

**President
McNeill**

Kirsty

Freshers Week: Freshers Week Committee will be having a meeting on Tuesday at 8 in lecture room 6 in New. Everyone involved in any aspect of freshers week planning is welcome, and the meeting is intended to give people in different colleges a chance to make contact and to tell us what role they'd like OUSU to play at a central level. Paper invites are in the post.

Commercial Stuff: On Wednesday I addressed a commercial conference about targeting the student market. The participation of the Student Union was highly appreciated by those involved and the attendance of the business manager has afforded us unparalleled access to companies keen to break the student circuit. Many thanks are due here to Steph for his help with the technical side of the presentation and Tom for coming to London and hacking the room so shamelessly. A true salesman.

Ethics: I have been having meetings with local residents groups who have become interested in our ethical investment campaign and are keen to link up with us in the future. I will keep council informed of future developments in this arena.

Press: I have been dealing extensively with the press, both student and local and have, as ever, been most ably assisted (directed?) by Stuart, whose enthusiasm for the PR side of our work knows no bounds.

Entz: Battle of the bands had its second heat on Tuesday (in which connection many thanks are due to Steph, Ed Soutehrnden and Martin Sainsbury) and continues next week at the usual time and place.

NUS: Our relations with the NUS are back on a slightly more even keel and national officers on all sides of the spectrum are to be thanked for their work in distancing the student union (and student movement in general) from events at the Union Society. I have also attended NUS committee and look forward to working with the ever-cheerful Ed Swann to make Oxford's presence within the NUS felt this term.

General: helping with deliveries, meeting the proctors, JCUC., proof reading etc etc etc

Vice-President (Finance)

Steph Gray

This term has been forward-looking for me. So far, we have appointed Editors for nearly all our major summer publications and Organisers for Freshers' Fair, and I am currently planning the production and logistical side of these projects.

The Budget for 2001/2 is nearly complete, having undergone consultation with my successor and the Executive. The financial future of OUSU is promising, though it is important we do not over-exert our fragile revenue stream. To this end, the Business Manager and I have recently had discussions with a number of organisations with a view to concluding new deals to provide new profit-generating services for Oxford students. This is a very exciting time for OUSU, as our ever-improving track record and reputation is really beginning to help us find new business. Our products have simply never been so good.

Following motions in Council, the Office Manager is about to re-equip the General Office with new furniture, and a new CCTV is about to be installed in OUSU, greatly improving our security arrangements, and, incidentally, offering OUSU members the chance to discover exactly when their paid officers drift into work of a morning...

Feedback on the new OUSU web site has been almost entirely positive. I am looking at a range of content-management options for the future to remove the single-person bottleneck to site development, and hope to have something in place for next year.

On the financial control side, I presented the current situation to the University's Joint Committee with Junior Members. They seemed pleased with our progress in tightening and refining our mechanisms; the next step is the full computerisation of the Finance Office's management accounts.

Much has been achieved in the last 10 months; much remains to do. Thank goodness (and MORI) that I'm not looking for a second term...

Vice-President (Women)

Jane Blumer

Over the past two weeks I've been working on the nightbus - it isn't perfect yet but improving all the time. We've now got about 10 trained drivers, meaning that by next term there will be a definite pool to start with. Take-up has been extremely good and we've had lots of positive feedback - it would be ideal to expand the service but at the moment we don't have enough money; I shall certainly recommend to my successor that she attempt to raise more funding from charities etc. Work on the Oxford Eating Distress Support Group has been on-going in preparation for the launch on 7th June. I have been preparing for the Women's Open Day next week and look forward to a successful event,

concentrating particularly on women applying for science subjects. Volunteers to help with subjects and tours of colleges are still needed - please get in touch if you are free. The first planned Promoting Choice event of the term unfortunately had to be cancelled as the speaker, Annily Campbell, is unwell. Chilcare is ongoing. I've carried boxes, attended University committees, trawled through Irving emails etc.

Vice-President (Graduates)	Nick Smith
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Meetings attended: Joint Committee of University Council with Junior Members; Steering Committee of Tutors for Graduates Committee; EPSC (plus briefing); Student Health and Welfare; OUSU International Students Committee.

EPSC: the proposal to remove the 'outright failure' option available to examiners for a first doctoral submission was approved. The traditional re-submission fee of £100 has also been abolished. I have been invited to contribute to the graduate panel discussion of disclosure of contents of supervisors' reports. Panel discussion of the Ostle Report on graduate provision is scheduled to take place on the 14th.

The results of the graduate teaching survey have been inputted into the computer and await statistical analysis by the IAUL.

Graduate rents: the responses to the graduate rents and charges survey have been circulated on the gradreps list. The table will be updated as more responses come in.

Met with graduate representatives from the Humanities and Mathematical and Physical Sciences Divisions. The latter rep. has submitted a proposal for a careers fair and industry interaction event to the academic committee of the division. The Humanities reps are keen to have a more proactive role in the Divisional structure. A meeting of all graduate divisional reps is scheduled for 5th week.

The Committee for Graduate Affairs meets on Tuesday when the OUSU graduate survey will be distributed. The meeting is also intended for MCR officers to meet each other in an informal setting and to have greater input into shaping the agenda for 6th week Postgraduate Assembly.

Revision of the Graduate Guide nears completion.

I have dealt with enquiries from current and prospective students concerning funding, accommodation

Vice-President (Access and Academic Affairs) Thomas	Rhodri
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Academic Affairs

I have mainly been concentrating on more long term policy issues this term. I have written a very detailed report on increasing academic support for students in the University. The report is currently being looked at by the Institute for the Advancement of University Learning. When I get feedback from this body I will take the report to Educational Policy Standards Committee and hopefully some progress will be made.

I am also looking into the way that colleges deal with penal collections. I am hoping to write a briefing for JCRs on how to improve the situation in their college. I am hopeful that some progress can be made through University committees or through the Conference of Colleges to ensure double marking for penal collection and that the tutor who had lodged the academic complaint is not one of the markers. Hopefully some progress will be made by 5th week Council.

The Academic Affairs Committee has also been making lots of progress this term. JCC Representatives have been sent lots of information and promotional material. The Student Charter is also moving along but we are still waiting for some college surveys to be returned.

I have attended university committees - Curators of the University Libraries and Educational Policy Standards Committee.

Access

Now that the majority of the Target Schools events have taken place I have an opportunity to spend more time on policy issues. I have met with the Access Scheme to co-ordinate a joint paper on access and admissions to the Admissions Executive. The report will be written next week. The report will be largely based on the key issues raised in the Admissions Working Party. One of the best things that we have achieved this year is better co-operation between OUSU and the Access Scheme and this is something I really hope will continue in the future.

The mentoring scheme project has been launched. The mentors are going into schools next week and over 150 students in schools in the local Education Action Zone will now receive extra help with their work which is a something really positive and worthwhile that the Student Union has achieved this year.