

Ustinov College GCR General Meeting Agenda



7:00 p.m. 18/10/2018

1. Apologies:

Present:

2. Approval of Minutes from Last Meeting

Minutes from the GM held on 12/07/18

a. Issues Arising from Last Minutes

Minutes approved unanimously

i. Results of Elections following Last Meeting

Following the last General Meeting, the roles listed below were filled:

Chair Person: Vinay Utham

DSU Liaison Officer: Pedro Martinez Castro

Student Trustee: Marcos Cruz

Welfare Officer: Annie Moor

3. Reports from Officers [to be held during the meeting from]:

a. President [TP]

Ok so – as president I’ve been coordinating everything from the old site to up here in the storage rooms at Sheraton Park. We’ve got ourselves settled up here at the moment and got the observatory up and running as well as the sports facilities at Durham High school for girls which VB will update us on. Induction week was a lot of hard work and went really well, and I hope everyone enjoyed themselves! The other thing I’ve done is to be representing Ustinov College students at the Sheraton Park community, at the SPRA meetings. Here, I’ve been pushing through for more students to vote on matters in this community, which appears to be going through with changes. At the moment I’m working on setting up the more up-coming events, and the associated FB events – go check them out! And I think that is probably about it. If anyone has anything in particular, come and chat to me after. Does anyone have any question:

[Question]– with all the good stuff at induction week – can you give a summary of whats been happening at the DSU?

-one of the big things happening is the DSU’s ripped off campaign but I’ll let Pedro update on that properly. But nothing has really been kicking off yet with other colleges. There is an advertisement for castle ball which will be beginning next year, and they are keen to get us involved as fellow MCR students, so if you’re interested take a look, its on FB too.

b. Treasurer [EJ]

Hello everybody – I’ll be short. I shall talk about students of Ustinov College, there are nearly 1200 students but only 588 members entered the link for making the GCR membership payments,

however, students coming onto the web page to proceed to opt in amount to only 280 opting in students so far. As we are funded by the levy students pay so it's very important to opt in if you wish to be involved in our events. If you have any questions about the payments come to the office hours and we shall explain all the questions

[Question] – can you clarify the numbers

-588 went on to the opt in page but only 280 opted in.

c. Vice President [JO]

Hi everybody, I'm the Vice President, and have been largely concerned with facilities matters over the course of the summer transition from Howlands to here. This involved a lot of sorting through our old GCR stock, throwing a lot of it away, boxing up what remained and having it transported here. We had volunteers in the induction week to help you to your rooms and provide a guided walk service of the city centre to point out local amenities and historic places of interest. I shall be conducting Ustionov Live with the tech officer in the future. And if you have any facilities related queries don't hesitate to ask me in person, or message or email me! Thanks!

d. Bar Steward [AM]

We have a shortage of staff – this week we hired 7 new bar staff, which is great. That's it.

[Question] -how did the bar do during the induction week?

-Yeah, we did very well, we took a lot of bar profits

[Question] what do we do with bar profits?

If there are substantial profits which amount to the bar making money once all its outgoings on staff and products are factored in we do take profits and a percentage of that goes to the GCR but sadly we haven't for about 5-6 years.

e. Clubs and Societies Officer [VB]

I'm the clubs and societies officer and in charge of the Durham high school for girls, and the gym facilities too which is going well. I completely changed the gym membership system over the summer, where I put everything electrically on an online form which has been going fine without problems. In terms of the sports hall access it's been going along well now. We are even getting a table tennis table in the girl's school and Buttler. We formed four new sports teams during the sports and societies fair at the beginning of the induction week, such as the running society, a language society, and I want to set up a photography club too. We will see when that starts. That's it.

[Question] – what position are we in with the swimming pool.

-It going slowly The university want us to use the swimming pool slot that used to the universities slot, but without telling the swimming pool; currently I have no idea.

[Question]- will we get any more machines for the gym?

There is a lack of space in the gym, someone asked about a boxing bag but there is just a lack of space. A weighing scale is a good idea, however larger equipment is not currently feasible.

f. Communications Officer [KL]

Hi, I'm Kimberley, in induction week exec are hero's, with big eyes through being tired, they have worked very hard and hopefully have inspired others to be GCR members. We built a we-chat group so that we can inform everyone. The other thing I wanted to mention is the GCR newsletter, that we have candidates running for today which is great and which shall inform others about the great events that we have coming up.

g. DSU Liaison Officer [PC]

Hi everyone, I'm Pedro, the DSU liaison officer. I shall keep this brief. We have done a lot of volunteer work from our old location involving all our old GCR things. My role is to provide you

with DSU news and what is going on, should you wish to lead about it or get involved in what is going on at the DSU. Induction week went very well on this front. Finally, luckily for us the student representatives meeting was yesterday at the DSU which I attended. Here, all the representatives from other colleges met to share news with each other, and what the concerns of the other colleges are. This year there are three things we shall focus on: University expansion; accommodation fees which keep increasing too greatly and the student impact on this; and also, its not clear in the other colleges where the bar profits go, and this we aim to clear for the university wide, as it is not clear to students if bar profits go to the bar or help the students. So, we shall work on these matters over the course of the year. One important thong regarding accommodation fees as that today we started the Ripped Off campaign to address the accommodation fees in case. We played a game in front of the Palatine centre which aimed to make you aware what else you could get for the money spent on accommodation costs. Later this year will be a de-matriculation demonstration aiming at demoting from Durham University based on the current costs. For the future one of the most important events I have to mention, that University Challenge is coming in mid-November where a selection of students from all colleges are selected to go to an event based on questions of specific knowledge that may proceed to be contestants on university challenge, should you wish to be involved in this kind of an event. That's my report.

Question – The bar question with how the bar is run and where profits go specifically, this has come up numerous times, but as the student positions exit each year this knowledge may simply be forgotten, but there's a document somewhere.

h. International Officer [MR]

Hi all, I am the ISO, primarily this is to work on which trips to organise over the course of the year. So far, we have had the Newcastle Walking Tour which was well attended and everyone seemed to enjoy themselves. If you came on this tour, do give feedback if you and any problems at all, or if you think the event can be changed at all do let us know. The first trip is in the initial planning stages, problem mid next month when the Christmas market opens up, a great introduction to York and a cultural celebration of Christmas. Other than that, that is all. I shall organise a walking tour of local areas, there's some amazing walking paths so this will be going ahead. There's a great walking path from Neville's Cross to down by the river. If you have any questions as an international student about life in Durham I can answer that, so that everyone has an equal chance to find there place here at Ustinov.

Any question?

(no questions).

i. Livers Out Representative [TP]

Since the last general election we had induction week, and the livers out events went really well with roughly 50 people down at Whisky River, a comedy night which went really well, and a treasure trail around Durham which went well. That is roughly it, and laters, I guess!

j. Social Secretary [NQ]

Nothing to report.

k. Welfare Officer [AM]

Hi everyone, I'm Annie, your welfare officer. Since the last GM, I have provided free fruit for everyone, which I shall provide during term period and the next dissertation period as well. I will set up welfare office hours soon, and if you do want to meet with me feel free to email from the email in your GCR handbook, or the website. Since the last GM I have been trying to set up a puppy day which has been very hard to set up. But I shall try and get members of the local community to come and bring their dogs which people can come to pet! If you want to run for male or female welfare rep please hust this evening. That's about it!

4. Hustings

a. Assistant Treasurer

Candidate: Giuseppe Amatulli

Manifesto: "Since the beginning of my university studies, I have been interested in getting involved in activities that could make a difference for the students. I have been representative of the students of my college for 3 years when I studied in Italy. I was responsible of the organization of social events, such as karaoke evenings and movie nights; in addition to take part to regular meetings with the board of the college, where we used to discuss problems and needs of students living in the accommodations. Thus, now I would like to try to have a new role in the context of the GCR and I would be happy to give my contribution as an assistant treasurer. The reason why I think I can be a good candidate for this position is that I am keen in managing my finance, given that I keep track of my month expenses and I try to establish a monthly amount of money that I have to spend/save. In addition, I have been working for a while in a Micro Finance Institution in Luxembourg, and among my duties, I did some research about the concept of financial education. Therefore, I would like to put in practice what I learnt so far in my private as well as professional life!"

Hust: Hi everyone, nice to meet you all. I'm running for this as I would like to give small contribution, what we have here is great and I have been involved in university life in Italy since 2007, and its important to have people who are keen in organising stuff and preserving the wellbeing of students. The reason for running for this I would like to be involved in something different and I would simply like to do something different. I have been involved in a minor finance business and so I am happy to help our treasurer I whatever way I can.

Question- are you completely sure in what you shall be involved in? You would need to help with counting money from the pool tables and taking money to the bank. Are you happy in doing this?

-Yes I am completely happy?

Question – Are you aware I may not happy when the accounts don't balance?

- I was not aware of this but will do my best!

Question You will need to volunteer on office hours and events and are you aware and ok with helping on this?

- Yes I am fine with this!

b. Assistant Treasurer

Candidate: Xinxin Yan

Manifesto: "The reasons that I applied for this position are as followings:

Firstly, I would like to put what I learn into practice. My major is finance, so working on this position can give me more practical experiences. I can also put things I learnt from books into practice.

Secondly, I used to work as a teaching assistant which was responsible for managing students and assisting teachers. So, I've got plenty of management and assistance experiences, which I think would be helpful to this job."

Hust:

Questions:

c. Ball Secretary

Candidate: Ying Shang

Manifesto: I am Ying Shang from southern part of China. My major is Human Resource Management. I would like to apply for the position of ball secretary. For one thing, I have been familiar with organizing some entertainment activities cause when I was a monitor in junior and senior high school, I often organized some birthday parties, activities on school open day and short-distance trip for my classmates. For another thing, ball is one of the most popular activities among young people in Britain. I would like to know more about it and experience it via the job of ball secretary. In my opinion, ball secretary is responsible for organizing a ball for members of Ustinov college including finding and booking ball places, thinking of the contents of the ball, advertising the ball, bringing wonderful ball experience for participants as much as possible and so on. I know it is not an easy job but I will try my best to do it. Please support me and give me the chance to get the position. Sincerely. Thank you!

Hust: I am a Chinese student standing here and a little nervous. My home town is near Honkong so I can speak Cantonese. I am familiar with organising activities through being a monitor at school and university, planning trips and activities for students. Furthermore, the ball is very popular here and I would like to know about the kind of culture and experience it partakes in. In my opinion this role involves planning the theme, the location, and the experience of the ball for fellow students. I am not very familiar with the ball in Britain but I would like the chance to learn and provide a great ball experience.

Question: typically each year each ball has a theme. How would you go about finding a theme?

-previously I asked my classmates what theme and activities you would like. So I would like to ask their opinions and make a decision about the theme.

Question – are you aware the ball planning shall be really stressful one month before the ball. Are you happy to work even in exam or dissertation time?

-I will try my best to balance my time, but if I get a job I will always do my bet to do the job as it is my job to do.

Question – Same question, are you happy to sit in the office for two hours on office hours, helping set up committee tasks and helping on events?

- Yes, in my opinion the student union in China, if they receive a message or email from the teacher they do this, so I shall be happy to do so.

d. Chairperson

Candidate: Alastair Stewart

Manifesto: "Hi everyone! I'm Alastair, and I am excited to be running for GCR Chairperson. Last year I was heavily involved with the GCR as I was Secretary. This involved me organising the agendas for all Executive Committee meetings and General meetings, and working closely with last year's Chair to keep meetings running as smoothly as possible. Therefore, I am very familiar with how they are organised, and would look to keep them going as efficiently as possible this year. As Chair, I would want to make sure the GCR is run openly and fairly, and would strive to get as many people involved as possible. As a charity, it is particularly important to ensure that the rules are being followed; I have some working knowledge of the Standing Orders, so I feel I am in a good position to make sure this happens. Furthermore, I would continue to help the GCR with anything else that needs doing, whether that be setting up for

parties and formals, or continuing to help run Ustinov Live (which I have been doing for the last year and a half).

I love being involved with the GCR, and I am committed to ensuring that we continue to provide strong representation of Ustinov students to College and to the University. Ustinov College has helped me to grow over the last two years, and I would love to continue to give back to the community that has given me so much."

Hust: One of the most important roles as chair person is to run the executive meetings and general agenda meetings. Last year as secretary I took the minutes for all of these meetings, so I am very aware and familiar with these tasks. I am more than willing to read up on the documentation so that the committee and exec are in accordance with these rules during the meetings. I am familiar with how the ticket sales are accomplished and for a year and a half I ran Ustinov Live so I am familiar with these events as well. I love Ustinov College and the GCR committee and so I would be more than happy

Question – what's your favourite standing order?

- That the VP has to cover any empty position so poor James had to write all the minute and the agendas since the July GM whilst moving a whole college over

Question – in a meeting if it meanders how would you control this and bring it back on track?

-As last year as secretary I am very aware of this and I would like people to put their points in a succinct manner and so I shall stop conversation from going around in circles to prevent this

e. **Female Welfare Officer**

Candidate: Bryony Rogers

Manifesto: " My name is Bryony and I would love to be your female welfare office. I am a second year archaeology PhD student who has been at Durham for over five years. As female welfare officer I would work to promote an increased knowledge and understanding about mental health and the facilities and resources available to students should they need them. With mental health issues disproportionately affecting postgraduate students I believe this should be a key part of college welfare. I would run several coffee mornings a term (with at least one on the science site and one in the business school) and a puppy room around dissertation deadline to allow students to provide a space for students to get away from the stress of work. I would also work to ensure that the sanitary facilities and condom tins are kept stocked in the public bathrooms and students have ready access to these within college. I am friendly, approachable and a good listener; so would welcome members of the GCR coming to speak to me about any welfare concerns they may have. I have previously been the welfare officer for the Durham Divas cheerleading squad where I acted both as the squad's first aider and as a confidential link between the squad and the captains. I have also undergone safeguarding training in my role as a swimming teacher. I hope that if I become female welfare officer I can ensure that Ustinov college remains a great place to live, work and study."

Hust: Hi I am Bryony, I am in the second year of my PhD and I studied my undergrad and masters here, so I am very aware on how the college and university works from a student experience. I have had previous experience on the cheerleading team as a welfare officer. I shall push for mental health awareness here at Ustinov so that they are aware what help there is and support students who may be suffering from this. I shall organise some coffee mornings per term at the business or science site so that you can be away from Ustinov and go through any problems you any have. I shall push to keep sanitary facilities free in the

bathrooms. I am also facilitated with the university disability services, should you need help with provide and locating this information in college. Thank you for listening.

Female Welfare Officer

Candidate: Teodora Nikolova

Manifesto: "As a woman and an immigrant I have chosen to put myself forward as female welfare rep, because I believe that I can represent all the women of Ustinov college in a fair, equal and intersectional manner, and address any and all issue they come to me with fairly and genuinely, so that Ustinov can continue being a safe and welcoming space for it's female and female-aligned members.

I have already committed to a position on the GCP's Café des Arts, but I know for a fact that academic excellence cannot exist in a vacuum, without addressing the day to say struggles of the most vulnerable part of our communities, and giving them the support they need to enact that academic excellence. I hope that in becoming Women's Welfare Rep I will be able to merge those two sides of existing in the Ustinov community – as academics, but also as women who face unique daily challenges, and I hope that my work on the GCR will help in overcoming those challenges.

I have struggled with mental illness, and I have struggled with finding my place and reconciling my identity as a queer immigrant woman, but in choosing to come to Durham and to Ustinov, I found a place where I am safe and accepted. I hope I can continue making Ustinov feel that way for all its other female members. I chose Ustinov college, and now I hope that Ustinov college will choose me."

Hust: Hello, I am very eager to help the female's students of Ustinov college to make a community here where they feel comfortable and if they have issues I shall help to resolve them or direct them to someone e who can help them. Previously I have had experience in on these issues where woman's issues will not be side lined. I am also in the GCP where woman of Ustinov can put forward their best academic practice and I shall be there to provide and support anyone who needs it.

Questions: some of us have had basic night line training to being in additional help to students who may need it. have either of you and similar experience?

Bryony – previously I had life guard training which has involved helping people on the physical side of things.

Tea – I have undergone communication training specifically for mental health issues, this was administered through the Lancaster literature department. I have also some experience with that sort of training, and that sort of work and would be willing to undergo further training if it is deemed necessary.

Question -Sometimes in these positions you may get an emergency message during the holidays. What would be your reaction?]

Tea – I would respond to the message on receiving it. I wold contact members of welfare or staff or the port at Ustinov should they be here and in danger of harm. If they were at home I would try to advise them through their experience as best I can or recommend other hep.

Bryony – if I were here and deemed appropriate I would recommend them to suitable serves be they nightline, college or the NHS depending on the issue. If I was not there I would call the relevant welfare person at college or the local emergency services somewhere else.

f. GCP Liaison Officer

Candidate: Tianze Zhang (Linda)

Manifesto: "Hello everyone I am Linda! I am a current postgraduate student studying Conflict prevention and peacebuilding at the school of government and international affairs. I am running for the position of GCP Liaison Officer, who is responsible for the communication between Global Citizenship Program and GCR. I think I am a perfect candidate for the position because I am a Global Citizenship Program Scholar in charge of community engagement for the year of 2018/2019. Being a GCP scholar allows me to be a bridge between GCP and GCR. I am also a good communicator and have been involved in event planning and publicizing during my undergraduate years. I will try my best to inform everyone in Ustinov college about all the upcoming GCP and GCP/GCR collaborative event in the future! If you have any questions or concerns about any of the events you can talk to me as well! I am happy for open talks with all college members! Thanks!"

Hust: Hi I am Linda from China, in the school of government and national I affairs. This is my first year in Durham and I am on the GCP also so I can be both on the GCR and GCP program which would be a wonderful opportunity to be a student bridge of information between GCR and GCP. As such there is a pub quiz at 9pm here after the GM. I have had similar experience in my undergrad experience that are relatable skills and believe I can liaise well with the GCR about GCP events. I am easy to talk to, you can email me at any time about any events updates. Thank you!

Question – As you are on both groups, would you want to have combination events. Do you have any plan?

-Currently I have no plan to combine the GCR and GCP but will be happy to work out any such plans in the future.

Question – sometimes there is a lot of conflicted events between the GCR and GCP so this position is a lot more about keeping tabs on conflict of calendar. Do you feel this is something you're happy keeping on top of?

-I am very good at event planning and the important thig of this role is the communication between GCP and GCR events and I am willing to talk to everyone and be the bridge between these events and keep on track of event clashing.

g. Male Sports Representative

Candidate: Christos Vlahos

Manifesto: "Hello, my name is Christos and I'm running for the role of the Male Sports Representative. While entering my second year in my PhD in physics, I think it's a perfect time for me to try to run for a position in the GCR. I believe I'm suited for this role for many reasons. First of all, as captain of the men's basketball team in Ustinov I already have an experience of understanding and dealing with problems that might occur in a sport society. Apart from basketball I'm part of the new-founded tennis and volleyball societies and in that way I could have a better, broader point of view. I've been part of sport clubs through my years in university and I believe I know how a sport society should run and what is needed for it. I do believe the college societies and especially the sports clubs are a perfect way for people to socialize and meet friends from their college and I'd love to help find ways to improve that experience for everyone. I hope I can get your support on trying to achieve that."

Hust: hello I'm Christos for the male sports rep. I think I would do a good job and really like sports and problem solving them and being part of them. I am captain of the men's basketball team, and figuring out all these logistical problems. I am I

involved in table tennis and volleyball also. I have always been keen in sports and sports management, solving sports related problems and will give it a good shot!

Question – do you think the college really knew what was going on with the team, do you know what was going on with the teams, what's your response?

- I think between colleges and the teams things have so far run smoothly. Between the teams themselves I don't know as I was not part of that massively, there wasn't much communication between teams generally, such as basketball and football.

Question – there is no hanger in the gym. Can this be addressed?

-I haven't been to the gym that much but I think this is a small issue which can be addressed and sorted out easily I think. I'm sure we can find coat hangers.

h. Press Secretary

Candidate: Phoebe Coles

Manifesto: "Hello everyone, my name is phoebe and I am applying for the role of Press Secretary. I believe that I will be a great fit for this position as I have a vast amount of experience in running a social media account on behalf of various non-governmental organisations. Additionally, I have created weekly newsletter content on behalf of an international law firm; I look forward to writing content for you!

I will keep you up to date on what is happening in Ustinov and more specifically with everything GCR-related. Feel free to contact me if you ever need an event or information being advertised and I will help in any way I can!"

Hust: Hey guys, I'm the crutch girl you see everyday. I'm running for this position so I can post Peter the Platypus on a regular basis! I also have a vast amount of experience posting media advertisements and posts for organisations, I am very sociable (despite the crutches) taking photos of the events, listening to what you guys have to say, and expressing that in the newsletters. Thanks!

Press Secretary

Candidate: Xinxin Yan

Manifesto: "I'm interested in this position and I think I'm the right person for this position because I have got plenty of communication experience. For example, when I used to work as a teaching assistant who is responsible for helping teachers communicate with students and students' parents. I used social media (wechat, qq, weibo) to send important information to parents, such as students performance, teachers' requirement and some interesting activities in class. At the same time, I also collected and organized students and their parents' feedback, and sent them back to teachers via email. In addition, I also sent newsletters to teachers about some new information such as changes of classrooms, changes of their teaching timetables and some important events, meetings they need to attend. I played an important role in the whole communication process and got plenty of experience of managing different social media apps, dealing with different information and sending lots of newsletters.

I think good communicators can firstly increase GCR's efficiency as information can be sent quickly and correctly. secondly it can help increase the influence of Ustinov college to the public. With these communication experience I had before,

I believe I'm able to be this communicator and achieve the aims of GCR communication committee. Sincerely hope to have an opportunity to play an important role in the GCR committee."

Hust: Hi everybody, my apologies, I first wanted to involve myself as assistant finance officer as I study finance but wanted to be involved in something else as not everything is about finance! I have had experience in communications back in China for students so have plenty of experience in this and am use to social media posts and advertisements and feel I am the right person for this position and will gain more experience with this through applying and getting involved in this role! Joel, I still love you.

Questions: if you are successful with this position you will work with [the communications officer] and we shall write a newsletter once a week. Can you handle it? Also, how can you get pictures from students who take them of student life, and how do you get their permission?

-Xinxin first of all you go to activities and take pictures and send them. Also, you can find the pictures from other people and ask their permission and tell them what you shall use those pictures for. This is a good method of getting more people interested in our college.

Phoebe – we could get students to be more interactive, for instance, they could take over this position for a week and we could see the college through their eyes. Also, by having competitions of the best photos, people can send them in and that's another way we could get some great pics. For me, uploading photos and information once a week is fine as in my previous experience, in a law firm, I had to update information internally and externally twice a week so I am quite use to this.

Question – one of the hardest jobs is reaching out to livers out. How can you get the livers out ore engaged?

-Phoebe – hopefully we will have a livers out officer so we can liaise with them hopefully and the person for this role should be social and make friends with people out of the college, so word of mouth and social media will be the main aims of doing this. Also, competitions for livers out to send in photos etc to get more involved will be a good idea.

Xinxin – I think speaking to more livers out will be good idea and get more information from the livers out representative, and listen to what the livers out want in terms of events and where the events shall be help at.

i. **Secretary**

Candidate: Sam Littlewood

Manifesto: Hi! I'm Sam, and I'm running to be the next Secretary of the GCR. Despite being a new arrival and a liver out, the warm welcomes I've received and friendly faces I've seen in our college have made Ustinov feel like home already, and I'd love to get more involved in this vibrant community. I have a wealth of experience in working as part of committees from my undergraduate degree – I served as Men's Outreach Officer for my college's Feminist Society from 2016 to 2017, and was one of the founding members of the CUSU Class Act initiative in 2017. Both of these roles involved scheduling and attending meetings (including with the Pro-Vice-Chancellor), dealing with administrative and membership issues, and agreeing agendas and events in the face of complex timetables. I've also been closely involved with new and prospective students through my work in Widening Participation and access initiatives, so I understand the importance of a well-organised GCR handbook in projecting a positive image of Ustinov to newcomers. Equally, I've undertaken

numerous administrative duties whilst working at Summer Schools over the last two years, so I know how demanding it can be to keep things running smoothly whilst juggling priorities! Being able to take an active role in representing the interests and welfare of Ustinovians would be a privilege, and I hope you'll elect me to work on your behalf as the Secretary of our GCR.

Hust: Hi everyone I'm Sam I am running for this as everyone have been so warm and welcoming and it has been really well organised on that front. One of the things that the GCR needs to do is represent the student body for the college and other students. I feel able to do this as I have had had experience in a leadership role in my college where I have had administrating activities during my undergraduate, and I have had a lot of admin and organisational stuff over the years. I have been involved in admission in my undergraduate college which involved in coordinating those, being friendly and well organised. I think I would be a good secretary and wold like to give something back to the GCR.

Question: the secretary is a role which takes the minutes. When conversations during Exec go in circles how would you help the chair during these moments.

-In terms of motions I know these have to be proposed 72 hours before the meeting, I am aware of the standing orders and be in touch with these. In terms of helping the chairperson I wouldn't not take an active role in meetings even when taking the minutes.

Question – are you aware you have to come to all our meetings, one per week?

-Yes!

Question: Are you happy to working the GM meetings like James ?

-Yes that's fine.

Question: Are you happy to upload the agenda online for everyone to see?

-Yes, I will look into the technical aspects of that but shall look into this and do what needs to be done.

j. Sheraton Park Representative

Candidate: Therese Seiringer

Manifesto: " Hey! My name is Thesi and I am 24 years old. Over the next year I will be doing my masters degree in Management - but I wanna fill my year with something else than studying too ;-). Back home in Austria, I was always involved in voluntary work such as being the chairlady of a political local group, a member of the local council or a scout. I loved these positions as they gave me the chance to make a positive impact and to contribute my ideas.

I'd like to run for the position of the Sheraton Park Representative not only as I want to get involved in the college life as much as possible but also as I find the relationship between Sheraton Park residents and residents living around the college extremely important. The above mentioned position furthermore would give me the possibility to deal with things I have never dealt with before and to be a helping hand wherever needed.

As Sheraton Park was opened only a year ago, I believe that the relationship between us, the Ustinov College members, and the residents living around Sheraton Park can still be improved. Also, I'd like to support the welfare officer in dealing with the concerns of Sheraton Park residents whenever my help will be needed.

In my opinion, being a connecting link between the GCR, the Sheraton Park residents and the residents living around Sheraton Park describes the position best. I'd love to be this link over the next year.

Hust: Hey guys, I am Austrian and doing a masters in general manage. I am pretty impressed with what you guys organised during induction week. I think its important to build acquaintance with Sheraton park residents as well as with the college. That's pretty much it, thank you!

Question – currently we have four representatives on the SPRA and we want to fill one with the Sheraton park representative

-yes that's one of the reasons I want to run for that position.

Question – one of the problems is that the GCR and college become conflated with residents. Would you be willing to be aware of the social media of the local residents and keep the avenues of communication open and smooth out any issues, and represent the student body well.

-yes I am aware of the problems of this sort well and don't mind doing this at all.

Question- last year residents wanted to organise a joint event would you be willing to hep out on that?

-Yeah that's fine.

k. Social Secretary

Candidate: Si SHEN

Manifesto: "Before I joined Durham, I deeply believe that I'll be a fine addition to the energetic and diversified Ustinov community. After I arrived at Ustinov, at this point of time, one more thought struck me, which is "I not only could be a Ustinovian, but also could do better to serve the Ustinovian—members that form a big family". That's why I run for the position of social secretary. I hope my resolution and past experiences, no matter the experiences as student union member and class president in my bachelor degree or the experiences I acquired from work as business coordinator in the past years, will undoubtedly become a great treasure for me to work well."

Hust: Hi everybody I'm delighted to have the chance to stand here and run for this position. Before I came here, I wanted Ustinov to be diverse and multicultural which is the reason I applied to come here. I wanted to do what I can for this college and Ustinovians – I have had work experient in a French company and some parts of my job is to provide information between departments. Also, as class president I organised activities successfully such as a festival at my university. I wish to engage in the spirit of experience and be resourceful in this college.

Questions: For the formal you need to come two hours in advance to hep out. Would you be wiling?

-yes that is absolutely fine

Question – would you like to help the dancing queen to help on the silent disco?

-yes that's fine

Question – your job as social secretary is to organise all the parties. Do you have any ideas for themes for the Ustinov parties?

-In my past experient I can get some ideas from the previous events and those posted on the college website

Point of information – if you have questions you can come to me and I can run through information on planning parties and events with you

Question – social secretary can be a big job if you organise everything yourself. A big apart is to delegate tasks with a social committee – how frequently would you met and organise the social committee?

- I would look into what had been done previously and aim to match this.

l. Student Trustee

Candidate: Alex Hampton

Manifesto: “Hi there, apologies for not being here - I'm on placement all of October. I'm Alex, a third year PhD student in Chemistry and running to be a student trustee. Over my past (7!) years at Durham, I've had the advantage to see the importance that student trustees play in colleges helping assist the GCR and ensuring that it fulfils its constitution. I've spent the last two years on Ustinov Exec, first as livers out rep, and then as Durham SU liaison officer. I've also sat on several consultative groups such as the student representatives for the Mount Oswald site planning, and am currently helping student academic officers share PhD demonstrating hours and pay. This means that I have a good understanding of the current situation of Ustinov, as well as how it fits into the greater Durham community. I believe that all of this leaves me with the experience and drive required to become a student trustee for Ustinov, and hope that you can give me your support! See you when I get back, Alex”

Hust: [AH was not present to hust or take questions].

m. Deputy Social Secretary

Name: Tianniu Zhang Layla

Hust: Hi there, I am studying business management, this is my first year in Durham and I the university. I haven't prepared for this job – however, after seeing how they run the GCR I would like to join the team and be the second in command for the secretary so that I can help out and be part of the environment of Ustinov college.

Question – this position will be on the social committee which will run a huge number of events.

-I am already helping out of the Christmas festival and I would be happy do more

Question - why the social committee?

-I would like to be more social, show myself and help out on these events.

n. DUCK Liason officer

Name: Sumien Deetlefs

Hustings: Hi everyone, I believe in the spirit of the Buntu which originates from South Africa with the idea that we share a common humanity. I love giving back to people and being a member of the GCR. I would like to liaise with DUCK and would love to get involved as much as possible.

Questions: Hi, part of this role is to advertise what DUCK do. What is your strategy to get involved in DUCK and share this with the Ustinov community?

-if I am chosen I will be involved in DUCK meetings and GCR meetings so that will be the main means. I have had similar previous experience in south Africa and feel able to share this information with the college,

Question- you shall have to collect money from some of the events you shall be involved in. How will you keep on track of all possible donations ?

-I have been secretary in prior experience and keeping on track o budgets and keeping track of money will be accurate and kept on top of.

o. ENts Officer

Name: Benedetta Mura

Hutings: Hello everyone, I would like to run for this position as I really like the Ents, it seems fun, I like to see everybody having fun and I would give my contribution and time for this. That's it.

Questions: There will be regular events other than big parties, any ideas what this could be?

-I was talking to my flatmate and we could do something like a fashion night or Ustinov's Got talent, or something themed like a Harry Potter night, something like that!

p. Eco Rep:

Name: Xiangliang Zhong

Hust: I would like to run for this position due to caring for my environment. I have some experience in ecological related industry as through my previous working experience in eco-friendly technologies, in building gardens and parks. I think I could be a good choice for this position as I do have back ground knowledge in how these things can operate and run and have acted in other organising tasks in this field for three years and can contribute in this role. One of the reasons I came up here is because I think that the GCR is a great team and that I want to be a member of it!

Eco Rep:

Name: Anindo Mahmud

Hust: Hi there, I am from Bangladesh. I am really concerned with the future and the environment. Raise your hands if you are honest! Well, recently scientists have not portrayed a positive picture of our future and earth. They say we have 30-32 years before too great a damage has taken place. Recently the earth temperature has risen by 1 degrees, and if we go at the same rate it could rise by another degrees Celsius within 50 years. At this point there's no going back. So, my advice is to use less cars and more active walking or cycling.

Questions: do you feel like you have a good understanding of the current concerns and the confidence to voice those concerns to the GCR if they are making bad decision on using resources?

Anindo - Our politicians are not interested in these issues, take Donald Trump, and in china and India it is a similar matter the environment is not being looked after.

Xiangliang - I am more concerned in issues happening here at Ustinov and one concern is that there is not a garbage sorting implementation, which I would like to look into if possible. I will look into what we can do as an individual or group to make positive changes for the college in the future.

q. LGBT+ representative

Name: Rowena Gutsell

Hust: I am a queer woman studying English Literature and have had prior experience as a LGBT leader and serving as a confidential point of contact for students experiencing related issues. I would like to be involved in the wider LGBT community and bring information to Ustinov and revise the Qstinovian, which is an online magazine related to LGBT matters to cater for LGBT people at Ustinov. Considering that LGBT people run a higher risk of mental health and I would run for a confidential point of call for students and help in what way I can. And aim to make the LGBT community welcome and feel at home here at Ustinov.

Question - we have had a lot of things in the past where LGBT leaders have had great ideas and as soon as they leave it falls over. How would you keep the momentum going through to the next year?

-first of all I would try to get the information out there about the LGBT community so that it is more prominent and understood and not something which can collapse

Tech Officer

Name: Georgios Dagkoulis Yorgo

Hust: Hello everybody I would like to apply for the position of tech officer, and I like the job the guys are doing here in the GCR. I have a lot of experience in the student union and volunteers work, the Erasmus program, working for the wellbeing of students and making student life better, besides sporting events. Technology is one of my main interests, my undergrad was in

computer science. I have also got experience in organising events and putting equipment to work, being involved in radio shows and music shows and can get that equipment running for them. I would like to be involved in the GCR and try and make things better. Thank you.
Question: one of the things we manage in the GCR is the open mic night, Ustinov Live, would be happy to help run it as tech officer?
-I have done this before and would be happy to do so.

Any Other Business

Voting will open at 10PM tonight until Sunday at 11PM!

James O'Neill
Acting GCR Secretary
17/10/2018