**Officer Report**

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| **Name:** | Rosalie Chapman |
| **Role:** | Vice-President Welfare |
| **Council meeting:** | HT Wk 7 |

# Section One | Manifesto Updates

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| **My Pledges** | **Progress** |
| Gender Expression Fund (Mandate) | Following the mandate to create an independent Student Union Gender Expression Fund of £400, consulted with student union management accountant and acting CEO and we have now secured the funding for the Fund. Scheduled a meeting for next week to discuss exactly how it will be advertised with comms and logistics of how people can use. |
| Tackling Period Poverty – making sure all colleges and university facilities provide free sanitary products (cont) | Met with WomCam Co-Chairs and Founder of Oxford Period. Went to Estates Bursar Committee, participated in the discussion of Oxford Period’s aims and values in removing the burden of provision away from colleges as if they are a luxury. Discussed with Chair of Domestic Bursar Committee who met with the Founders of Oxford Period and presented to Domestic Bursars Committee. Currently in the process of encouraging individual colleges to fund sanitary products and removing that burden away from common rooms – Univ College Governing Body has already done so; enquiring with other colleges on how to encourage similar uptake. Discussed in a Conference pre-meet with Helen Ghosh (Chair of Conference of Colleges), will be taken to Conference after initial landscape analysis in DBC, due to attend next Thursday to have a more thorough picture of uptake. Have reached out to Head of Estates Services and GLAM to inquire which University buildings provide sanitary products within their toilet facilities. |
| College level reform of non-academic misconduct policy | Worked with Policy Advisor (Legal and Compliance) from Conference of Colleges to inquire into the state of college uptake. Arranging meetings with two Heads of House who were on the working group which re-wrote the template policy to assess greatest hurdles for encouraging uptake at College and solutions to work around that. Supported college Women Reps to organise meetings with their colleges in the process of reviewing their individual policy. |

# Section Two | Projects

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| **My Projects** | **Progress** |
| Oxford Student Welfare Survey & Lobby for Reading Week (Cont) | Paper written on ‘Oxford Student Welfare Survey 2024’ engaged on with the Directors of Student Welfare and Support Services, as well as flagged to the Deputy Director of SWSS and the Head of Conference of Colleges. Feedback was largely positive with people even being supportive of a potential Reading Week Referendum that could be encouraged as a result of any feedback. The Survey itself is still going through ethical review (CUREC 1a) and hope to hear back as soon as possible about that. Meeting with the Suu Communications Team to discuss encouraging engagement and promotional tactics once given the go ahead from ethical approval. |
| Delivering Welfare Training to student population (Cont) | Had meetings and worked with individuals from Oxfordshire Recovery College to expand on the welfare training content. Now sections include – Mental Health, Confidentiality, Active Listening, Courageous Conversations, Suicide Prevention, Sexual Violence, Oxford Signposting as well as external Charity signposting. Delivered three sessions to JCR Presidents, long session been delivered to Welfare/Gender Reps, three sessions delivered to the Oxford Union and one session delivered to OxStu well as currently looking to deliver sessions elsewhere. Currently reaching out to new JCR Presidents looking to offer training to them as well. |
| Safe Lodge Policy Re-advertisement and promotion (Cont) | Met with Policy Advisor (Domestic & Operational Management) to discuss bringing the updated safe lodge scheme back into institutional memory and usage. Had a meeting with University comms team, plan to speak to graphic designer to design a map to illustrate the scheme in a visual way, as well as write a piece for University Comms / SU website about it. Key lobbying at University Security Subcommittee on safe lodge policy. Inquired with It Happens Here on its past work, and held meetings with University Conference Officials on provisions in place. Had a meeting with Chair of Conference and raised in Sabbatical Catch-Up with the Vice-Chancellor the need for increased communications about the scheme to support awareness and use. |
| Increase Diversity of Student Representation at University Council | After initially raising a proposal at VC Catch-up by the sabbatical officers to allow for my fluid participation at University Council meetings, I engaged in dialogue with the University Registrar and Vice-Chancellor about re-writing the University Council Statute to allow any three sabbatical officers to sit at Council rather than a stipulated three, contingent on the agenda’s relevance to their respective roles, in the hope this would not only allow for more meaningful contributions but also distribute responsibility more evenly among current and future sabbs as well as allowing for better representation. The idea will be further taken into the SU Review. |

# Section Three | Events

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| **Events/Media** | **Date** | **Outcomes / Impact** |
| Democracy & Engagement Subcommittee | 13/2/24 | Passed new terms of reference for Democracy & Engagement Subcommittee, other agenda items included reviewing the Council Report, Freshers Fair Report, Hillary Fair Report and Elections Update. |
| Trustee Board Meeting | 21/2/24 | Discussed SU review in wider context of reforms from the central university and student life subcommittee |
| HIV Awareness Sessions | 9/2/24 | Drop in session run by the Student Union and Terrence Higgins Trust for HIV awareness and free testing for students |
| Wellbeing & Craft Event | 14/2/24 | Wellbeing event run by Student Advice lead in the SU building for students to relax and unwind creating their own crafts |

# Section Four | Committee meetings

Please give a summary of your committee meeting attendance and detail key outcomes/impacts.

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| Engaged in various Committee meetings:  Joint Student Mental Health Committee – Engaged with discussion on Mental Health First Aiders program, advocated for the expansion of the program to make sure that every college has trained individuals who can offer immediate mental first aid support to students in distress. Analysed the Nightline Annual Report and discussed insights and outcomes. Emphasised the significance of peer support services and discussed strategies for enhancing Nightline’s visibility and accessibility to students. Evaluated Togetherall Cover Note and Annual Insight Report, recommended the continuation of the service based on positive student feedback and the importance of providing diverse online support platforms to meet student needs.  Student Life Subcommittee – Discussed Student Participation in Arts and Culture, offered comments on the recommendations focusing on enhancing student engagement in cultural activity: pushed heavily for student societies to be able to hire university venues (e.g. Sheldonian) for free or reduced (operational fee) rates. Reviewed the online consent for students training report – pushed strongly for the E-Learning training to be mandates to freshers across colleges; received pushback from some University officials arguing the lack of evidence that the training reduces incidences, I highlighted how the training is useful nonetheless to encourage a culture of consent and heightened student knowledge of signposting and support, as well as the fact there is severe underreporting so finding data on sexual misconduct is already incredibly difficult. Reviewed the Summary of annual reports and discussions from SWSS, addressing general provisions within the Counselling Service, DAS and Sexual Harassment and Violence Support Service reports.  Conference of Colleges – Key discussions around University Pay and Conditions for staff, explored variability across colleges and departments, emphasising the need for equitable support structures for all students, irrespective of their field of study. Contributed to discussion on MPLS Divisional 5-year plans advocating for a holistic approach to student welfare. Reviewed proposals regarding strategic student number planning, recommended considerations for mental health resources and counselling services in the context of fluctuating student numbers and the implications for service provisions. Discussed differential mental health provision across divisions, noting a higher registration of humanities students using the university counselling service.  LGBTQ+ Task and Finishing Group – Worked in a team to analyse Stonewall’s feedback from the last submission, identifying key areas for improvement and potential innovations to enhance WEI standing, engaged in comprehensive discussions to outline actionable steps towards creating more inclusive environment for LGBTQ+ staff across the University and clarified the framework through which the University’s support of LGBTQ+ individuals was assessed. Next steps include smaller working groups.  Reading Group on Student Mental Health & Wellbeing – Engaged in discussion with departmental leads and academic administrators from across the University to discuss the most pressing concerns to student mental health. Engaged in conversations about how the Medical School and MPLS often receive fewer referrals to the Counselling Service than the Humanities Department, looked into assessing how students are support differently across divisions and what can be done to standardise care.  Alcohol Partnership Meeting - Engaged in discussions with local healthcare professionals from John Radcliffe Hospital, Community Workers and University Security team, reviewing the NICE Guidelines. Discussion of survey sent out across Oxford to collect data for the Alcohol Partnership and healthcare provisions in place. Discussed making the University Security Services more visible to students so they know they can go to them in the event of an emergency involving alcohol.  Disability Professionals Forum – Engaged in discussions about the progress of the assistance animal policy going through other university committees. Supported proposals for more visible student understanding of the different tiers of SSPs provided, and how these are communicated to and shared with departmental academic staff. Pushed for an increase in student drop-in appointments following successful drop in trial this term.  Security Subcommittee – Engaged in discussion of the annual safeguarding report and supported updates to the Code of Practice, discussing broader safeguarding issues for future consideration. Examined the latest strategic security risk assessment, identifying the key risks requiring the General Purposes Committee’s attention and outlined potential mitigation strategies. Reviewed updates on cybersecurity issues and continuous improvement in security protocols.  Other Meetings  SWS Student Forum  LGBT+ Advisory Group  Equality and Diversity Forum  Equality and Diversity Panel  Meeting with Directors of Student Welfare and Support Services |

# Section Four | Future Plans

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| **Event/Project** | **Date** | **Anticipated outcomes / impact** |
| Mental Health First Aid Workshops for Freshers | tbc | Trying to organise accredited Mental Health First Aid Training from Sabb budget before helping create training |
| Meeting with President of Magdalen | TT | The President of Magdalen chaired the working group which created a template of a new non-academic misconduct policy which went to Conference. Hope to discuss college resistance to uptaking the new college-level non-academic misconduct policy and reasons for biggest objections, to find solutions to work around. |
| What Were You Wearing Exhibition | TT | In the process of booking the Sheldonian venue – engaged in discussions with the Head of Trinity and others in Student Life Subcommittee promoting student society and student union access to University buildings (e.g. Sheldonian) at a far reduced fee. Had a meeting with Event Venue Operations Manager and proposed dates to hold the event at the Sheldonian. Working with Events and Projects Lead at the Student Union to run through logistics. |
| Reviewing Student Tragedy Guidance | TT | Working group to re-write student tragedy guidance in light of events in recent years to give colleges more guidance on sensitively responding t student tragedy and supporting students |