

DCSA Minutes

21st February 2006

<u>Present</u>	Katie Tanner (KT)	President
	Melanie Keene (MK)	Treasurer
	Rosienne Farrugia (RF)	Secretary
	Caren Weinberg (CW)	Womens
	Patrick Boner (PB)	Sports
	Claudia Crovace (CC)	Ents
	Caroline Scott (CS)	Punts
	Joab Rosenberg (JR)	Comms
	Robin Usher (RU)	LBGT
	Nico Petty (NPY)	Welfare
	Will Flynn (WF)	Council Rep

<u>Apologies</u>	Scott Shackleford (SS)	International
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Ents: New musical Equipment

CC reported that 2 CD players, a turntable and speakers have been purchased. All the new equipment is being stored in the bar cellar on the shelves to safeguard against any chance of another flood.

CC had cleared out the cellar at the start of her tenure as Ents but now the cellar is once again in need of a clearing out to get rid of the equipment that got damaged during the flood of the cellar.

CC is constantly facing the problem of people using the equipment and not putting it back on the shelves but leaving it on the floor which is easier and more convenient for them.

KT and MK suggested setting up a sign up system and charging people a deposit to use the Ents equipment. If the equipment is not put in its proper place the deposit will not be returned and the privilege of using the Ents equipment forfeited for a set period of time.

Access to the cellar is currently restricted to CC. However, Simon from the musical society also needs access as the musical society's equipment is stored in the bar cellar.

Bops

The last bop was not well attended. This could be due to numerous other parties being held in various other places as well as the previous week's Casa de Funk evening –

too many events close to each other. CC also feels that the new students this year do not attend the bar and bops regularly.

CC is also aware that she did not advertise this bop as well as could be because of previous suggestions not to advertise bops too much so as not to attract too many outside people. Future bops will be advertised better.

Advertising

Bops are advertised on whatsapp. By right they should be advertised on the social events list DarwIN+OUT. However, only a few people are signed up to the DarwIN+OUT mailing list. Advertising bops solely on DarwIN+OUT would mean a lot of Darwinians not getting the information.

It has been decided that external social events should be advertised on DarwIN+OUT. Other external events such as lectures should still be advertised on whatsapp. Darwin events, including bops, will be advertised on whatsapp. If whatsapp continues to get longer and longer it might be split up into Darwin events and non-Darwin events.

Secretary: Report from the Buildings and Grounds meeting

Laundry: RF reported that the washing machines on the main college site have now been changed to newer models.

JR reported that the washing machine in Frank Young House breaks down constantly. RF is to raise the issue of the washing machine at FYH.

The exec feels that at the next re-negotiation of the contract with the washing machine company the CoW should press for a 4th machine on the main site as during evenings and weekend the laundry is very busy.

Furniture: Both KT and RF have received emails from people who are suffering from RSI asking if there is any possibility of improving the ergonomics of the study centre facilities. RF is to forward Gustavo's email to NPy.

The exec was also not satisfied by the reply of the bursar and the CoW regarding a rolling plan for improving the furniture in the accommodations. Further information will be collated by the DCSA.

DCSA board: The DCSA board is currently being kept in the DCSA office. It has not been updated for the past few years. RF is to look on the website archive and put together a list of the old presidents, secretaries and treasurers. The DCSA will then pay to have the board updated.

College Tour: Can be organised in April. The library committee are interested.

Study Centre: Eating inside the study centre

RU reports that even though no food should be taken into the study centre, a group of people regularly eat in the study centre in the evening. NPy reports that the library committee believes that nobody eats in the study centre. It is noted that in the evenings there is nobody to monitor and enforce the issue.

LBGT issues

RU is being continually pestered by a student member of college who is asking who in college is a member of the LBGT community. RU believes that this person is only asking out of curiosity. RU also believes that the information he has about the identity of members of the LBGT community is confidential and he cannot say who is or is not a member of the LBGT community. RU has told the individual concerned very firmly that he is not at liberty to divulge this information, however, this person does not seem to be able to take the point and continually asks for details. RU asked for suggestions as to how to deal with this person.

NPY suggested that this person be told that continual asking for such information can be considered as harassment and if this individual does not desist then the Dean may be informed.

LBGT events

The last event was attended by 6-7 people. RU would like to organise the next event as a university wide graduate event. Options are a formal hall, drinks in the bar or a bop.

RU will discuss with a few students to decide how formal or informal the next event should be. Organising a formal hall should be done through NPY. A bar event needs to be discussed with barcom and possibly, the common room should be booked in the usual way.

Welfare: Report from Library Committee meeting

The Library Committee has asked for feedback on a number of issues:

Water fountain: Should a water fountain be installed in or near the study centre? Yes.

Missing books: Only 145 books have gone missing this year. The library is very pleased at the low number of books missing.

New student librarian: Deborah has been appointed as the new student librarian. There will also be a second student librarian. NPY has asked Deborah to send a short whatsapp notice introducing herself.

Amazon: Revenue from amazon is still trickling in very slowly. Need to raise awareness that purchasing from amazon from the library link will help fund the library. The point can be included in the whatsapp message from Deborah.

Flood and Disaster contingency plan: A flood and disaster contingency plan is now in place. NPY has a copy of this.

Welfare issues

Drink spiking is becoming an issue in colleges, particularly in JCRs.

To our knowledge there have been no such cases in Darwin.

It has been suggested to have a campaign to raise awareness. A suggestion is to stick cocktail sticks into unattended drinks bearing a message – you have been spiked – to raise awareness. Posters are also available possibly from CUSU or the rape crisis centre.

Lighting in Cambridge: asked for feedback. We suggest Parker's Piece and Midsummer Common. Any further suggestions should be emailed to NPY.

NPY to send a whatsapp note.

New Taxi Rank:. The Cambridge city council is to set up 2 taxis stands in town and wanted feedback. This does not effect us as Darwin is far away from the suggested areas.

Smoking Ban: Update

Open meeting was held on the 7th February. The interest shown would warrant a referendum.

Two days later the government said that smoking would be banned in all public places in the UK in 2007. This new legislation will cover the bar. Thus the referendum will only focus on smoking in accommodation. The results will be presented to college for implementation at the next intake.

MK suggested asking in the referendum if people would like specific rooms or accommodations to be designated as smoking accommodations.

May Ball

A meeting will be held tomorrow with a group of 15 people interested on being on the May Ball committee. It is therefore quite possible that we will have some form of end of year event. The DCSA will be informed what format this will take once the decision has been taken.

Next meeting: Tuesday 7th March 2006 at 8.00pm in the Old Library