, a first year student from the USA studying Natural Sciences. Most of my leadership has been through societies- sport and music. I would really like to understand how university and college interact and represent my own perspective and the perspective of the community around me.

General Questions

LB: How would you represent the views of the entirety of Cuth's JCR?

ED: I hope I did it last year. Personally, I have a hidden disability and would like to represent that perspective.

CP: By interacting with different people and with my background of doing so I believe I could.

JB: What does the abbreviation SU mean to you?

CP: Students' Union

ED: Can't think because I can see my Naked Bird. Let's just change it to Students Unite.

ED, CP elected

Formals manager (II)

CC describes Formal Manager in one word: Discount

BP's Hust

Hello everyone, my name is Benedict and I use he/him pronouns. I am a first year English literature and philosophy student. A few of you may recognise me from singing Meghan Trainor at the bar karaoke night (lol). On a serious note, I was very aware of the culture of formals and balls when applying to Durham, and as someone from a small farming town the concept of these events was definitely intimidating - I spent way too long over summer stressing over the differences between black tie, white tie, formal attire and lounge suit! As a formals manager I'd love to create resources to make formals a less intimidating space for those who like me have not experienced them (the closest thing to a formal that I've ever attended was my year 13 prom which consisted of a village hall and an interesting sort of "BBQ". On a more fun note, I also love a good themed party and have been known to host some excellent themed nights and this is definitely something I could bring to the table! Thank you for all being so welcoming!

General Questions

VC: Can you use canva? What do you think of snakes?

BP: I have used canva before but I don't love them as much as spreadsheets. I think snakes are kinda scary but I can learn to love them.

CS: How would you make formals less intimidating?



BP: I would try to get out as much information as possible. When I tried to look for information a lot of it came from private schools and as a state schooler I felt like I didn't belong but I want to combat that.

CC: What's your ideal formal?

BP: I'm a big fan of seasonal ones. I worked for a charity last year and we did a garden party which was amazing.

BP elected