

St Catherine's College

Open Meeting Minutes

Sunday, 13 October 2013

Committee Present: Linda Geaves, Wojciech Kozlowski, Jan Vonk, Michael Grange, Aśka Przewrocka, Isabel Diez-Sevilla, Francesco Ferroni

Members present: 58

1. Announcements

Jan announces the Women's Welfare position has been taken up by Elisabeth Nye, and Ruolong Chen continues as Men's Welfare officer. Jan also reminds the members to be very careful with the new furniture. Wojciech introduces the committee. He advertises the ski trip, and reveals the location (French Alps) and calls for people to sign up. He talks about how the bar will work, and calls for volunteers. He stresses the fact that it will be community run, and helpers get many benefits.

2. Associate Members

2.1 Katia Mattis (Seconded by Hege Larsen and Malcolm Spencer)

She is from the south of Germany, she was here last year for an internship and was amazed by how extraordinarily friendly our MCR members were. She thinks it would enrich her experience here in Oxford. She is interested.

Malcolm: Bavaria has a reputation for Oktoberfest, could you organise one next year?

K: Certainly!

2.2 Felizitas Eichner (Seconded by Tim Grob and Aśka Przewrocka)

She is 21 years old, from Bavaria, she works in the lab in Headington (molecular medicine). She chose Oxford for an internship, which is nice but the crowd is a bit old. Aśka introduced her to St. Catz and she hopes to become an associate member.

Malcolm: Then we should definitely do a Bavarian Oktoberfest, and we should consequently attract more Germans.

F: Yes, I can definitely help with that!

Samshuddin: Why is St. Catz the best College?

F: It is one of the biggest, and all the people she has met so far are very friendly and helpful.

2.3 Shishi Liao (Seconded by Junsong Lin and Stephane Thao)

She is an Oxford Brookes law student. She has been in St. Catz at charity night, and was very enthusiastic about the people. If she gets voted in, she promises to cook Chinese food for everyone!

2.4 Tom Lee (Seconded by Michael Grange and Wojciech Kozłowski)

He is a student at Durham, but lives with Wojciech and Michael here in Oxford and it's a bit of a prerequisite for living with them to join St. Catz. College in Durham is too far. He really gets along with everyone, but unfortunately can't cook Chinese food. He will volunteer at the bar.

3. Committee Elections

3.1 IT & Publicity Officer:

David Hall (Seconded by Linda Geaves and Jan Vonk)

He's a 4th year Catz person, and knows all the things that would be useful for the website. He has many ideas already for improving it. CERN has invented the world wide web, so why not give someone who works there a chance as Catz IT & Publicity Officer?

Jason: What is your technical background?

D: I work at CERN, has a website, will base everything on Wordpress, so it is easy to maintain for future committee members with less technical background. People will be able to upload things on the website. At the moment one has to deal with html, which is a pain for many people.

Rob: What about time issues, given you are writing your thesis?

D: I will be around until July or next October, it won't take that much time.

Samshuddin: How will you deal with Publicity issues?

D: At the moment, the website is not really used, and it really should be! News is being sent out through emails, and a lot of it should go on the website. I want to have a calendar that is compatible with people's phones etc. College has revamped website, and it is time for the MCR to do the same.

Martin Garthwaite (Seconded by George Entwistle and Elizabeth O'Connor)

He works in Media as an IT person. He has relaunched the BBC Radio 1 website. He can definitely deal with website issues. He ran the blog and message board, comments are monitored, and he was in charge of that. He currently works for Sky.

Michael: What plans do you have for the website?

M: First understand what technology it is based on. Visual language is simple. The new College website is fancy, and there are questions about what people want. We could do better than the current group. There should be a historical log for messages that contain important information...

Linda: Biggest problem is dealing with staff, not technology.

M: He would be up for dealing with Jamie, although he'll be careful because the man obviously works out at the gym a lot. He'd have a hard time with Martin, though.

Wojciech: Do you want to be creative with the website?

M: Yes, absolutely, would like people to get people involved.

Victoria: How will it be living in London? Can you come to the meetings?

M: This could potentially be a problem, but given enough notice he could make it.

3.2 Bar Manager:

Stephanie Ørum (Seconded by Hendrik Brackmann and Sandy Hetherington)

Danish, DPhil student, she spent 24/7 in the lab last year and wants an excuse for not having this happen this year. Wants to make MCR the place to be in town. She wants people to tell stories about the MCR.

Wojciech: We have lots of exchanges, how would you push for people to go back to Catz for drinks etc?

S: She might want to rearrange the furniture in the MCR, make people feel more at home.

4. Wojciech thanks social secretaries for a very successful Fresher's Week.