



# Postgraduate and Mature Students' Committee Meeting - 27/10/2024

Attendance: SM, TC, SE, EP, CR

Apologies: DM, FsV

Absent:

Location: Brooks' JCR

## **Welcome to PGM Comm**

### **Introductions**

#### **Overview of what PGM Comm has done in the past**

SM: We want to run events that aren't taxing on us because there aren't many of us. Last year we took a trip to Beamish and college paid for the coach. We have a healthy budget of £750 from the JCR and either £500-1000 from college. Last time we didn't pay Beamish while we had 50 people on the coach on the way there. So realistically as long as we pay beforehand it's an easy event for us to hold. We're aiming for 30th November and they'll have the Christmas stuff up at that time. The other thing is that quite a lot of PGs weren't here for the PG formal so I would like college to hold a wine and cheese night and they seem to be happy to heavily contribute to that event and it would be sometime mid-November. We have traditionally done a mature students' brunch in college which college will also cover the cost of.

TC: What constitutes a mature student?

SM: For postgraduate students over 25 when they start their degree and for undergraduates 21. The Assistant Principal is currently the main line for PG students and I think she's open with the definition.

TC: Can we email out event information?

SM: The mailing list would only include people who have paid the levy. I can send it to Debra if it's something I want out as soon as possible. Do we think using the Facebook page works?

TC: I don't remember the last time I used Facebook and I just want a hub for that information.

SM: An email list is something I'd like to start. \*

TC: At the land registry we would have a template that was just replacing the information and didn't take that long to put together.



SM: With Beamish happening late November and the wine and cheese night mid-November I think all else we need from PGMComm is maybe a Spoons brunch. Is next Sunday too early to set that? I'll put something on Instagram to come along around 11.15am. We don't have an Academic Rep but I'd like to get that started. We have two types of events: Research Forums and Research Slams. I would suggest the Research Slam for next term and just hold a Research Forum- which is still early for any of our students but we could invite somebody to speak from different departments. It could be themed or we could just put a call out- we could potentially do a Durham one.

SE: I would think doing thematically is probably best.

SM: I would suggest we do one that's Arts and Humanities and one that is Social Sciences but we could find someone may be doing something on the environment in the NE. That could work in the week beginning the 18th November. We did a bar crawl last year which we could hold near the end of term. Do we fancy that this term or next?

SE: I think as a welcome back. There's a lot going on in those last few weeks.

EP: Think that's a lot better for PGCE students as well.

SM: I think that's manageable and then we can look at reopening applications in the new year. Last year we had an event every two weeks in Epiphany and we had two people running those events which was quite doable with deadlines. I'd like to have the same level of responsibility this year.

### **Representation**

SM: We are also here as representatives. I'll get you all your emails and I'll put up a post letting people know who you are. Last year's PG Rep held a couple of drop-ins but they weren't really well attended.

EP: There's only 4 PGCE students but that's easy to keep connected with.

SM: Is there anything else you'd like to do in these roles? I can immediately feed things to college and I can also feed things up to Jeremy Cook on wider university issues so please let me know if there's anything you'd like them to know.

*Meeting Adjourned.*