

24/1/18

Liaison Committee Meeting, Lent Term 2018

January 24th, 2018

Minutes

Present

Prof. Barnard, Senior Tutor
Mr Bourne, Junior Bursar
M. Burrell, BA President
Prof. Crawford, Steward of College
Dr Curran
Dr Fairbrother, Senior Treasurer of TCSU
L.D. Gaviano, TCSU Vice President
R. Oosterbeek, BA Liaison Officer
Dr Spagnolo
S. Taylor, BA Secretary
M. Watanabe, TCSU Environmental and Domestic Officer
Prof. Windle, Dean of College (acting)

Apologies

Mr Landman, Senior Bursar
T. Henley Smith, TCSU President

Chair

Senior Tutor

Minutes

TCSU Vice President

• Health Centre discussion

The Senior Tutor provides meeting attendees with updates regarding the College health centre. The long-serving College nurse retired in late October, and a part-time nurse was then hired for reduced hours during the remaining part of Michaelmas Term. It has emerged that only very few students use the health centre. The Senior Tutor emphasises that this may either reflect students becoming ill less frequently or them being unaware of the various services provided by the health centre in College.

The Senior Tutor further stresses that College awaits feedback from student representatives as to what the needs of the student body are in terms of the provision of healthcare services within College.

Dr Curran commends the clarity of the information currently on the College health centre website. Furthermore, Dr Curran has submitted a document for the committee to consider with suggested

improvements to said website, including, but not limited to: a brief overview of what the health centre is, the addition of a personal introduction from the college nurse and an explicit list of the services offered in this facility.

The BA President stresses that the provision of flu vaccinations in College was raised by several BA students as a potential improvement to the health centre.

Moreover, the BA Liaison Officer informs meeting attendees that BA Welfare Officers have expressed the need for healthcare-related services in College out of full term time. The BA Liaison Officer further notes that the college nurse could be particularly useful in advising students as to when to meet with a GP and in promptly securing an appointment for them. This would particularly benefit international students.

The BA Secretary raises the issue of physiotherapy: while the College has dedicated funds to this end, as stressed by the Senior Tutor, there is little awareness of the existence of said service within the College community, and improvements in treatment in this respect have the potential for positive welfare effects on students.

The Steward stresses that this point is particularly important in the context of local medical facilities being insufficient, due to both excess demand for them and to how distant are the medical centres specialised in physiotherapy.

The Senior Tutor wonders if the College health centre should (also) employ a nurse specifically with sexual health-related expertise.

The BA President, Dr Curran and the TCSU Environmental and Domestic Officer concur that, given the inadequacy of the current state of the local healthcare services with respect to sexual health, improvements in this sense undertaken by College would be extremely beneficial.

It is noted that, with respect to tackling the issues of anorexia and bulimia, these are currently under the purview of the Mental Health and Wellbeing Advisor of the College.

The BA President and Liaison Officer raise the general issue of compiling an accessible and comprehensive list of welfare and health related services available to members of the College.

The BA Secretary proposes having notices highlighting telephone numbers that can be called in emergencies placed in more visible places around the College.

Furthermore, Dr Spagnolo suggests providing every member of the College with a small card, business card sized, detailing the different telephone numbers and contact information for all health and welfare-related services available within College.

- *Burns Night dinner*

The Steward, the BA President and Secretary discuss the advantages and disadvantages of involving Fellows in the Burns Night dinner of January 27th. The Steward emphasises that said arrangement for this year is new relative to past years, and subject to further evaluation once the event has taken place.

- *Concluding remarks*

On behalf of the TCSU President, the TCSU Vice President expresses the gratitude of the TCSU Committee to all of the members of the Liaison Committee for their work and for their countless contributions to the enhancement of life within the College community.