

Disabilities and Mental Illness Officer Manifesto - Cerian Craske

Why me?

- I was one of the Women's and Nonbinary Officers last year
- I'm experienced in talking to college to get more funding and organise events, as well as in working with key organisations such as CUSU
- I have personal experience of working with the UCS and the DRC

Accessibility

- Continue to work on accessibility for events as put in place by this year's Disabilities and Mental Health Officer - workshops on how to create an accessible event with accessibility at the front of event creation, hopefully run by the CUSU Disabled Students' Officer (for all JCR members and open to the rest of college)
- Accessible Winter Ball
- Publicise mobility scooter - now for student use
- Updating accessibility description on website for Fitzwilliam as a whole (as well as the library)
- Buy radar keys for students to use (top floor of the library)
- Expand access guidelines for JCR events including image descriptions for infographics

Transparency

- More posters and transparency around college about who to go to with different problems
- Intermission and double time support - network of people at Fitz who have intermitted, send out guidelines to all tutors
- Guidance on reasonable adjustments for exams
- Ensure students are fully repaid for money lost on illegal room charges - should be done automatically, make sure this happens
- Support the JCR president and Welfare Execs in the reform of the tutorial system
- Anonymous questions form for advice/things that need to get fixed in college
- Discussions with College Nurse about how to best support students

Resources

- Advice on how to tell if you or a friend is having a problem - at Cambridge it can be hard to differentiate between normal stress and something which needs intervention.
- Student Minds training for welfare officers and hopefully the rest of college
- Publicise SMC resources (and DSC, etc)
- Guidance on how to manage with the UCS/DRC being behind picket lines during strikes
- More publicity for uni-wide disability focused events
- Emails out before term starts with disability support/where to register for freshers
- Issuing guidelines to supervisors about what to do/how to help if a student is struggling (i.e. later deadlines, accepting plans instead of essays etc) - additionally, templates for how to email supervisors requesting extensions/awareness of triggers
- Fitz Disability facebook group - place for giving advice
- Keep an eye on the Disabled Students Council minutes and bring forward anything relevant either to students, the JCR or both