

Reports to Council

3rd week trinity term 2011

Martha Mackenzie

President

Evening Council,

I hope everyone's had a lovely start to term and that things have settled down a bit. I know we've all had a hectic couple of weeks recovering from Freshers' Week and getting back on top of all our projects. Here's what I've been up to:

White Paper:

After feedback gathered since 1st week council we have decided not to bring it back for 3rd week council and hold off for 5th week council. Most common rooms and students that we spoke to requested more time to go over the proposals. The paper has been discussed at numerous common rooms and as a sabb team we have been able to attend many of these discussions.

So far the most substantive feedback we have received is that a shorted summary page would be welcome. I will be circulating this addition with the next set of emails. I have also produced a survey to aid common rooms in gauging the opinion of their members. This will be circulated asap.

OUSU Elections:

I have been working with the RO to start publicising the upcoming OUSU Elections. We have put together publicity material and have circulated a large amount of information to all available lists. Just a reminder that all colleges are able to host husts throughout the election cycle (Friday 4th-Thursday 6th) so if you're interested in hosting a hust (bit of a tongue twister) then get in touch with Jonathan on ro@ousu.org and suggest a date, time and the positions you would like to see

Idea of a University:

The first two seminars in 'The Idea of a University in the 21st Century' series have gone down really well. We are continuing to publicise the series and would be *really* interested if you have any thoughts for possible events/ papers etc. This week's event will be at 5pm in Examinations Schools and will be looking at Approaches to learning and teaching. For more information email president@ousu.org.

Careers' Guide:

The all-student survey has just been released (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/DSQYVWY>) and will be sent round shortly via common rooms and my own lists. We will also be holding the first focus group in 4th Week and are intending to collaborate with the Oxford Hub on a focus group exploring third sector and non-traditional pathways.

Attended:

1st MCR Prescom of term

1st JCR Prescom of term

1st OUSU Reps Meeting

Domestic Bursars' Committee: *raised the issue of empty college rooms and the possibility of central renting for graduates/ those in need of short term lease.*

Reinventing Higher Education Conference: *spoke on the issue of consumerism and some of the potential effects of the fee rise.*

1st meeting of the College Accounts Team, established as part of the Graduate Strategy Meetings hosted by Jim O'Connell to investigate the issue of College Fees.

Hannah Cusworth's Academic Affairs Reps' Training: *provided a breakout session with Simran Dhaliwal on Academic Feedback Sessions.*

Social Mobility Forum at the Oxford Union: *spoke on the panel around issues of access to Higher Education.*

Meeting of the Oxford University Campaign for Higher Education.

Visited:

3 More Common Rooms
OXCSSA Welcome Drinks

Ran:

In house activist training with the NUS that was attended by 18 people.

Met 1-2-1 with:

19 students including 9 common room Presidents.

Chair of Estates' Bursars Committee to discuss College Fees

Deputy Chair of Domestic Bursars' Committee to discuss empty rooms

As ever, any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Martha

Yuan Yang	VP (Women)
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Hello everyone,

It's been a packed two weeks, but packed with wonderful people and new faces!

One big plug: **Public Speaking Workshops for Hustings and Presentations in 4th Week.** Please spread this among your friends who you think could benefit.

*Are you a graduate or undergraduate student who wants to learn **public speaking skills**?
Would you like to be able to present ideas to people and **answer questions under pressure**?*

Oxford University Student Union is running a series of open public speaking workshops in conjunction with the Union Debates Selection Committee. These workshops will improve speaking style, assertiveness and public speaking confidence. They will be held in Colleges and Departments and last 1 hour.

The workshops will cover: Dealing with difficult questions - Speaking style - Being persuasive - Presentation skills - Hustings (election speech) skills - and more!

Please book early to guarantee a place: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ousupublicspeakingworkshops>. Further details will be sent out to those who have booked.

Inclusive Leadership

The Inclusive Leadership Action Group meets to brainstorm and plan initiatives to increase the engagement of Common Rooms with students and to **increase the diversity of student leadership.**

At our last meeting, the ILA Group (whose membership is open) focussed on 3 main topics: public speaking skills, the atmosphere of hustings, and how to get more people to run in Common Room elections. Our next meeting is an action-planning and brainstorming meeting in 4th Week, focussing in on the subject of getting people to run in elections.

Let me know if you're interested in joining us - we have a mailing list of 40 students, mostly CR Presidents, and around 10 people at each of our sessions.

Academic careers progression

60% - our female undergraduate intake in Medical Sciences

0 - the number of female clinical professors at Oxford

Background: The **Athena-SWAN Charter** is a national body that audits science departments' policies on their gender equality effects. This includes policies surrounding flexible working, childcare, student and staff development, and transparency of promotions and governance procedures. To apply for an Athena-SWAN award, a department must demonstrate ability to implement an action-plan on areas it can improve on.

Three initiatives I've set up in the past fortnight:

- **Strengthening student representations at the departmental level.** I will be meeting with the MedSci Divisional Reps this week to plan better training and ways of communicating for Departmental Reps (Dept Reps), so as to strengthen their ability to push for student concerns, including on departmental submissions to Athena-SWAN.
- **Medical Sciences strategy meeting on Athena-SWAN.** I will be meeting with Oxford Females in Engineering, Science, and Technology (OxFEST) and supporting Clara (our new Graduate Women's Officer) in mapping out the key departments we will be focussing on raising graduate student awareness of Athena-SWAN and making sure that **departments make graduate student experience a key part of their Athena-SWAN action plans.**
- **Graduate skills development training.** I have started consulting the Heads of Training in the four Divisions on difficulties they have with engaging students and departments on providing broader career skills training for researchers, which is part of the Athena-SWAN process. I will be convening a Training Forum in Hilary on this issue. In the meantime, **if you have graduate students who are having trouble getting departmental dispensation for development training, please put them in touch with me.**

Sexual Violence & Relationship Abuse

6.4% - the proportion of male undergraduates who self-reported in a US campus study from 1991-1998 for committing rape or attempted rape¹

7% - the proportion of female undergraduates who self-reported in an UK study for being subjected to rape or attempted rape²

Important proviso on the two statistics: It is **not** only men who rape or women who are raped. The historic research literature on sexual violence tends to befall many of the gender stereotypes that we face today. Studies of female perpetrators are not widely available, nor are studies on male victims; any tips on either of these fronts, I would greatly appreciate them!

Once again, three key initiatives:

- The qualitative and quantitative impact assessment of my **Sexual Consent Workshops** from Freshers' Week is almost ready (whoop, data entry), and I will be releasing this in a report in 4th Week. Watch this space!

¹ Lisak and Miller, Repeat Rape and Multiple Offending Among Undetected Rapists (Journal of Violence and Victims, 2002). Sample size was 1,882S.

² NUS Hidden Marks (available on web or email me for a copy). Sample size 2,058.

- I am working on an **educational and awareness-raising campaign** for Senior Tutors and staff with welfare responsibilities, to be launched in Hilary term, to introduce best practice (or even, well, decent practice) on handling sexual violence, relationship abuse and stalking. Alongside this, I am forming a network of **students who are already aware of the need for better college/departmental welfare support on these issues** to start lobbying and having one-to-one conversations with figures in their colleges. More info on this campaign soon!
- I have drawn up the **Zero Tolerance on Sexual and Physical Assault** policy which Varsity Events has agreed to in person, and we are now meeting to sign the contract formally, and put in place training. Look to p5 of the 2nd Week OxStu for more info...

And now for a WomCam interlude...
Ethically Sourced Sex?

In its 400 years, the transatlantic slave trade is estimated to have shipped up to **12 million** Africans to various colonies in the West. Today, the UN estimates that over **4 million** women and children are trafficked around the world **every year**. The UK is a **major destination country for trafficking**. In September, **2 men** were arrested for sex trafficking on the **Cowley Road**.

The Women's Campaign is working with Oxford Community Against Trafficking, and with the WISH project (who work with sex workers in Oxford), on the conditions and problems facing sex workers locally. We will be writing up our experiences in the WISH project - coming to an OxStu near you!

We welcome people of all genders to participate in our working group discussions on Ethically Sourced Sex. If you are a woman, you are eligible to volunteer for an evening session doing outreach with sex workers at WISH: contact me if you're interested.

With best wishes, Yuan

Jim O'Connell	VP (Graduates)
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Hi Council.

Great progress has been made in the last two weeks. Tractor production is up 15%.

More seriously, on the issue of **Graduate Funding** two happy things have happened. First, the University insofar as it can make anything a strategic priority has made Graduate Funding a strategic priority. Second, the Graduate Ambassadors Scheme is now up and running. This is an attempt by us as a student body to bring what we can to the University's fundraising efforts by providing shiny graduates to talk about how great it is to invest in student support at Oxford University. **Please encourage people to apply**. The application form was sent round on Saturday, the deadline is Wednesday of next week. It's a voluntary role but it's hugely worthwhile and comes with networking opportunities that are not to be sneered at.

Also on this issue, I have been working with MCR Presidents to encourage colleges to participate in a partnership funding framework, whereby the University puts together bits of money colleges have with bits of money it gets from government to make bigger bits of money that can fund whole students. If you are a JCR President and you would like more funding packages available for your students who want to go on to do a DPhil, get involved - talk to me.

Finally on money, we've made a great deal of progress in investigating the College Fee - a) why it exists and b) what it's future might be. The answer to a) was no-one really knows, the answer to b) was, it's not clear. Further work on this will continue with the College Accounts Team.

PGT Feedback. The one issue Master's students raised most consistently in our PGT Teaching Review was feedback. For those of you who aren't familiar with this issue - there is not enough feedback, or enough good feedback, on work Master's students do. The good news is we're nearly there. Very close to fixing this issue in one go - and if we do it will be a remarkable example of what OUSU can achieve in the space

of a few months, in a University where it is notoriously difficult to achieve anything quickly. But no counting of chickens yet.

The PhD Movie. Thank you very much for sponsoring the first screening of the PhD Movie - tickets sold out in 8 hours. All is going according to plan - the hope is to use the screening to really launch our work on DPhil supervision for the year.

The Government does lots of things that are annoying. Under this umbrella falls the White Paper, the Technical Consultation about the White Paper, immigration changes, and the REF. I've been working with Hannah to respond to the Technical Consultation, which proposes how regulation will work in the HE sector. They haven't thought it through very well and it's not clear how exactly it'll work. Particularly as far as I'm concerned, there's a real worry that HEFCE will be reluctant to intervene on behalf of PG students because HEFCE doesn't fund them in the same way UG students are publicly funded.

The immigration fight goes on - bad news is that the Home Affairs Select Committee has no plans to consider the government's proposals in the near future. This means we can't utilise our access to Nicola Blackwood in the same way we have in the past. The good news is that the VC and others have stepped up their lobbying in a big way.

The University is beginning to swing into action on the REF and we have an opportunity to carve out a little niche as REF helpers - assisting with Environmental submissions in particular (REF awards 15% of points to 'Environmental' factors, ie what a department is like). I think this will be appreciated and allow us to raise some of the more concerning issues that we have with departments - supervision quality and gender equality in career progression in particular.

Other stuff I'm doing includes setting up 'making the most of your supervisor' sessions for grad students, sitting on endless committees (and I'm collecting a few more, although not as many as Hannah), and visiting Common Rooms. Visiting CRs is very fun, let me know if you'd like me to come to a CR near you.

Last week also saw the twice termly extravaganza that is MCR Prescom, which was a great opportunity to discuss many of these issues, decide on routes forward, and also have a lot of fun. Stuff from Prescom will no doubt be coming to Council next time.

Finally, a message to end on:

Freedom is the raison d'etre of politics, and its field of experience is action.
Hannah Arendt, 'What is Freedom?'

Sebastian Baird

VP (Welfare & Equal Opportunities)

Hi Council,

I hope term has started well for everyone. As always, any welfare-related issues, questions etc., do get in touch. I can be reached by email at welfare@ousu.org. Here's a run-down of the things that I've been doing over the past couple of weeks.

- **Disability Awareness Week:** Andrew, Tanja (SWD Chair) and I have been working hard on making sure that everything is set up for 6th week this term. This has involved confirming speakers, events and spaces, and getting the next round of publicity out there (the facebook group is up, and there should be a new round of posters going out soon. We have also won £500 sponsorship from Citi, which will help us pay the costs of the week!
- **Mental Health Campaign:** I have continued to build up a core base of interest for the campaign, which now has 15-20 participants. We will be having our inaugural meeting in 4th week, and notices will be going round prelist about that, so keep your eyes peeled for that.

- CR Support: Over the last couple of weeks I met with 10 welfare officers from different colleges, and will continue to do so over the next few weeks.
- Training: I have been planning and organising two training sessions for CR officers, which will be in 4th and 5th week: Student Support, designed to give welfare and other officers a crash course in listening skills; and equality and diversity training run with Leyla from the EDU, designed to give practical advice on creating a more inclusive JCR/MCR space. I also helped to run Hannah's successful Academic Affairs Training
- Students With Disabilities Guide: I have been finishing up my proposal for charitable funding and sponsorship for the new Students with Disabilities Guide, which will go out to potential sponsors/donors this week.
- Prescom: I attended two productive and enjoyable Prescoms, the MCR Prescom at Merton and the JCR Prescom at St John's last week. It was good to meet more JCR and MCR Presidents!
- Research: I have tentatively begun a project to produce a guide to best practice in college welfare, for JCR officers to use when they are looking to reform their colleges welfare structures. This has so far involved conversations and interviews with a number of chaplains, welfare deans and senior tutors. If anyone has any areas that they would like to focus on, do let me know.
- OIA Consultation: A term-long project for me will be the planning and creation of OUSU's response to the OIA's Pathway 3 Consultation, looking at the structure and handling of complaints and appeals in UK HE. This is a subject particularly important for members of the Student Advice Service, who deal a lot with the Office of the Independent Adjudicator.
- Graduate Welfare: myself and Dai, the Graduate Welfare Officer, are in the early stages of an information-gathering project to discover what welfare provision there is at the departmental provision.
- PGCE Peer Support: I am providing support to Ed Watson and Laura Hancox, who are attempting to set up listening skills training for a group of PGCE students across subjects.
- World AIDS Day: Laura, Katie and I are continuing to plan events for World AIDS Day on the 1st December. Stay tuned!

Hannah Cusworth

VP (Access & Academic Affairs)

Hiya Council,

These past two weeks have enjoyable and very busy. Since we last spoke I have mostly been doing common room support.

Common Room Support

I've continued to meet with Academic Affairs reps and have now met one on one with:

St Annes,
 St Hughs,
 LMH,
 Queens,
 Balliol,
 Worcester,
 Keble,
 Christ Church,
 Merton,
 New,
 Univ

And I've got meetings lined up for Somerville, Harris Manchester, Hildas, St Catz, Wadham, BNC. These meetings have been incredibly useful in ascertaining how best to support reps in college and led me to

focus my training (that took place yesterday and was attended by different college reps) on giving reps the 'low down', because 'academic affairs' can be quite overwhelming as a topic, especially if you're new. I'm also always happy to receive casework queries or the cases themselves from Common Room officers.

The training yesterday went really well I thought, thanks to Martha, Seb and Simran for helping me run it. I'm looking forward to seeing reps take forward academic feedback sessions or improving their college suspension policy.

I've also continued to meet with Access Reps and run training for them. So I've now had one on one meetings with:

BNC,

Christ Church,

Jesus,

Keble,

LMH,

Magdalen,

Merton,

New,

Oriel,

Teddy Hall,

Hildas,

Hughs,

Peters,

Worcester and there are a couple more in the pipeline. Training was incredibly well attended (18 reps from different colleges) and gave me some good ideas for training to run in the future and what the focus should be on.

I've also attended JCR and MCR prescom; at MCR prescom I met a couple of the new presidents, which was lovely, and at JCR prescom I spoke about the Reach Oxford Scheme and running a consultation on Post Qualification Admissions through JCRs.

Committees

Education Committee and Exams Panel were the big ones since we last met and I've got JSecSM, or whatever it's now called, and the Admissions Committee working group on Access later this week. In Exams Panel the paper that I brought, I think, was well received but instead of being passed there, it was thought to be a bigger issue that needed further consideration; as such a meeting is going to be convened with me, the PVC for Education, Head of Educational Policy Support and Chair of Senior Tutor's committee. So we shall see... I'll keep you updated Council. In Education Committee the focus was on the viability of part time dphils and the student support arrangements for 2013-2014. Jim and I also had an interesting discussion with the Pro Vice Chancellor Education about student lead teaching awards as a way to promote good teaching (and hopefully spreading it)

SAS

Casework continues but none of the cases I currently have are incredibly time intensive. SAS policy has been a focus over the past 2 weeks; firstly on the procedure by which students contact the Proctors office and then looking at Complaints and Appeals. I've also been focusing on suspension policy with JCR academic affairs officers as that has been something that students have often come to us with at the SAS. More often than not the problem is that there is no clear policy, so hopefully by working with JCRs we can solve that problem.

Projects

Working on projects with the Humanities is going slower than I anticipated, it's clear that term time mania has hit on their end, but we have a first meeting in the diary for November so that's a good start. **The never-ending quest to improve feedback** has, after being set back, taken a different approach. I'll keep you updated on that one. I had a very depressing meeting on Friday of 1st week that caused me to rethink the approach (taking a paper to Senior Tutors committee) to inviting some Senior Tutors to OUSU to discuss the issue to see what they think.

Representation Jim and I are getting there. I've met/been in contact with the 4 Divisional Board reps and have got in touch with prospective candidates about the role if they've emailed to ask. We're getting somewhere with Medical Sciences, especially but the other Divisions are also getting back to us with lists of reps and we've been asked by a department to run training later in term, which is new and exciting.

Daniel Stone

VP (Charities & Community)

Dear Council,

My second report to Council will primarily act as a continuation of the first. This is a sign that many of my projects are moving forward but is also testament to the amount of time that we as Sabbaticals have to commit to campaigns, committees and emails once term hits full flow! As always if you'd like me to expand on anything written below please email me at charities@ousu.org

Community

In my last report I mentioned the commencement of a community partnership group focusing on student issues. After meeting with various people within the City Council and elsewhere this group has now been finalised and will meet for the first time next Friday with representation from OUSU, OBSU, the University of Oxford, Oxford Brookes, the police, elected and non-elected members of the City Council and the Oxford Hub

- Plans for the inaugural City Centre Forum have continued with the meeting to be held on Tuesday 15th November (save the date)
- I'll bring my Student Community Warden paper to 5th week council, so watch this space...
- I met with Peter Sloman, the City Council CEO and other members of the City and County Council to share my ideas and introduce them to the student union

Charity

This is a MASSIVE week for RAG and we will need your help in ensuring that we're able to raise as much money as we can for charity. Tomorrow will be your last day to sign up for the Bungee Jump so come and find me after OUSU Council if you're interested

I've also:

- Participated in and administered a number of street collections
- Met with representatives from Oxford United FC who have expressed a desire to work with OUSU and the student body in a charitable capacity - if you have any ideas for how we could work together beyond the obvious football related links please let me know

Environment and Ethics

The Environment and Ethics Committee have elected two of their three campaigns for the coming year, namely carbon-neutral events/bicycle generated film screenings and Fair Trade

Since last Council I have:

- Chaired a meeting with representatives from the City Council, Brookes, Oxfam, Helen and Douglas House and Aspire to bring forward plans for a city-wide end of year recycling scheme
- Met with the careers fair and a representative from the Oxford Hub to plan an 'Ethical Careers Event' for next Hilary
- Attended meetings of the University Environment Panel and Sustainability Steering Group
- Worked with members of these committees to finalise plans for University and Collegiate staff to meet with E&E reps

Living Wage

The Living Wage Campaign has continued to go from strength to strength

This fortnight I:

- Represented OUSU in a round table discussion organised by the Chair of the Living Wage Campaign, Sarah Santhosham, to get different community and student groups working together to forward the campaign in the University
- Planned and led brief training sessions in two Living Wage meetings

PART TIME OFFICERS

Jacob Diggle	Clubs & Societies Support Officer
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Hello council

Another very busy two weeks in the world of extracurricular:

Negotiations with the university about the transfer of responsibility for clubs and socs are progressing well and there should be big news soon

Helped with the set up and registration of 6 new societies (from Socialist Cycling Club to Luxembourgish)

Put the final touches to the collaborative project between OUSU, OxHub and Sports Fed to use sports coaching for community engagement

Wrote another how-to guide for clubs and socs on how to submit a great application for University funding.

Updated the clubs and socs database to include the new committee details and the newly established groups

As ever, if you have any questions or suggestions - please do not hesitate to get in touch
All the very best

Jacob

Sarah Santhosham	Community Outreach & Charities Officer
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Dear Council,

Once again, it's been a very busy start to term on the communities and charities front, with lots of productive and exciting events already done. Over the last week I've run three big events which has consolidated and expanded the work that the Living Wage Campaign and RAG are doing and we also joined up with OxHub to run a panel discussion examining the role of politics, charity and community organising in facilitating social change. Here's a quick summary of some of the activities I've been up to:

Living Wage:

Last Tuesday evening I chaired a meeting attended by representatives of several community and campaigning groups who have a stake in seeing the Living Wage paid to staff in Oxford. The meeting was both productive and constructive and helped us to consolidate the relationships we formed in the run up to last term's action on Tesco. For a full summary and list of groups represented, see last week's report on page 9 of the OxStu. If you are part of or know of any other groups who would be interested in getting involved, let me know on livingwage@ousu.org, or speak to me after Council. I've also spent a fair amount of time gathering testimonies from workers along with some other members of the Living Wage Campaign and providing leadership and direction to activists at our weekly Tuesday meetings. Plans are in the pipeline for some flyering and a community action later on this term. Please do come along to our

meetings and encourage anyone you know who may be interested to come too. The campaign can also provide assistance to individual college campaigns if needed.

RAG:

The Choose A Challenge Fair I organised last Saturday was a huge success with charities and attendees very satisfied at the end. We had a steady trickle of interested people throughout the afternoon and are looking at ways to make this better for future years. If you missed the fair (or know people who did) and want some of the flyers/info about the activities, then let me know and I'll have a pack sent to your pigeon. I'll be spending the rest of this term supporting and helping with the upcoming RAG events.

OxHub Series event:

Many thanks to Oxford Hub for allowing us to run the first series event of the term on the different ways of making change happen. We had a really good discussion with lots of interesting problems and questions being highlighted. Thanks to the speakers Stuart White, Adam Ramsay and Angus Ritchie for giving up their time and enthusiasm too!

Other:

Over the last week I've also been to a couple of training sessions to get ideas for improving the work we do. The first was conducted by the NUS and the second was a workshop/speech by Neil Jameson, the Director of Citizens UK. Both were useful and interesting and will hopefully make the work we do more effective.

As ever, don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions or want to get involved with anything community/charity related. I can be contacted through the following e-mail address: communityandcharity@ousu.org

Sarah

Clara Ferreira

Graduate Women's Officer

Hi Council,

Needless to explain why my position is necessary, just look around you at the people that are in senior and leadership positions and you will see that women are profoundly underrepresented, even in areas where at the undergraduate and graduate level women make up at least half of the population. So what can we do about this? Communicate, support and empower!

During these two weeks I have basically setting up the stage for 2 of the 3 main objectives I had set out to achieve:

1. Increase the number of graduate women representatives in departments and divisions, and provide them support
 - a. I met up with the student representatives in DPAG. It seems that role definitions are not clear and the information is not reaching the students. I will be meeting Division representatives and other Departmental representatives to find out if this is a local or a global. Further actions to be taken include getting the information across to the graduate studies officer and assistants in order to reach every student.
 - b. MPLS and MedSci have a problem in the way leadership and negotiation skills (and indeed skills training as a whole) are being fostered for their students in general and representatives in particular. There is a need to develop meaningful skills training in a suitable way. Yuan and I met with Alison Tindler (MPLS skills division), who is very eager to get student feedback on how to deliver appropriate training and engage graduates in giving training themselves. We will also be meeting with the MedSci skills division soon, and setting up a graduate network to discuss these issues so that our needs will be taken into account in the development of skills training offers.
2. Tackle the gender gap in Academia, by getting MedSci graduate students involved in the Athena-Swan awards and creating a network of graduate women discussing the current gender equality policies in the University and successful auditing strategies

- a. I have a meeting setup with Trudy Coe (Head of Equality and Diversity Unit) at the end of November to discuss different gender equality auditing processes. Yuan and I will also meet up with Kay Davies (Associate Head of Division of Medical Science) at the end of October to discuss graduate women's involvement in the Athena-Swan awards.
- b. A network of students is being developed by Yuan and myself already bringing up gender equality issues that need addressing in several departments. This group will start meeting in week 4.
- c. Yuan and I are aiming at delivering a gender equality workshop for MPLS and MedSci in Hillary. The University of Oxford Females in Engineering, Science and Technology (OxFEST) are also planning a full day symposium with a gender equality workshop. We will possibly be working together.

The final objective I had set out to achieve has to do with creating positive role models for graduates and engaging graduates as role models for undergraduates and school students. I have a couple of ideas planned out and will report on them as they take shape.

In the mean time any issues you would like to raise or have me tackle, please let me know at gradwomen@ousu.org. I would really like to get everybody's input and visit as many MCRs and meet up with as many graduate students from different departments as possible.

Laura Hancox	Health & Welfare Officer
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Hi Council,

Over the last couple of weeks I've been concentrating on my manifesto promise of working to get events in place for World AIDS Day, which is the 1st December.

Fine details are yet to be finalised but as it stands there will be a speaker event on the topic of HIV/AIDS with attendance from a Terrence Higgins trust worker who will talk on the subject of living with HIV, alongside academic speakers that are yet to be confirmed. This will hopefully take place on World AIDS day itself and fulfils the aim of raising awareness and informing people about HIV.

Training sessions are also being put on by the Terrence Higgins Trust and Oxford Friend for welfare officers and LGBTQ officers in the university relating to supporting students living with HIV. Information on national support services will also be available at these events for officers to take away with them. This fulfils the aim of raising awareness of the support structures in place for those affected by HIV and will also include safe sex promotion.

Links are currently being made to charity reps throughout the university to encourage them to host special formal halls/ fundraising events in their common rooms to raise money for the Terrence Higgins Trust. THT has also agreed to provide red ribbons to be sold in order to raise money for them too; we hope to have bucket collections/ the red ribbon campaign going on in many colleges across Oxford. If you are interested in volunteering for collections in your common room or around central Oxford, contact myself at healthandwelfare@ousu.org

In terms of the student support training I mentioned in my last council report, this will take place on Saturday of 4th week and will be run by Seb and myself. It is aimed at untrained welfare officers/peer supporters/ committee members who would like a crash course in listening and student support skills. If you would like to attend, contact Seb at welfare@ousu.org to sign up for a place.

Katie Colliver	LGBTQ Officer
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Hi Council,

The past couple of weeks have gone slowly with email difficulties preventing the **LGBTQ Campaign** from getting moving as early as we'd planned. Thankfully, all these problems have now been resolved and so we're **kicking off tomorrow** (Thursday 27th) in OUSU at 6.30pm. There's already been quite a lot of discussion generated, which is really promising.

I have also been working on getting **speakers for the World Aids Day panel** which you heard about last week. I've contacted a number of people, including the chair of the British HIV Association, and I look forward to telling you the complete line-up in the near future.

If you'd like to get involved in the LGBTQ Campaign, updating the LGBTQ Handbook or have any speakers to recommend for the World Aids Day panel please contact me at lgbtqofficer@ousu.org.

All the best,
Katie x