

Motion 1: Trinity Term WK7, Sun. June 13, 2021

Motion 1:

This JCR notes:

- The definition of transphobia found in Appendix A will, in this motion, be referred to as “the proposed definition of transphobia”
- In this motion, the word ‘trans’ is inclusive of any and all non-cisgender identities
- According to the 2018 Trans Report written by the SU LGBTQ+ Campaign,
 - 98% of trans students at Oxford report mental health issues
 - a further 65% report that the University has had a negative impact on their mental health
 - 63% of trans students have experienced discrimination from the University, with 97% of this being reported as transphobic discrimination
 - 35% of respondents reported this transphobic discrimination as coming from staff and administrators of the University
- Anecdotally, the prevalence and severity of transphobia at the university has not improved, and has perhaps even worsened, since the Trans Report
- Claims of transphobia are frequently not reported or pursued, and are frequently written off when they are reported as simply being accidents or misinterpretations
- The proposed definition of transphobia was written by trans students in conjunction with LGBTQ+ Campaign, based on the Trans Actual and Lib Dem definitions of transphobia
- The proposed definition of transphobia has been endorsed by LGBTQ+ Campaign and WomCam
- The SU has adopted the proposed definition of transphobia and will lobby the university to adopt it.

This JCR believes:

- It is important to have a specific, detailed definition of transphobia to be able to effectively combat it
- For a definition of transphobia to accurately represent the interests of trans people, it is important that it be written and/or approved by trans people
- Adopting a definition of transphobia written by and for trans students will show that the student body as a whole cares about trans students’ welfare
- It is crucial that colleges lead the way in terms of adopting this definition and encouraging the university to do so; otherwise there is likely to be little change

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- To mandate the JCR President to, in a meeting with the Governing Body and Rector:
 - discuss the adoption of the proposed definition of transphobia as College policy, and
 - ask that the Rector encourage the central university administration to adopt the proposed definition of transphobia

Proposer: Holly Barker

Seconded: Ella Stadler

Motion 2:

This JCR notes:

- The JCR has some surplus budget this academic year
- The JCR has become a little tired and could do with a refresh and update
- There is a group of students who have expressed interest in facilitating a refurbishment of the JCR

This JCR believes:

- It would be of real benefit to students to have a more welcoming and functional space within the college
- The wants and needs of Exeter students with regard to such a space should be taken into account in this process

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- Allocate £15,000 towards renovation of the JCR
- This will be considered a preliminary amount, and in the likely event that the costs fall below this, the money will be redirected back into JCR funds

Proposer: Grace Kirman, Annabel Rand, Maya Bullough

Seconded: Ruth Scharff-Hansen, Alfie Drew, Jenni Lynam

Motion 3:

This JCR notes:

- Last week, the JCR passed a motion mandating that Equalities reps (Class, Women's, BAME, and LGBTQ+) all get Peer Supporter training
- However, the university can only offer 8 spaces for Peer Supporter training at Exeter, due to constraints on the time of the trained therapists/counsellors the university employs to run this training. This is unfortunately non-negotiable.
- This would mean that there were only 2 spaces for Peer Supporters that were not on the JCR committee, which creates an overall ultimately less diverse welfare system in college.
- However, the college has offered to help organize alternative training for Representatives, including courses on equality and diversity and general listening skills.

This JCR believes:

- It is important to keep Peer Supporter spaces open for all members of the JCR
- There is still however a need to provide some kind of training to representatives to allow them to better serve the student body
- Organising alternative training for the Equalities Reps will mean that Peer Supporter spots will not be predominantly taken up by the JCR committee, creating more variety in the routes to welfare support in college
- Organising alternative training also ensures that the Equalities Reps are still sufficiently prepared for their roles, despite not receiving Peer Supporter training
- Diversifying the current Peer Supporter service, in addition to fully training Equalities Reps, will ensure all members of the JCR have the feeling that there is somebody they can talk to about welfare concerns. This ultimately will create a stronger college welfare system.

This JCR therefore resolves to:

- To amend articles concerning Class, Women's, BAME, and LGBTQ+ Officers, changing 'receive peer supporter training' to 'receive appropriate and sufficient training'
- By liaising with college authorities, organise appropriate and sufficient training for all future Equalities Reps
- To make an effort to encourage marginalised members of the JCR to apply to become Peer Supporters to increase diversity, thus ensuring that all members of the JCR feel that they have a Peer Supporter that will understand them.

Proposer: Imogen Lewis

Seconded: Ella Stadler, Anju Kudhail, Holly Barker

