

Agenda for the Second JCR meeting of Michaelmas Term 2019

Sunday 10th November, 7:30pm, Dining Hall

Apologies are to be submitted to Jonathan Wong, JCR Chair, at jrapologies@gmail.com or st-marys.chair@durham.ac.uk before 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

*For accessibility requirements for the agenda, please contact the JCR Chair to arrange documents and whatever may be necessary.

1. The minutes of the last meeting

These are available on the JCR Website*.

*Please note that the JCR Website has changed addresses from last year – [\[https://sites.durham.ac.uk/smcjcr/\]](https://sites.durham.ac.uk/smcjcr/)

2. Matters Arising

There are no matters arising.

3. JCR Announcements

Announcements from JCR Officers.

I. Announcement from Jonathan Wong (JCR Chair) on Procedure for this Meeting (see also Appendix A.)

Jonathan Wong opened the meeting and reminded everyone about the ways in which JCR members can ask questions, propose procedural motions and ratify societies.

He proceeded to give the chair to the Assistant Chair, Ben Summer, for the duration of JCR Announcements and Questions of Officers.

II. Announcement from Helen Paton (JCR Vice-President) on Booking Forms and Food and House Comments

Helen Paton reminded members to use the JCR booking form for college events to ensure there's a record of who will need the room at all times. She also mentioned that we have a comments inbox form on the JCR website for all Food and House feedback.

The new Food and House survey will go out next week.

III. Announcements from Nuriya Shoro (JCR President) and Lewis Robinson (Toastie Bar and Shop Manager) on the Toastie Bar and Shop Refurbishment

Nuriya: As you may see from my email, the Estates and Facilities Directorate decided to proceed with the refurbishment of the Toastie Bar and Shop at St Mary's over the Christmas break. The refurbishment is scheduled to happen between Monday 16th December 2019 and Sunday 19th January 2020. During this period, all basement services will be out of action; this includes the Bar, the Toastie Bar, the laundry room, MR1 and the Darts area.

I would like to tell you more about the current state of the Toastie Bar - Shop and how we came to this decision. Basically, the Shop is losing around £3,000 per year and in three years time it will count for £9,000 of JCR funds. The Toastie Bar is currently not fit for service and the situation has become increasingly worse. This move increases job security for those currently employed by the JCR and, if business continues to increase, may provide an opportunity for further jobs to be created.

The refurbishment will consist of moving the Toastie Bar into the shop to create new a facility that mixes both. This means there will be structural changes to the shop, for example, adding a new shutter between the shop and the darts area. Also, providing new electric supplies, counter, new refrigerators, redecorating the shop. We've actually already changed some things as we merged the Toastie Bar and the Shop manager role last year, currently filled by Lewis Robinson. This was done primarily to ensure a smooth transition to the new basement facility.

This vote was passed by a clear majority. The vote breakdown for the merger proposal was Yes: 118, No: 63, Abstain: 3.

Now, I'll go into explaining how the decision was made. We held an emergency executive JCR meeting on the 26th September at 9AM. This was during international freshers' week and it was proposed by Lewis Robinson. The JCR exec voted to pass the refurbishment motion with a clear majority of 11 votes, 2 against and 3 abstentions.

Now, in an ideal world, we would take this decision to Finance Committee and then to a JCR Meeting for a vote on how we should go forward. However, the circumstances played a big role on how was this made.

I was literally in the dinner queue and I was approached by our Principal, who told me about the deadline and that we should had sent our decision about the refurbishment yesterday. So, with one day behind and no one told us this. After this, I went straight to Lewis and we sat there trying to come up with the best way to go about this decision.

Initially, we thought about potentially holding a JCR meeting. As you know, we had a practice JCR meeting on the Sunday after Freshers' Week, I thought potentially, we could held it there. But we realised the time constraint was too large, so we couldn't wait that long. We started to read the Standing Orders to find an answer and the right protocol.

The protocol is that JCR executive committee that are elected by all you guys are responsible if there's a time constraint and there's a deadline to make a decision on behalf of the JCR. So, at 6:30PM, I posted an announcement in our committee group and said: We need to have an emergency meeting tomorrow at 9AM. Lewis created a briefing document, I wrote an agenda. We then had our meeting at 9AM, we used a ballot to vote and had 16 officers voting, which was a fantastic turnout for 9AM last minute. We needed 15 members to have quorum.

We took the decision straight at 10AM. When we are talking about time constraints, we are not talking about weeks, or days. We are literally talking about minus one day. We had to exercise Section 7.1.2 of the JCR Standing Orders, which states that the JCR Executive Committee is responsible for making decisions for which the deadline does not allow consideration at a JCR meeting.

We just couldn't hold a JCR meeting as it was literally a few days into International Freshers' Week, there was only a few people around Durham. If we hadn't taken that the decision the States and Facilities department would get rid of the project all together. We would of lost the money that the college was going to invest, and we would probably lose both facilities in the near future. More importantly, students would lose their jobs and that would cause a huge impact on student's welfare.

This refurbishment plan was developed from previous years with Lewis, the Bursar and Helen Davies - including the plan to make the Toastie Bar a study space during the day, providing more services to student and expanding social spaces, this would include coffee machines and a seating area. I'm aware people really want more study spaces and last year it was something I wanted to do during my presidency.

4. Questions of Officers

Questions should be submitted before 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

I. On the Toastie Bar Refurbishment Process – Open Question (from Kate Hilton-Balfe):

Section 3.1 of the Standing Orders states “All members shall be entitled to take part in all aspects of democracy”, however this seems to contradict Section 7.1.2 which states the “Exec have the responsibility to make decisions on behalf of the JCR for which the deadline does not allow consideration at a Meeting.” Were the Exec aware of this discrepancy, and what was done by the Exec to support the democratic rights of other members of the JCR?

Jonathan:

The main reason we had to take this decision was that it was a significant amount of money. We had to move to an emergency meeting as holding a JCR meeting would have been complicated with the online voting system taking a few days to get the votes in. However, it is really important to stress the situation of this matter.

We had less than a day to make a decision about the money, because if we didn't, it would just go straight to the Vice Chancellor's back pocket. This is why this clause for the JCR exec is in place.

In terms of the contradiction mentioned in the question, everyone has the chance to elect JCR officers and representatives for the JCR, so officers are exercising their role democratically. We did want to hold an emergency JCR meeting but it was just not feasible with the time constraint.

This was something all the exec members were aware of when we had our exec meeting, they were all informed that this was an emergency circumstance and that we were exercising this procedure to vote whether or not to move with the refurbishment. We tried to the best we could given the details of the situation. It was the second day of International Week and before the first years have arrived or been matriculated in the university. That's the background of what happened.

Kate Hilton-Balfe:

I just want to clarify, in other JCR meetings we never vote for Re-Open Nominations or against. Even if we only have one candidate, our college almost never votes against that candidate. Isn't this against the idea of democracy? If we have some candidates that are just not good, why would they decide for us?

Jonathan:

Re-Open Nominations is always a valid option for elections. The procedure offers the chance of voting for any of the candidates in the election or Re-Open Nominations. I think it's important to stress that RON has always been a valid vote.

Kate:

In terms of not having a JCR meeting because of turnout. I was wondering how do you know that? Because I'm a third year and nearly all my house was in Durham, a lot of people are up in Durham early, especially in second and third year if they have anything to do with the exec of a society - like why is that being used as an excuse?

Nuriya: You're completely right, quite a few people are up in Durham. The issue is JCR Meetings are aimed at Livers In and Livers In were not here, so that compulsory option is gone. The reality of people coming is complicated, look at how many livers out are here. The majority of people that come to meetings are livers in and the exec. So, I'm not sure if that would be adequate. I know, you're right, it's something we could off thought about that.

Jonathan: Just adding from that. We could have had livers out come in, but even if they did we would off definitely not have enough to have a majority.

II. On the purpose of the JCR Executive Committee – Open Question (from Kate Hilton-Balfe):

Regarding Section 7.1.2, why is there not a subclause in this stating that such time-sensitive matters need to be publicised to the JCR? A lot of the issue with the Toastie Bar development was the fact it was all kept a secret.

Nuriya: The main reason we didn't tell anyone is because we didn't want to spread fake news, we didn't have all the information ourselves. It's not like we had a lot of time with the information. We got the information the day before we voted, we found out how much the refurbishment would cost.

We made the executive decision that since we didn't have the whole picture, we wouldn't publicise it until we were sure. We didn't know the times or the costs. If we just told people that the Toastie Bar and Shop are going to be shut, people would just freak out. We didn't see the point of having people panicking over it.

We found out last week as college has been talking about when is the best time to close the bar, whether is the last week of term or the first one of next term, or if we were splitting it in two sections and I was involved in this decision. We of course don't want to have the bar closed at the end of Michaelmas because of Christmas Formals and all that.

Essentially, that's why we didn't publicise it. In this case, it would of scared a lot of people for no reason.

Kate:

Why wasn't the JCR informed of the same information that the exec had for the emergency meeting so that we could raise any concerns about the issue at that time?

Lewis: Basically, a lot of the information given to us was quite confidential in terms of college and facilities. We had 10 hours to get all the information together so that we could make an informed decision as the exec. We stayed until 1AM making sure we had everything to inform people of the implications. We really didn't want to spread fake news, we wanted to come to the JCR with the full implications and information. It's the best of the best situation really, it was a tough decision.

III. On the allocation of JCR money to be spent on the Toastie Bar – Open Question (from Kate Hilton-Balfe)

Did the £10,000 raised have to be spent on the toastie bar? Could this have been injected into another area to support student experience – or could we have gone back to the University to request we keep hold of the money so that it could be spent at a later date following proper consultation with the JCR?

The £10,000 come from Bar profits, not JCR money. The profits are sent directly to the University unless there's a good reason to invest them in college facilities, in a project with a purpose to give back to the college members. It needs to be something that will satisfy the needs of a large proportion of the college.

How will this affect the staff and their shifts for the new facility?

In the short term it will affect the staff by 12 hours, during the first week of term where it won't be open. In the long term, we will expand hours and have 3 people on shift, making sure we will be creating more jobs and positions to ensure a smooth transition for the staff.

Kate:

Are the employees of the Toastie Bar paid a minimum wage or a living wage?

Lewis: The current wage for employees is £6.15. The problem with this is, I've tried to get this up for a long time, because the bar staff and library get paid more. The reason this is the case is because the JCR sets the wage for staff, not the university as in the other college jobs. So, the complication is that this needs to be passed by the JCR in some kind of motion and go through Finance Committee or the Exec. This is quite a difficult thing to do as it involves changing the finances of the Toastie Bar and working with the JCR budget. I am currently in the middle of trying to do this for the staff before the new facility opens but it will depend if the motion passes and how we can accommodate the money. If it doesn't pass, there's not much we can do

IV. On the purpose of the Toastie Bar – To the Toastie Bar Manager and Assistant Toastie Bar Manager (from Kate Hilton-Balfe)

What do you think the Toastie Bar brings to college? How can you justify this £10,000 JCR Money be spent on the Toastie Bar and not in another way? For example, improving accessibility for minority students, broadening resources for WAM or for college events such as purchasing headphones for the Silent Discos?

Kate: Essentially, if they are going to be paid minimum wage anyway, aren't they just better off getting jobs with the university? Creating more minimum wage jobs isn't a great thing in my opinion.

Naomi: Well, If they lost their job completely, they would have to get a new job, that involves the application process and that takes time and doesn't necessarily guarantee them a job. Some people just can't take that time off until they have a new job. Between having an interval for the refurbishment and not having the jobs at all, the new facility would be more beneficial and less damaging to their funds as well as education.

Lewis: Just to clarify why the money is spent on the Toastie Bar, the fund is designated to be invested in facilities or issues that represent a majority of the college and that will have a positive impact in the community. The funds are not there to have discounted prices at the bar or toastie bar, more money in budgets or bail societies out of debt. The money is not there for that, if we keep spending money in things like that we won't have any money left. We either have the money or we are in debt. It's mainly a way of ensuring that we invest in things that will benefit the college in the long run and going forward. It's quite complicated to explain but that's kind of what it means.

Kate: My question was more why has it been spent on this instead of helping minority students for example? We don't have any gender-neutral toilets and as a non-binary myself, that's really forcing me to use the accessible toilets, which is an issue that affects LGBT+ students and students with disabilities. Why hasn't it been invested into something that can actually help minority students in a notoriously inaccessible university? Instead of just investing it into a Toastie Bar

Lewis: The key thing is that this fund is the application and process. You have to apply for this fund to happen, someone needs to ask for it to start the process. This fund takes planning for things to happen and that's the main reason the new Toastie Bar got the funding for the refurbishment. Once you've done that, it goes forward with planning and procedure. I know the university is trying to implement gender-neutral toilets and I know there's viable options for this in college. But, someone needs to ask the question for something to happen. This question was raised 3 years ago, saying that we had the funding make changes to the Toastie Bar, hence why we've been working on this for a long period of time.

V. On the publication of Housing Information – To the Livers’ Out WAM Officer (Anonymous)

A post was made on the 2018 Freshers Page encouraging returners not to stress 1st Years with housing concerns as an attempt to alleviate the tension on the issue. However, if you are trying to stop the fearmongering with Housing, why are you posting on a page where people are still going to be stressed about the housing situation, as a lot of 2nd and 3rd years still live out? If anything, doesn't this add to the hysteria?

Livers Out Rep (James Callender): Thank you for your question, we appreciate that housing can be stressful for all year groups, not just first years. We recognise the need for support for everyone. However, first years were our priority, as has been the case every year, as they have never been through the process before unlike those in older years.

First years themselves have had very positive feedback about the support, which has been expressed to us by the college's head of student support and the Vice Principal, who has also had positive words of her own to say. Our actions have been run by beforehand Senior Welfare support employed by the university and approved of afterwards, while other colleges' teams have also praised the campaign.

It was posted on the 2018 Freshers Group as the first years who we were especially aiming this campaign at were not present in the group as we were using this to specifically get the message to people who weren't first years of how we'd ideally like them to advise younger students.

Our intention was made clear in the post as we said we were trying to stop fear mongering. Perhaps you disagree with one specific element of our campaign but please consider what our intention was. Please also consider, if you don't wish to add to the 'hysteria' alluded to in the question then this question could have been raised in a less public forum.

All information provided and other support such as drop ins and email support have been open to all year groups. On The post itself it says we are urging everyone to take time to sign, not just the first years that the campaign was aimed at. I urge anyone of any year group to please contact me with any issues.

Thank you

Ben Summer (Assistant Chair) gave the Chair back to Jonathan Wong (JCR Chair).

5. Motions

- I. Motion to Create a Toastie Bar/Shop Committee (**Appendix B**)
- II. Motion to Create the Basement Committee (**Appendix C**)
- III. Motion to Ratify the St. Mary's Debating Society (**Appendix D**)
- IV. Motion to Ratify the St. Mary's Games Society (**Appendix E**)

6. Elections, Hustings and Interviews

I. Ethnic Minorities Representative

Khaira Ashcroft

Proposed by: Isla Backhouse

Seconded by: Jessica Santhiapillai

Good evening everyone, my name is Khaira, I'm a first year German and Arabic student from Liverpool and I would love to be your Ethnic Minorities representative. I thought I'd go about this little hust by talking about the qualities and skills I can bring to the role, some ideas I have for the role and some past experience I have.

I think a lot of people struggle with identity when they come to university, be it national or cultural. As an ethnic minority myself, I understand the importance of feeling that you are represented no matter your background, and for me it is so important to know that there is a platform for you to voice your ideas, opinions and concerns. I decided to run for this role because I know that I'd take it seriously, the study of world culture is something that I am passionate about and I know that id do a good job.

Right, so now I'm gonna talk a little bit about some of the qualities and experience I have that makes me suitable for the role.

In terms of public speaking, during sixth form I took part in various debating competitions and seminars including European youth parliament, Model United Nations General Assembly and Model G20 Youth Summit at Harvard University, in which I had to deliver speeches and participate in live debate with a large variety of people. I would describe myself as articulate, good at voicing what other people think and feel, with the confidence to get up and say what I think, hopefully politely.

As part of my role as ethnic minorities representative I would love to hold workshops to discuss topical themes, focussing on cultural identity, the idea of bilateral communication and what it means to be British in 2019.

I have some experience in the creation of workshops through my role as a youth ambassador for UK-German Connection, an organisation which encourages young people from both countries to participate in topical seminars.

I was chair of debating society at my sixth form, where we held discussions about key issues. I want to continue to facilitate this discourse within the college community

Within my sixth form I was also on the listening service, a committee which allowed for other members of the school community to talk to their peers about any problems or concerns they had. The listening and pastoral skills I obtained from this position I think would also come in handy in the day to day role of an ethnic minorities rep in listening to any problems or concerns anyone has and providing support even if that's just a smile and a wave in the corridor.

All in all, I would be honoured to be your ethnic minorities rep.

Thank you for listening

VI. Assistant JCR Treasurer

Max Rose

Proposed by: Annabella Garnham

Seconded by: Hannah Hanselman

Hi everyone, for those that don't know me – my name's Max Rose, and I am a first year studying chemistry. I'm sure that all the other freshers will agree with me in saying how welcome all the current members of the JCR made us feel during the first few weeks of being here. Since then, I've wanted to get involved with college in any way I can, and I feel like the role of assistant-treasurer is perfect for me. I've always been interested in finance and just basically like money.

One of the main roles include a monthly count of the Toastie Bar's takings. Like many of you, I really enjoy the Toastie Bar so would love to have the opportunity of working alongside them, and perhaps even help to try and increase their revenue to improve it further – especially after the recent accountant of its refurbishment over the Christmas holidays.

I feel like studying chemistry gives me a lot of skills that transfer quite nicely to help me undertake this role effectively. Seeing as I'm in lectures or labs most of the day, I have reasonably good time management, as well as good data collecting and analysis - and can't deny that I love a good spreadsheet.

As well as that, a few summers ago, I budgeted a month-long trip to South Africa for 16 people which taught me a lot about large purchasing decisions and how to split money up effectively, both of which, I feel, will come in handy for when I am involved with the JCR purchasing decisions.

In terms of things that I would like to add to the current role, I think I'd like to consider having drop-in sessions for anyone with money worries, possibly working alongside WAM, because I know this is an aspect that sometimes gets forgotten. I know there are great services currently in place, but it might be nice to speak to a fellow student.

Aside from the skills for the job, If elected, I would be excited to take on new responsibilities and learn a lot of skills that I otherwise wouldn't have been able to. For example, I've never really done any public speaking, I hope it isn't too obvious, and now I here speaking to all of you.

Anyway, thanks for listening and I hope you consider to vote for me.

7. AOB

[None]

Appendix A: Procedure for JCR Meetings

i) Questions of Officers

Questions of Officers can be submitted to a JCR Executive Officer regarding their decisions or involvement with a JCR Matter as a way of clarifying their stance and accounting for their actions.

Questions can also be submitted in response to a wider JCR Matter as an open question to be answered by the relevant JCR Officers to whom it may concern.

Following each Question there will be an allocated 3 Minutes of open questioning and response from the floor at the Meeting.

Questions must be submitted to the JCR Chair by 12 noon on the day of the meeting.

ii) Procedural Motions (Standing Orders Sec 11.4)

Should questions of officers, or any other matter presented at the JCR Meeting that requires more in depth discussion and direct action a **procedural motion** may be presented on the spot at the meeting as a call to move to action. The following procedural motions are allowed, and must be considered and voted upon immediately:

- a) A motion that the Chair be vacated by its current occupant (If this proposal relates only to a specific item of business, the Chair may accede to it without a vote)
- b) A challenge to a ruling by the Chair
- c) A motion to suspend any part of the constitution capable of suspension
- d) A motion to postpone or adjourn the matter to a later specified meeting
- e) A motion to move to a vote. If carried, there shall be the opportunity for one speech for and one speech against the motion or the amendment under discussion before a vote is taken
- f) A motion to take the question in parts. The mover must state exactly how the vote is to be taken
- g) A motion that the question not be put
- h) A motion that a ballot be taken
- i) A motion to refer the matter to a Committee for investigation and report.
- j) A motion to rearrange the agenda

The procedure for considering a procedural motion should be as follows:

- a) The proposer shall verbally present a motion at the JCR Meeting, when called upon by the Chair.
- b) The Chair will then ask if anyone at the meeting has any questions about the motion for the proposer and the seconder to answer. All questions should be put through the Chair.
- c) If there is no formal opposition to the motion that it should be passed 'by general aye'
- d) If there is some opposition to the motion then it should be passed by a show of hands, by those who are for the motion, those who are against the motion, and by those who abstain.

Appendix B: Motion to Create a Toastie Bar/Shop Committee

Proposer: Lewis Robinson

Secunder: Emily Wall

This JCR notes:

That while the Toastie Bar has been run well over the past few years, much of this success has derived from the convenience that the manager has lived in college and as such is able to easily resupply the business and assist in any problems on shifts/throughout the day as they arise. Future managers may not have the time or facility to allow them to continue running the business to its current level without compromising their degree. Therefore, something must be done to alleviate these pressures before they become a problem for future managers and their assistants and the business.

This JCR believes:

The Toastie Bar would benefit from a committee whereby the members of the shop staff can volunteer to assist in the day to day running/resupply. The committee would allow a larger amount of people to be regularly available to complete a suite of tasks that have traditionally been shouldered by one/two people. The management of the Toastie Bar could also benefit from additional input from its staff in order to create new specials and ensure the current menu reflects the needs of the JCR.

This JCR resolves:

To create a Toastie Bar Committee. This committee shall be chaired by the Toastie Bar/Shop manager, who shall also act as the committee's treasurer. The Assistant Toastie Bar/Shop manager will act as the committee's secretary and the committee shall meet at least once per term. Membership of this committee will consist of the Toastie Bar/Shop Manager, the Assistant Manager, four members who can assist in resupplying the vending machine and the Toastie Bar/Shop itself and contribute ideas towards the running of the business. All general members will be selected by application and will come from the Toastie Bar/Shop staff.

The committee's description will be as follows:

The Toastie Bar/Shop committee works to uphold the college's core values, whilst striving to maintain and improve the service offered by the Toastie Bar/Shop to the JCR. The committee provides a platform for social integration between the management of the Toastie Bar/Shop and its staff and will help promote collaboration within the business.

Appendix C: Motion to Create a Basement Services Committee

Proposer: Lewis Robinson

Seconder: Sam Farrington

This JCR notes:

While in the past there has been a close association between the Bar and Toastie Bar/Shop, there has never been a formal agreement between the two on joint management of the basement social areas. This motion aims to formalise the working arrangements of the Bar and the Toastie Bar/Shop so that smooth running of the basement social areas can continue unhindered into the future.

This JCR believes:

The college would benefit from a 'basement services' committee whereby the Bar and Toastie Bar/Shop have shared membership to discuss the general running of basement social areas as well as the running of both respective businesses. The committee would also help cement the current bond of camaraderie between the two businesses respective staffs and could be used as a forum to help promote the Bar and Toastie Bar/Shop and create a better overall service for the JCR.

This JCR resolves:

To create a Basement Services Committee. This committee shall be jointly chaired by the Bar Steward and the Toastie Bar/Shop manager and will meet on at least twice a term. Membership of this committee will consist of the Bar Stewards and the Toastie Bar/Shop Managers respective assistants (who will act as a secretary and treasurer for the committee), a publicity officer, a social secretary and two general members. The publicity officer, social secretary and general members will be selected by application and will come from the Bar staff and the Toastie Bar/Shop staff.

The committee's description will be as follows:

The Basement Services committee works to uphold the college's core values, whilst striving to improve the services the JCR offers to its members in the form of the Bar and Toastie Bar/Shop. The association provides a platform for social integration between the two businesses and will help promote collaboration between the two businesses.

Appendix D: Motion to Ratify the St. Mary's Debating Society

Proposer: Patrick Stephens
Seconder: Helen Paton

This JCR Notes

There is considerable interest among St Mary's students in all year groups in college-level debating. At present, debating is only offered in the Durham Union, which can be quite an intimidating atmosphere for some. This sadly limits participation in an activity which is both beneficial, developing a range of important and transferable skills, and enjoyable. The groundwork has already been laid for possible intercollege debating, with a match against Trevelyan college last year.

This JCR Believes

This college society would offer a friendly environment for those who would like to try debating and facilitate intercollege competitions. It would also respond to the need of more college events because of debating's popularity among members of this Junior Common Room from all year groups.

This JCR Resolves:

To create the Mary's Debating Society, with the following description:

A society in charge of organizing informal debating within the college. This society will be responsible for creating motions and hosting weekly debating events to allow participation in debating. It will also arrange debates with other college debating societies where they exist, or informally where they do not. This society will listen closely to the feedback of attendees of the society in terms of content and tone, and cake will be provided at debates. On the Executive Committee, there shall be a President and two Vice-Presidents, who will rotate chairing the debates, and an equalities office

Appendix E: Motion to Ratify the St. Mary's Games Society

Proposer: Matt Newhall
Seconder: Weston Clark

This JCR Notes:

At present, Mary's have a handful of groups who enjoy playing games together but have no way of communicating with each other. This motion notes that there is a need for a games society that unites not only these groups, but also other people in the community who enjoy participating in board and video games.

This JCR Believes:

This JCR believes that this society would work represent and organise those who enjoy playing or spectating board and video games. This is a society that has been proven to be popular among members of the junior common room, and one that would contribute to the Mary's friendly atmosphere.

This JCR Resolves:

To create the St Mary's College Games Society. The society's description will be as follows:

To create a society that is in charge of organising "gaming" events in our community. This society will create charity games nights, host frequent board and video game meetings, acquire new board games and offer its services to other societies to hold events together such as the DU games and DUCK societies. This society shall operate with an executive committee who will be in charge of organising board and video game based events. Initially, this society shall use the dining hall or the JCR to hold games nights periodically. On the Executive Committee, there shall be a President, Publicity Officer, Treasurer, Social Secretary, Video Game Secretary and Board Game Secretary.