



TCSU 2017/18 Report

Lent Term 2017

President's Summary:

Since taking over in February, TCSU 2017/18 has,

- Committed Trinity College to find a sustainable vacation storage solution before Michaelmas 2017. In particular, proposing The College's current plan of installing large lockable compartments in every student room
- Begun the process of renovating the Common Room, including a proposal to the ACC for funding for a new Pool Table in the Lower JCR, and discussions at the open meeting about widening the TV room's appeal to all students
- Begun negotiations for a brand new ents venue and student space in the wine cellars under Whewell's Court
- Raised the need for more sociable working areas around college, and ensuring that this is factored in to the renovation of Angel and Whewell's Court over the next 10 years as part of the Trinity Accommodation Needs Committee
- Expressed to the Catering Department the need for more options within Trinity for students that want a simple cheap lunch with their friends
- Been the leading voice in the committee to update Trinity's Sexual Harassment Policy
- Replaced the PS4 Controllers in the JCR
- Coronated Henry II the new Wellbear (soon to move into the JCR once his stash arrives)
- Hosted a successful end of term Bop in Cindies
- Assisted CUSU's Yes Campaign in the Constitutional Reform Referendum
- Voted in both CUSU Council meetings

The Committee:

Vice President:

This term I have set the agenda and taken minutes at three TCSU Committee meetings. I have also convened and minuted a Liaison Committee meeting with TCSU, the BA society and members of the Fellowship, and the Lent Open meeting of TCSU. I have represented Trinitarians at two CUSU Councils. I have contributed to the process of organising freshers' week and have attended a meeting with the Communications Officer of our College alongside Toby. I have also helped him launch the TCSU+ programme, aimed at rendering the work of TCSU more inclusive and effective - more on this will follow in Easter Term.

I look forward to making all of the work that TCSU does even more transparent by sharing our minutes and agenda on the website and/or Facebook page, and I am thrilled to be playing a role in getting TCSU+ started!

Treasurer:

This term I have been working on the TCSU budget, providing a clear breakdown of exactly how much money should be allocated to each Bop, each event and each section of the committee. I used the previous year's accounts as a guide, and took into account discussions with individual committee members regarding their planned events and purchases in order to make any increases to certain areas of the budget. For example, since the enhancement of welfare is an important aspect of a student union, the Ents budget has been increased substantially, whilst cost savings have been made through a reduction in the 'food' budget by the (yet to be purchased) Costco card, and its decreased purchase. I have also been working with the Senior Treasurer to process a Mandate Change with the Bank for Toby and myself, so that the TCSU can continue its secure dual authorisation payment system. Moreover, I have spoken to a couple of local businesses about the possibility of offering student discounts, and next term I hope to discuss with the wider student body which local businesses they would like to support, and hopefully negotiate with these companies.

Ents:

I started my post by helping Ryan, the old ents officer, to organise and run the Handover Bop at Clare Cellars. Following this I have sorted out queue jumps for four nights out a week to be behind the bar for a reduced cost. I also teamed up with The Field Club to provide drinks behind the bar after the Christchurch day and queue jumps for the night out after. I have been working closely with the rest of the committee to organise all the entertainments and events for Fresher's week, which have all been approved (yay). To end my first half-term I organised an end of term bop at Cindies. Next term, I plan on organising some more chilled events in college.

International Welfare:

Most of the work this term has centred around the planning of International Freshers' Week. The iTCSU committee was formed, and we discussed potential ideas on how to improve iFW. A timetable was put together, locations determined, and each event was assigned a committee member who would be responsible for the planning and organisation.

LGBT+:

This term has been rather uneventful in the LGBT+ community at Trinity. Coming into the post, it came to my attention that this is the result of a lack of awareness, therefore I have spent this term considering ways in which this may be rectified. I began by sending a survey to all undergraduates regarding sexual and gender identity. Disappointingly, only 30 responded, of which approximately 13 students came into the LGBT+ category. This is absurdly low for a college of this size, thus next term I plan to run several social and speaker events to bring these students together.

Environmental and Domestic:

I have facilitated a research student to conduct a study on food architecture and sustainability. Got permission from Catering to change KFC form (but this form has no official 'ownership' by any dept. so needs approval from various dept.s and then college council). Written up a survey on college residency to gauge the demand for room occupancy during the vacation. Permission granted to install 'green' notice board in bar. Written constitution for Trinity Green Thumbs (gardening soc.). Got permission from college council to install planters in the Chinese Garden. This will be the 'hub' for Green Thumbs. Put on Green Formal with Laura. Screened David Attenborough's Planet Earth. Publicised a Green Handbook made by Trin Green Imp team.

Computing and Publicity:

I initially helped the incoming TCSU committee set up their email addresses and checked that incoming emails were forwarded to the appropriate people. Most of the work I have done this term has been related to publicity - taking and sharing pictures of TCSU events such as the Handover Bop and Green Formal, keeping the blackboard outside the server room updated and managing the TCSU Facebook page. I also teamed up with the Field Club Captain to publicise the Trinity-Christchurch Sports Day and took a series of sporty photos during the day. I am currently working on updating the TCSU website.

Women:

This term I have been taking the advice of the previous women's officers and enacting it where appropriate for the students of Trinity. I have also been starting plans for the events in the coming year!

Access:

I have spoken with the current SLOs to get up to speed with the access work the college is currently doing, and have started planning with them to set up the school visit form that I outlined in my manifesto. I decided to keep the Trinity access team under its current name and description instead of moving it to TCSU+ for reasons of continuity and to ensure that access work is being done, independent of whatever politics happens in TCSU in future years. I also helped out with numerous outreach events in Trinity this term, including a (rather successful) residential supporting women in maths. I have also joined the college website committee as the undergraduate representative, and have been pushing for more easily accessible information for applicants, as well as for more student presence on the main Trinity website. To this end, I met with Fiona, the Communications Officer for Trinity, to have photos taken of me for an upcoming article about some of the access work that we are doing.

Mental Health and Disabled Students (Disabilities):

This term I have spent most of my time getting acquainted with the college personnel involved with welfare. I have also met one-on-one with an average of two students per week since I began my role. Looking into the longer term, I am currently in the process of setting up the group for students who have gone through intermission and I am just about to start an exciting welfare project involving the college library. I have also started to organise talks that will hopefully go ahead in the first few weeks of next term.

BME:

This term I helped the outgoing BME officer with the organisation of the BME conference, looking into how improvements could be made for next year's conference. Going forward, I would like to liaise with the BME officers at other colleges in order to collectively organise events catered for BME students, as this is likely to increase attendance. In the meantime, I will continue to publicise other events of interest through the mailing list.

Welfare:

This term we've been getting used to sexual health and sanitary item drops and working our way around the CUSU ordering system - we'll soon have more than we know what to do with! Kieran has attended the initial training which I'll be going to next term too. We attended a sexual misconduct meeting with the Dean to work out new systems to look after and support those in need and will continue to work on this topic. In terms of events, we've set up a timetable for drop in sessions starting next term and are finalising plans for massages, Welfare Walks and hot chocolate and cookie events to get us through next term.

Junior Steward:

I have organised and held an ACC meeting with Dr. Fairbrother and representatives from the BA society where we agreed on funding for a few societies. I have also been following up on all the societies making sure that their documentation is up to date and I have created a new register for society information. I have also standardised a few documents related to societies. I also organised a Catering meeting (which I was unfortunately unable to attend) and tried unsuccessfully to get a mains water supply to the cooler in the college JCR.