

MT2021 WK 6– JCR motions

Motion 1: The catering team should post weekly lunch, dinner, and formal menus online a week in advance

This JCR notes:

- Menu updates are rather inconsistent, for week 3 and 5 all dinner menus were uploaded a week in advance, and in week 4 (and probably 6) the menus were not updated
- The lunch menu was not updated for the entirety of week 3 (the page only displayed the lunch menu of 22/10), then was updated on 1/11 and 2/11, but was not updated on 3/11, and they remain somewhat inconsistent
- The instances where the menu was uploaded in advance showed that it probably is not logistically impossible
- Many people have intolerances and allergies, or choose not to eat certain foods due to personal preference and/or religious reasons.
- Being able to see the menus in advance would help us to plan ahead, and to avoid situations like walking into the hall with friends, only to see that the food is not suitable and walk back out
- It is also difficult to decide whether to book formals or not without being able to see the menu

This JCR believes: posting menus in advance will help us plan and be more inclusive to people with all sorts of dietary needs

This JCR therefore resolves to: request that the catering team post menus in advance on the website, or if not possible, post the menus in advance in the JCR or outside the hall.

Proposer: Eunice Poon

Seconded: Tanvi Tiana Dhingra, Charles Wallace

For: 37

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Motion 2: The JCR will pay for a refurbishment of the JCR website

This JCR notes:

- Prospective Exeter students are likely to look to the JCR website for information
- The current JCR website is outdated
- The JCR committee cannot update the website in its current state

This JCR believes:

- Updating the website would allow for another medium for students to stay informed about the JCR, including those who do not have Facebook

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Pay 150 GBP to refurbish the website

Proposer: Emily Rosindell

Seconded: Ella Stadler

For: 38

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion 3: The JCR will pay for festive winter holiday decorations

This JCR notes:

- JCR members are often not in Oxford long enough to enjoy Christmas festivities here
- The JCR room can become a festive space when decorated

This JCR believes:

- Bringing some festive spirit to the JCR room is positive for the welfare of the JCR and will bring some seasonal excitement

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Decorate the JCR with a festive theme for the remainder of MT
- Spend 50 GBP on the decorations

Proposer: Emily Rosindell

Seconded: Ella Stadler

Friendly amendment: keep the decorations environmentally friendly, keep those that can be reused

For: 35

Against: 1

Abstain: 2

Motion 4: Donate to Oxford Pink Week

This JCR notes:

- i. Breast cancer affects thousands of people every year of all genders, with 1 in 7 women and 1 in 870 men likely to be diagnosed with it in their lifetime.
- ii. Pink Week, running in 3rd week Hilary 2022, is an Oxford University initiative which raises money for five breast cancer charities (Breast Cancer Now, Coppafeel!, Walk the Walk, Black Women Rising and the Teenage Cancer Trust).
- iii. As well as fundraising, Pink Week raises awareness amongst the student body, e.g. through discussion panels and sharing information.
- iv. Pink Week is aiming to raise as much money as possible, but is entirely reliant on external funding to organise all its events and other initiatives

This JCR believes:

- i. Money raised for these charities will make a significant positive impact on the lives of those affected by breast cancer.
- ii. Spreading awareness of breast cancer warning signs and symptoms is relevant to all JCR members and could help save lives.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Contribute £200 from the JCR budget to Pink Week 2022 towards fundraising and events.

Proposer: Niharika Paul

Seconded: Emily Briggs

For: 38

Against: 0

Abstain: 0

Motion 5: Purchasing SAD light therapy lamps for the library

This JCR notes:

- Seasonal affective disorder is a common mood disorder resulting in low mood during the autumn and winter months
- Over a third of people in the UK either have SAD, suspect that they have it, or suffer from low moods in autumn and winter
- Light therapy is an NHS recommended treatment for seasonal affective disorder
- Light therapy lamps can be bought for about £20-£25

This JCR believes:

- A significant number of JCR members are likely to benefit from light therapy, but the cost is a barrier

- Buying a few light therapy lamps would be an effective wellbeing investment by the JCR as they can be reused indefinitely
- The library is quite poorly lit in places so additional lighting would also be useful as a study aid

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Set aside £100 for the purchase of light therapy lamps
- Display these at the entrance of the library (with some explanatory information) so students can borrow them as needed

Proposer: Georgina Hancock

Seconded: Megan Sanders

For: 37

Against: 1

Abstain: 0

Motion 6: The promotion of diversity and inclusivity in our college

This JCR notes:

- For students who, for religious reasons, eat halal or kosher food, food in college is widely inaccessible
- The introduction of halal/kosher meat will have no impact on the lives of non-Muslim or non-Jewish students, but will have the biggest and most positive impact on the experience of minority ethnic students in our college
- Halal meat is indistinguishable in taste from meat slaughtered by other means

This JCR believes:

- If Exeter truly wants to promote access and to prove that it is a safe and accessible space for students of all backgrounds it should start from the kitchen
- The introduction of halal/kosher meat would represent a commitment to creating an inclusive environment within college for students of all backgrounds and denominations, promoting equality and diversity within our college

- Introducing halal/kosher food into the kitchen will improve the experience and convenience of ethnic minority students within our college as well as encouraging future applicants to apply to a college that creates an environment that supports them

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Make all non-pork meat served in college ethically sourced halal/kosher meat (This means: it must be approved as ethically sourced halal/kosher meat; cannot have touched non-halal/kosher meat, including pork; cannot be cooked in alcoholic substances; cannot be cooked with dairy products)

Proposer: Deborah Ogunnoiki

Seconded: Muscab Mohamed, Sara Pelham and Khusrau Islam

For: 37

Against: 0

Abstain: 1

Motion 7: Subsidise the Class Officers' formal

This JCR notes:

- The budget for the Class Officers on the welfare subcommittee is limited
- Class related issues affect people a large group of people at Exeter College
- Class Officers are planning a subsidized formal dinner for people in this group which requires more funding than what is being currently provide

This JCR believes:

- Students' welfare is important, and the JCR should strive to develop suitable welfare provisions for all its members
- A formal dinner is a way to bring people together to contribute to a supportive network for people affected by class issues. The subsidized formal will include guest speakers who will talk about class in a uni-wide context.
- Financial issues should not deter people from attending a formal

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Provide £500 for class officers so that they can subsidise the proposed formal for members of the JCR affected by class issues.

Proposer: Jenni Lynam
Seconded: Patrick Oliver

For: 37
Against: 0
Abstain: 1

Motion 8: Inclusion of the gender expression fund in the JCR constitution

This JCR notes:

- That a gender expression fund has been previously accounted for in the JCR budget, being set up by Roan MacKinnon Runge in 2016, and further expanded in 2018.
- That knowledge of this fund was lost over time due to committee turnovers and its absence the JCR constitution.
- That a motion has been passed to reinstate a gender expression fund for this academic year, with details available on the previous motions.

This JCR believes:

- That it is essential that the knowledge of this fund is not lost again, as this could jeopardise student welfare in the future.
- Reinstating the fund if it is forgotten again through time is a lengthy process, and the money should be available on hand for those that need the support.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Permanently amend the constitution to include a clause outlining the details of the JCR gender expression fund into Appendix A, which details the discretionary budget of JCR officers.

Proposer: Sara Pelham
Seconded: Will Blessing

For: 37
Against: 1
Abstain: 0

Motion 9: Funding for PML networking event

This JCR notes:

- Philosophy and modern languages (PML) students often don't have contact with others on the same degree program (because it's such a small cohort spread out over the university as a whole)
- Contact with other students on the same degree program can be very beneficial to students, both academically and in creating a feeling of community and belonging
- Food and drinks at a networking event can help create a relaxing and pleasant environment

This JCR believes:

- It's a responsibility of the JCR to help ensure that all students feel part of an academic community
- A PML networking event would help towards this goal

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Provide the PML JCC rep with £50 to fund food and drinks for an inter-college PML networking event

Proposer: Mhairi Tait

Seconded: Céline Barclay

For: 36

Against: 1

Abstain: 1

Motion 10: Donation to 2nd May

This JCR notes:

1. *2nd May 1997* is a play written by Jack Thorne (Skins, His Dark Materials) that uses Tony Blair's Labour landslide as a backdrop to explore relationships, politics, LGBTQ narratives, and the impact of class divide on access & university applications;
2. *2nd May 1997* will be performed at the Burton-Taylor Studio from the 23rd to 27th of November, during the 7th week of this term;
3. *2nd May 1997* is being put on by a student production company Love Song Productions which is affiliated with the Oxford University Dramatic Society, or OUDS;
4. Céline, a member of Exeter JCR, is part of the team as Marie;
5. *2nd May 1997* is entirely COVID secure, and is following national guidelines in collaboration with the professional team at the Burton-Taylor Studio;
6. This funding would cover fixed costs such as the venue hire of the Burton Taylor Studio, script & performance rights, as well as stage the play with costume, make-up and props;
7. *2nd May 1997* revenue will not profit any individuals, and will be distributed as per the contractual obligation of all OUDS-registered production companies -- for reference, this includes first paying standard and pro-rata loans, then donating the remaining money either back into the Oxford drama ecosystem

through various avenues (such as to funding bodies, societies, production companies) or to charity (for which there is a cap that a maximum of 50% of the proceeds can be donated);

8. OUDS functions on financial backing from college JCRs -- by supporting *2nd May 1997*, the **Exeter** JCR would contribute to an important objective of supporting students involved in all aspects of performance, design and technical roles; stimulating students' artistic pursuits & creativity; and developing & nurturing an environment in which students can gain and improve their skills.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Give **£50** to *2nd May 1997* from the Motions budget.

Proposer: Céline Barclay

Seconded: Mhairi Tait

For: 37

Against: 0

Abstain: 1