

Week 6 Motions

Budget left: £655

Amount requested: £425

1. Oxford University Filmmaking Foundation - £125
2. CourseCast Podcast - £300

Ruby opened the meeting and thanked all attendees for coming, as it is rare that we meet quorum.

Ruby welcomed Jaiden's motion.

Jaiden spoke about this motion.

This will cover one film and any extra money will go back into the society.

Growing the society will increase accessibility.

OUFF Contribution

Proposer: Jaiden Ghedia

Secunder: William Lauga

The JCR notes that:

1. The Oxford University Filmmaking Foundation (OUFF) is running a project that will develop 5 scripts about student life into a short film anthology, enabling students to get hands-on experience on real film sets.
2. Filmmaking, while accessible, can be severely limited by budget, and student films are often funded out-of-pocket.
3. The productions are currently underway, and the effects of the limited budget have been made clear: crucial props and scenes are cut out of scripts, travel and food expenses are causing unreliability for scheduling, a lack of equipment heavily restricts practicality, and a potential learning experience is suffering as a result.

The JCR believes that:

1. Supporting these kinds of projects continues a long tradition of the JCR encouraging the pursuit of extracurricular activities related to the arts, and provides JCR members with funding that would otherwise be difficult to access.
2. Filmmaking experience is critical in order to have a chance at being employed in the movie production industry, especially where students at an academically-focused university may lack any knowledge or practical experience without these kinds of projects.

The JCR resolves to:

1. Contribute £125 to OUFF to cover the expenses of props and equipment hire. This specifically covers camera, lighting, and sound equipment, and allows us to restore one script to its original version by buying the relevant props.

Grace asked how many Worcester students are involved. Jaiden said about 6-7.

Ruby asked how much this project will cost. Jaiden said this will cover the cost of one film and equipment hire.

A fresher asked how much this motion is for. Jaiden said £125.

Ruby moved on to the vote. This passed with a majority but there were 6 abstentions.

Ruby introduced the next motion.

Tim introduced himself and said that he thinks people would benefit from a podcast about what to study at university. Tim says there is a gap in long form content about certain degrees, as there are only short form content materials at the moment.

Tim is already making this podcast, with several Worcester students involved. Tim plans to upload 1-2 episodes a weekend. This will not benefit participants or Tim but rather prospective students.

Tim broke down the costs. Tim has already spend £70 on podcast equipment. He is trying to keep costs down but he wants to trial subscription services to manage a mailing list to make sure people return to the podcast. This is £30 a month.

Buzzspot is another service Tim wants to access advertising etc because this means the podcast would potentially become self-returning. This means that JCR would not need to keep paying for it. This is also about £30 a month.

Lovable is another service that would make sure it appears on the search engine results.

This would cost about £80 a month, so £300 would pay for about 3 months of subscriptions and equipment costs.

Grace asked what the plan is for after the 3 months, as this would be about £1200 a year. Tim said that if the podcast does not work, he will pay for it through tutoring. He hopes that affiliate marketing will work.

Ruby asked if there are any other JCRs being approached. Tim said that the main team is Worcester based, so as they get guests from other colleges and universities they may be able to access funding sources elsewhere but this is limited.

Ruby also asked how this will differ from other access and outreach and if Tim will engage with the university. Tim has spoken with Nathan, the college communications officer. Nathan has given some advice on recording locations but nothing about social media exposure.

Freya asked if podcasts are popular for prospective students. Tim said that anecdotally lots of people listen to podcasts and the podcast industry is huge. He says that people have expressed interest in this sort of podcast.

Grace mentioned the Matt Williams Podcast, where students are bought on. Freya also mentioned that she thinks a new student life podcast is starting. This is just to bring these to Tim's attention.

A fresher asked if it is general uni or Oxbridge specific. Tim said that it is general uni but will have some Oxbridge focus in a few episodes. He hopes to target people from all unis.

Another fresher asked what the plan if there is a profit. Tim said he was unsure but would consider giving the £300 back to the JCR. Tim does not expect to make loads of money.

Thalia asked if email is the best way to contact people. Tim said they are also doing Instagram, TicToc and YouTube. He has run a podcast before and is now trying to scale it up. The money would allow Tim to try before he has to pay out of pocket. This service would enable people to see the analytics.

Funding for CourseCast — a Student-Run Podcast Providing Accessible Overviews of University Courses

Proposer Tim Mears

Seconder: Joe Raven

The JCR notes that:

1. **CourseCast** is a **student-led podcast** designed to help **prospective university students** understand different degree courses by interviewing current university students about their experiences.
2. Each episode features both a first-year and a senior student, offering perspectives on **admissions, course content, and career** development.
3. The podcast is being produced by a **team of five Worcester College students** - including one host, one editor, and three social media managers - ensuring that the project is firmly **rooted in the Worcester student community**.
4. **Dozens of Worcester students** have already expressed interest in appearing on the podcast as guests, representing a wide range of subjects and perspectives.
5. The **first episode** will be recorded this **Sunday in Worcester College**, featuring one Pembroke and one Worcester student discussing the Economics and Management course.
6. The project includes an integrated **website, newsletter, and social media** campaign to promote audience engagement and encourage prospective student participation.
7. The total projected cost is £48.46 for essential **recording equipment** and approximately £80 per month for three **subscription services**: Beehiv (newsletter), Buzzspot (hosting & analytics), and Lovable (website creation & hosting).
8. A total of **£300** would cover **three months of subscriptions** and the **initial equipment purchase**.

The JCR believes that:

1. **CourseCast** will contribute meaningfully to **outreach and access**, helping demystify the university application process and providing prospective students with genuine insights into life and study at university.
2. The project showcases Worcester College's **student initiative, creativity, and collaboration**, strengthening the College's public profile.
3. Supporting CourseCast aligns with the **JCR's goals** of encouraging **student media, educational innovation, and outreach** efforts.

4. CourseCast will benefit both **current students** through opportunities for **personal development** and **future students** by facilitating informed decisions about higher education.

The JCR resolves to:

1. Allocate **£300** from the JCR Motions Budget to fund three months of subscriptions and the required recording equipment **for CourseCast**.
2. Request a short **progress and financial report** from the project team after the three-month period to ensure **accountability** and transparency.
3. Encourage **collaboration** between **CourseCast** and the **Worcester College Media Team** to maximise impact, share resources, and promote the project across **official College channels**.

This motion passed, with two votes against and one vote in abstention.

Ruby closed the meeting and thanked everyone for coming.