



Ustinov College GCR Exec Meeting

Minutes

6:00 pm, 15/03/21

Action Points From Minutes – red is new from today's meeting.

CA to extend last few email accounts

CA to organise an online office hours rota as the new committee comes in

CA to look into legalities of finance taking methods, for example bank transfer.

CA to measure sizes of tools with a tape measure for the allotment box.

CA to draft a free-speech policy based on DSU/independent common rooms policies and pass back to exec for approval

JB to write details for a social media protocol.

DM to check with university and college about the consequences of purchasing drug testing kits

DM to ask the college to request Van Mildert for possible Summer BBQ space, and enquire about Josephine Butler as an alternative option

VV to start process of changing bank (remain non-committed to allow time to pass GM/trustees if needed)

1. Apologies:

Present: *BD, DM, DC, CA, JB, CV, MZ, VV, FD, SG, LC*

2. Approval of minutes from last meeting.

- a. Approval of minutes from 08/03/2021 – *passed on a general aye*

3. Matters arising from previous minutes.

- a. CA to extend last few email accounts *ongoing*
- b. CA to organise an online office hours rota as the new committee comes in *ongoing*
- c. CA to look into legalities of finance taking methods, for example bank transfer. *ongoing*
- d. CA to measure sizes of tools with a tape measure for the allotment box. *ongoing*
- e. CA to draft a free-speech policy based on DSU/independent common rooms policies and pass back to exec for approval *ongoing*
- f. JB to write details for a social media protocol. *ongoing*
- g. DM to check with university and college about the consequences of purchasing drug testing kits *ongoing*
- h. DM to ask the college to request Van Mildert for possible Summer BBQ space, and enquire about Josephine Butler as an alternative option *ongoing*
- i. VV to start process of changing bank (remain non-committed to allow time to pass GM/trustees if needed) *ongoing*

4. Agenda Items:

a. **None.**

5. Officer Reports:

a. Bar [-]

- I am waiting to hear back from University about the new guidelines and timeline for the bar to be opened on Term 3.

b. Clubs & Societies [CV]

- No sport social for Ustinov this week as Van Mildert never replied (not sure what happens in this situation). Also got an interesting email from a society football club from Newcastle, to have a friendly game with our team after Easter. I'll pass the message to our captains to see if they are interested.

c. Communications [LC]

- Newsletter 17 distributed - items included valentine's baking winners, welfare notices, competitions and regular social events
- Social posts included: Census 2021, International Women's day, and also a tribute to the tragic death of Sarah Everard
- Post to go out Saturday regarding the games night event

d. DSU [-] (DM)

- On the Assembly of 11th March, the referendum on SU affiliation with NUS was rejected as Referendum (Assembly resolves) however was passed as Assembly believes. The future of DU Bilateral agreements upon the discontinuation of UK participation in the Erasmus scheme was passed as well as the policy on antisemitism at Durham University.

e. Facilities [DC]

- Nothing to report.

f. Finance [VV]

- Account balance: 51,317.15

g. International Officer [MZ]

- I have attended a meeting with Counselling Service regarding the wellbeing of international student. I pointed out the incidents that has happened in our social media, they are ready to help us by asking any international students who feel their wellbeing is not at adequate level to contact and communicate with them. I will share their contact in the upcoming newsletter.

h. Livers Out Rep [FD]

- Over the past week, I have promoted the Census 2021 on the LOs Facebook group and carried on with the potential collaboration between the Durham alumnus's organisation and the GCR. I have put Diana in touch with Matthew and we are now waiting for a reply.

i. Social [SG]

- To launch easter crafting activity for the kids over zoom with Lana before she hands over to the new person filling her role.
- Updates on Summer BBQ
- Looking to plan summer calendar over the easter holidays, dependent on bar

arrangements etc

- Summer formals? ideal dates = first or second weekend of June

- To plan Peter Ustinov birthday online event

Any more updates with summer BBQ? Nothing yet; will chase up with college tomorrow before holiday. Need date to give to Jack and then can start booking.

Don't typically have summer formals but might start to at least have some events.

j. Steering [CA]

- Nothing to report.

Following various events last week, there is a massive gap of 2018 minutes; previous exec minutes. Will check through and upload and fill in the gap; see if there's anything relating to current issues.

We will then try to promote our events and promote the GCR before AGM so people are more aware of what we do; hopefully have some people running.

k. Welfare [JB]

- Welfare drive went successfully again. Sexual Misconduct and Violence Operations Group subgroup meeting this week- main takeaway was discussion on making resources around consent and awareness of these related issues relevant to international diverse cohorts.

l. University/College Matters [DM]

University matters

- The survey for the Accommodation charges has been shared on both newsletters, ours and College. I will continue promoting the survey.

- The University shared some information that has been put together to provide guidance for Colleges wishing to loan fitness equipment to individual students. The loan of equipment can only be to students that live-in and that are currently in Durham, this should not be extended to livers-out.

College matters

- By now all students living in College have received their Census forms that have to be filled by 21st March

- The College has requested open access to the Rooms on the Observatory as they are part of College facilities, however, we have shared that this was agreed on 2018. Also, they are using the name Ustinov Practice Rooms to refer to the Fisher Room and the Music Room.

- This week the College has received new students living in College.

Exec matters

- The quotes from Ustinov are ready to be shared all April.

- After consultation with Jeremy Cook, University has decided that there will be a cap on charging for the Financial and CIS services identified in the Service Level Agreement of £200 per academic year. This cap will remain in place for the duration of the Service Level Agreement, which will be five years.

Music Durham is giving equipment to observatory, so college wants access to it for all students.

6. AOB

a. Exec meetings over the Easter? This is the last week of term.

Social events will need notice as rules change to plan events; happy to wait until week before to see. Want to know as far in advance so we can plan/advertise etc.

*New term starts on 26th of April; would skip 4-5 meetings. If we skip next week, meet on 29th, skip the 5th and meet again on the 12th. But if stuff comes up, we'll have a BBQ action group, so this can be planned.
Plan: next meeting on 29th March.*

Brad Din

GCR Secretary

15/03/2021