

Minutes for DCSA meeting 26<sup>th</sup> June 2003

Present: Vikram, Sally, Jason, Mike, Jen, Jess, Tom, Saima, Max, Amyas, Bee.  
Apologies: Jon, Joe, Nikki, Michael, Gabriella, Scott, Bojana, Anke.

Also present: Mr. & Mrs. Vowles

**1) New DCSA members welcomed** and brought up to date on the accommodation policy issue, and the steps taken to deal with it at the last DCSA meeting.

**2) New Accommodation Policy:** Sally reported that three students had responded to the request in the last Whatsup for information on experiencing difficulties under the new accommodation policy, and that she had sent a letter to the Dean on behalf of them and DCSA detailing the problems experienced by students, as agreed in the last minutes. She also went to see the Dean in person to discuss it. She reported that the Dean's response was that if an exception was made for one student it would have to be made for all, so there was no way of changing the way that the new accommodation policy was being implemented. However to fully discuss the situation the Dean would have to speak to each of the effected student's individually and personally, and he sent the message that he is happy to do so whenever they would like to make an appointment.

Ed Vowles raised various queries: 1) the DCSA's overall stance on the new accommodation policy; Vikram assured him that, although we acknowledge that it is unfortunate for some students and we sympathise with the problems it is causing them, we do think that overall it is the best scheme for the college's students and support it fully. 2) The college's financial position, why it could not fund or partially aid students forced to find accommodation elsewhere. Bee replied that to the best of the DCSA's knowledge the college simply did not have enough money to supply schemes like that, but that it was a question for the College staff, the DCSA did not have enough information to answer on their behalf. 3) The responses of the two other respondents to the Whatsup, and whether he could contact them to discuss it; however Sally and Vikram pointed out that we are not at liberty to share their identities without their permission, but Sally promised to let them know his email address and that he was anxious to speak to them.

Ed Vowles listed their main grievences with the situation:

- 1) that the accomodation office in college had verbally promised them that they could stay in their accomodation for more than one year.
- 2) that they had only just been informed about the change of policy
- 3) that this policy sets a precedent that college can keep moving the goal posts whenever they feel like it.

Ed Vowles suggested that they also attend the next DCSA meeting to update them on the situation. The DCSA suggested that before the DCSA could do anything else Ed Vowles needed to speak in person to the Dean, and also suggested that he contact the Accommodation service on Silver Street. We suggested that he should only attend the next meeting if the situation was still unresolved after both these meetings, since we cannot speak for the college or the Dean, and would need to wait until we know his response.

Bee gave Ed Vowles her email address as the new president, so that he could continue to keep the DCSA up to date on the matter.

Jason suggests that they also question the accommodation office's services, in case they can do anything to aid them in the search for alternative accommodation, and explained the role that the DCSA fulfilled in welcoming the new students and helping them during the first weeks of term.

**3)DCSA Meal** discussed: Date and time agreed upon, but Jon not present to confirm. Agreed that Mike would ask Eaden Lilley at the ball whether they could attend John's college on the 8<sup>th</sup> to take the DCSA photo.

#### **4) Officer's Reports:**

**Bar** (Peter) : -Surplice fund assigned: Mayball (beanbags and sofa), new Ergo machine, chairs and curtains for the bar.

-Bar Licensing laws meeting: (Joe absent, so further liaison with new ENTS officers suggested). Result: It appears that the new licensing bill won't effect having a student run bar as feared.

**Green** (Sally): -Number of recycling bins at wanted at ball queried, to be established later.

-Rubbish for recycling building up at 10 Barton Rd and 5 Wordsworth, causing a fire hazard by blocking exits. Sally has drawn up notices that will be posted around these properties to try and stop this happening again in future.

**Treasurer** (Bee): Confirmed that now that the Bar surplice fund had agreed to pay one third of the cost of the new ergo, the DCSA would also agree to pay one third.

**President** (Vikram): Informs committee that he has promised the DCBC a reward for doing so well in this year's races, to be suggested by DCBC at a later date.

**End 8.55**

**Next meeting scheduled for 10<sup>th</sup> July**