

## MCR General Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, 15 November 1994

Number Present: 15-18

### Points of discussion:

1. Technology: Patrick O'Hagan, MCR President, briefly detailed the new equipment that has been purchased by the MCR (laser printer, photocopier, EMOS)
  - question posed as to protocol when paper/toner is needed: members of the MCR should write a note on the piece of equipment and leave a note in the MCR pigeon-hole
  
2. New MCR: Patrick informed us that we have recently received approval from Oxford City Council which means that we can move forward with the building of the new MCR
  - Clerk of Works has estimated that the building will be finished in January
  - question posed as to whether there would be an entrance on Worcester Place: the main entrance would be from the college. There will be a fire exit on Worcester Place.
  
3. Recycling: Sara Toomey, MCR Secretary, outlined the status of the recycling program -- she is waiting to hear from the JCR recycling reps. regarding the college wide pick-up. Volunteers are needed to help organize the collection of newspapers and magazines. Andrew Priest volunteered to help in the graduate building, but she still needs more volunteers!
  
4. Constitutional Reforms:
  - a) Motion: Change the position of librarian to computer rep  
Vote: 15 yes; 0 no.
  - b) Motion: Change the restrictions on MCR Committee spending to: Any purchase which costs above 5% of the projected income requires prior notification of at least 1 week and if there is a seconded objection there will be a general meeting held to discuss the proposed purchase. Social events are excluded from this procedure.  
Vote: 15 yes; 0 no.
  - c) Motion: To include fourth year linguists in the MCR if they pay the appropriate MCR fees.  
Vote: 15 yes; 0 no.

5. MCR/JCR Women's dinner: Sara discussed briefly the upcoming dinner being held in celebration of the 15th anniversary of co-education at Worcester. Although interest appeared to be minimal, she will follow up with the JCR and find out more details.
6. Budget: Asim Siddiqui, MCR Treasurer, presented the budget from 1993/1994 and the projected budget for 1994/1995.
- After clarifying various items, the motion was put on the floor to raise the costs of photocopying and laser printing by 1p (2p/4p to 3p/5p).
  - The extra revenue would allow the MCR to recoup the loss of the new laser printer and photocopier in 3 years in comparison to 10 years without the increase.
  - The point was raised that another means of increasing funds would be through increasing MCR subscriptions. Asim replied that the committee had already discussed that possibility and because the money is being used to recoup losses from the photocopier and laser printer, it was concluded that it would be more appropriate to raise the money by charging extra to use those machines.
  - In addition, it was pointed out that even with the increases, Worcester has some of the lowest copying costs in Oxford.
- Vote: 16 yes; 0 no
7. Location of the new ACC payphone: Patrick explained that part of the ACC deal was that the college would put in an additional 3 payphones. The MCR is allowed to decide where one of those will be placed. The decision was made that the payphone should be put in the new MCR.
- Vote: 16 yes; 0 no
8. Charities: Sara discussed the present situation whereby the MCR committee is unable to give donations to any charities out of the MCR funds. The discussion was then opened as to whether or not the MCR should adopt a similar system to the JCR whereby a list of charities will be circulated to all the members and the members will be given the option to opt-out of donating. MCR members will be allowed to submit charities that they are interested in donating to. The donations would be battled.
- The point was raised that it is not worth the unnecessary hassle of creating this system when there would be so little

money involved and that it was unfair to donate money on behalf of people who did not support the organization under the auspices of the Worcester MCR.

- The suggestion was made that on general principle that all donations made would be anonymous.

- Motion: To create a system whereby MCR members would be given the option to opt-out of donating money to charities that would then be charged to their battels. Any donation made would be anonymous.

Vote: 16 yes; 0 no

9. Spouses Dining Hall Costs: Patrick explained that several of the married MCR members have complained about the cost of formal hall for their spouses. Patrick wrote a letter to the Bursar to see if he would be willing to also subsidize spouses. The Bursar responded that he wanted to know exactly who the MCR wanted to include -- spouses, partners, children. He also mentioned that he is considering increasing the costs overall of formal hall because of increased financial hardship. Patrick wanted to know who the MCR thought should be included.

-The discussion revolved around whether it should be for only spouses or also include partners.

- The final motion was to advocate reduced charges for spouses only

Vote: 17 yes; 0 no

10. The final point of discussion was to inform the MCR that general elections will be held next term for the MCR Committee and that anyone interested in running was more than welcome to contact any member of the committee.