What is the JCR?

The ‘JCR’, or ‘Junior Common Room’, is a term used to describe the physical room in college where we have weekly JCR meetings, welfare teas, FIFA matches etc. As well as this, it describes the body of undergraduates in the college, including everyone from finalists to you! The JCR has a committee made up of students, who are all here to help you out when you need. See below to find out more about the roles:

President

Heba Jalil

First of all, on behalf of the entire JCR Committee, I would like to extend huge congratulations to all of you for meeting your offer! The JCR Committee and I are extremely excited to meet you, and I hope that you are just as excited to come up to Oxford. My name is Heba and I’m a second-year studying Law. I will be your JCR president for this academic year.

In my role as JCR President, I work with the rest of the committee to make sure that any concerns raised by members of the JCR (you guys!) in meetings and discussions are brought to college committees and the
governing body. I am here to make sure we can implement change where it is needed. This includes everything concerning academic or non-academic factors of your life at Univ, like rent prices and facilities in college. I would encourage you all to voice your opinions at JCR meetings. It is where we elect representatives, discuss motions and look at any issues that people have with college.

I also will be organising your Welcome Week with the Welcome Week committee. We are here to make sure that you have lots to do and that your transition into Univ is smooth and enjoyable.

Don’t hesitate to email me at heba.jalil@univ.ox.ac.uk or drop me a message on Facebook with any concerns that you have. I will be available all throughout the year to answer any questions you may have, or point you in the direction of someone who can. Also, I would recommend that you join the JCR Facebook page called ‘Univ JCR 2018-2019’. Lots of info gets shared here!

**Vice-President and Treasurer**

Tom Schaffner

Congratulations and welcome to Univ! My name is Tom and I am a second-year PPE student from Gloucestershire. As JCR VP/Treasurer I will draft the JCR budget and administer the money entrusted to the undergraduate student body.

Each year, college allocates us budget that can be spent in various ways. It is used to fund sports teams, societies, charities and performing arts which are led
and organised by students. There is also an allocation for new projects so suggestions are always welcome!

As VP, I will also be helping Heba to represent your views in meeting with the college’s Governing Body. We are looking forward to meeting you all in October. Until then we hope that you all have a relaxing summer. If you have any questions you can email me – thomas.schaffner@univ.ox.ac.uk.

**Vice-President and JCR Affairs**

Beth MacNamara

Congratulations and welcome to Univ! I’m Beth and I’m a second-year History and Politics student, and I am going to be your Secretary/Vice President for the year.

My job is to circulate the agenda and write the minutes for the JCR meetings which happen every other Sunday. Everyone is more than welcome to come along to these meetings, and I highly recommend them – there is free pizza and democratic engagement! I’m also responsible for helping Heba to represent your views to college and make sure that the things you want done get done, so if there’s anything you want to see discussed or achieved around college, any ideas you have to make college better, or something you want to run or invite people to in college or out of it, please get in touch on Facebook or elizabeth.macnamara@univ.ox.ac.uk. I also send out a weekly newsletter covering both college and university events, so you’ll get used to seeing my email address in your inbox!
Welfare Officers:

Rebecca Williams and Andrey Nezhentsev

Hello! We're Rebecca and Andrey and we'll be your JCR welfare reps for the upcoming year, here to help you stay healthy and happy amongst essay deadlines, labs and whatever else you have going on. We're big on boosting your wellbeing as well as providing support and raising awareness about mental health disorders in college.

We'll be running events throughout the year such as welfare teas (come along for free food and a chat), sexual health delivery services and a wellbeing week in Hilary term.

Keep an eye on the Univ JCR Facebook page and your emails for updates on upcoming events and feel free to email us both at any time, day or night, if you have a welfare related issue (contact us at rebecca.williams@univ.ox.ac.uk and andrey.nezhentsev@univ.ox.ac.uk).

For more information from your local welfairies you can also check out our very own welfare booklet :)

We look forward to seeing you around college, please do come and say "hi" if you have the time.
Entz reps
Lizzie Daly and Matt Kenyon

Hey! We’re Lizzie and Matt, your Entz reps for this year. Our job is to ensure you have a fun time here at Univ - whether you prefer clubbing, movie nights in, or chilling out in the college bar. We’ll be selling club tickets during freshers’ week and organising out of this world bops throughout the year - the most exciting events in every Univite’s social calendar. We’re looking forward to meeting you all in fresher’s week!

Charities and Communities reps
Emily Wigoder and Eliza Chee

Hi! We’re Emily and Eliza and we’re this year’s Charities and Communities Reps. We organise all things fundraising at Univ, and co-ordinate with RAG (‘Raise and Give’), the Oxford-wide charities organisation, which puts on lots of exciting events every year. In addition, we’ll be organising some charities events in college to raise money. We’ll be advertising at the start of term, so keep your eyes peeled if charity is something you’d like to be involved with!
Hall and Accommodation officers
Hannah Bradburn and Cerys Halligan

Hi, we’re Hannah and Cerys and we are your hall and accommodation officers for this year. This means that we are here to provide a point of contact for any JCR member to express their opinion about food provided in Hall, since we meet with the Head chef on a termly basis to discuss these issues raised and represent the students on these issues.

Our roles also involve organising a couple of ‘special’ formal halls per term, including the Christmas formals and Halfway Hall, and an annual ‘JCR banquet’. We’re the people who will liaise with domestic bursary staff to organise at least one Parents Guest Night formal per year, as well as talking about other Hall-related topics, like keeping prices as low and fair as possible. We discuss accommodation issues with the Domestic Bursar on a regular basis, as well as organising the ballots for second year accommodation. Feel free to ask us any questions about what the role involves, or to discuss any queries or problems you may have, relating to Hall and accommodation.
Hello! Welcome to Univ and a huge congratulations on meeting your offer. I’m Rosie, a third-year classicist, and I am your Academic Affairs Officer for this coming year.

A large part of your degree will revolve around tutes, classes, labs etc. One of the benefits of the tutorial system is that it should provide an important feedback opportunity each week and direct communication with your tutors is the best way to make the most of this system. My job is to support you in addition to this by answering any further queries about your studies, exams, or your tutors. I am also here to make sure your feedback is passed on to the Senior Tutor after the subject-feedback sessions, which will be held over the course of Hilary and Trinity.

If you have any academic queries, specific or otherwise, before you arrive or throughout this year then feel free to drop me an email at rosie.vonspreckelsen@univ.ox.ac.uk.
IT Officer
Tamio-vesa Nakajima

Hello everyone — I’m Tamio, and I’m glad to be your IT Officer for the coming year.

Starting university can, even for the tech savvy, present a number of technical challenges. And everyone would prefer to avoid that when the most important thing is adjusting to university life, doing well academically and meeting new people. It is my job to make sure that this transition goes smoothly, and to make sure that the college meets your technical needs throughout the year.

I also administer the JCR website, found at www.univjcr.co.uk. This website hopes to be an information hub for the JCR, containing contacts and important documents that you may need throughout the year.

If you have a Facebook account, please join the ‘Univ JCR 2018-19’ group; regardless, all important information will be distributed via email (which college regulations say should be checked daily).

If you have anything you would like added to the website, or any other questions about IT at Univ or Oxford generally, please contact me at tamio-vesa.nakajima@univ.ox.ac.uk
I'm Ffion, and I'm the Access and Equal Opportunities officer here at Univ. One of the biggest parts of this role is to ensure that all students starting their undergraduate degrees here at Univ feel supported, regardless of their educational, social and economic backgrounds.

College is a wonderful place, and I'm sure many of the stereotypes and concerns you may have heard of before arrival will have been dispelled come the end of Freshers Week. However, if you ever feel worried or concerned that this isn't the case, do not hesitate to come and have a chat!

Another big part of the role of Access Officer involves helping to strengthen Univ's, and Oxford's, diversity. Students can also participate in this by helping out as Student Ambassadors, writing book reviews for 'Staircase 12' or any other access related schemes and projects to which I would be happy to provide further information.

Please feel free to get in touch with me (ffion.price@univ.ox.ac.uk) if you have any questions, concerns or if you just fancied a chat about what to expect here at Univ!
International Students rep
Malhar Khushu

Hi! I’m Malhar, a second-year biochemist from India. I’m really looking forward to meeting all of you, and I’m sure you’re all excited to be coming to study at Univ! Whether or not you’ve been to the UK before, I’m here to help you out and answer any questions you might have. I’m here to provide you with any support you need whether it be regarding the actual logistics of living in a foreign country, or the strange feeling of living so far away from home. I will be organising a few events each term (and will be more than happy to accept suggestions and ideas from all of you) and I really hope you can join our strong, tight-knit international family at Univ. Please don’t hesitate to reach out to me at malhar.khushu@univ.ox.ac.uk!

Students with Disabilities reps
Bryce Ning and Ffion Price

Hi! We are Ffion and Bryce, your Students with Disabilities (SWD) reps! As SWD reps we are responsible for representing the needs of SWDs within college! This includes all disabilities, both physical and mental, so if you have a need that you feel isn’t adequately addressed feel free to get in contact and let us know.
Women’s rep
Mati Warner

Hello!! I’m Mati, and I’m your Women’s Rep until the end of Michaelmas. I’m your woman for all things woman-related - I run the college’s free sanitary product scheme, so feel free to chat to me during Tampon Hour (the best time of the week) either about the glories of free access to tampons or about anything else/ if you’re worried about anything female-related!

I organise the consent workshops during freshers’ week, and am also a trained first responder, which means I’m able to deal with disclosures of those who have experienced sexual assault.

Finally, you might hear from me on occasion with my slightly sporadic newsletter, Historical Heroines, in which I give you a fact file about a Wonderful Woman, from the past or present, who deserves more general recognition!

If you have any queries (or suggestions for newsletter articles!) feel free to drop me an email at matilda.warner@univ.ox.ac.uk.
Hello again! As well as being your JCR president, I am also your BME representative. I am here to help out and ensure that students from all ethnic backgrounds feel welcome here at Univ. Feel free to chat to me if you have any queries about what it is like to be BME at Oxford and at Univ.

I also put on a number of events aimed at students of colour. For example, I organise ‘BMEals’ throughout the term, which are subsidised meals aimed at BME students, but everyone is welcome! There will even be one in Welcome Week, so please do come along and get to know your fellow POC.

If you have any questions you can contact me at heba.jalil@univ.ox.ac.uk.

Mature Students rep
Theodore Yoong

Hola! I'm Theodore, a second-year physicist, and I'll be the Mature Students Rep for the year. To keep it short and sweet, my role is to aid any incoming mature students assimilate into university life, be it creating awareness of services available or representing the mature student body on any issues that they may face. As a mature student myself, I understand the troubles of returning to an academic culture, and I am always willing to help. Feel free to email me at guo-zheng.yoong@univ.ox.ac.uk should you have any questions.
Hello! We’re Matt and Hannah and we’re your LGBTQ+ reps at Univ! It’s our job to make sure everyone in college who identifies as LGBTQ+ feels safe, accepted and represented, and to this end will be organising a number of events throughout term, from a get together in Welcome Week to the more rowdy intercollegiate crewdates and Tuesday drinks.

We’ll also be keeping you updated on university-wide LGBTQ+ events such as Queerfest, the annual LGBTQ+ bop at Wadham, and the Glitterball. You can see the range of events available yourself over on the Oxford University LGBTQ Society Facebook page, and there’s a Univ-specific LGBTQ+ group that you can be added to for updates on what’s happening around college.

As important (and fun) as these events are, our role is primarily one of support for members of the LGBTQ+ community in college; both of us have experience in coming to terms with our identities and are available 24/7 should you need a chat. And whilst our experiences are
representative of only a portion of the diversity encompassed by the initialism LGBTQ, we can direct you to great university resources such as the Rainbow Peers scheme so that you can talk to people whose experiences might more accurately reflect your own.

Don’t hesitate to email us at matthew.kenyon@univ.ox.ac.uk or hannah.bradburn@univ.ox.ac.uk if you have any questions or concerns. Enjoy your holidays, and we look forward to meeting you at the start of term!

**Class Equality Rep**
Luke Ralphs-Davies

Hey, I’m Luke and I’m currently the class equality representative at Univ! The class equality rep is a relatively new role across Oxford (with many colleges still yet to introduce one), having been introduced at Univ to represent the interests of socio-economically and educationally disadvantaged students in the JCR, whilst also serving as a point of welfare for those students. Practically speaking this means helping any students who have problems with bursaries, grants etc. (an easy guide to applying for them is currently in the works!), working with the access officer to ensure that Univ’s outreach programmes continue to improve, and liaising with the university wide ‘Class Act’ campaign and class equality reps from other colleges.

Looking forward to meeting you all when you arrive in October! If you have any questions or worries please feel free to email me: luke.ralphs-davies@univ.ox.ac.uk
Sports rep

Emma Lepinay

Hello! I am a 2nd year Mathematician and your JCR sports rep. It’s my job to make sure you know about all the great sporting opportunities you can take part in at Univ. I will happily answer any sport related questions you have, and I will be organising the Univ sports day during fresher’s week so you can be sure to find me there. Sport is a great thing to get involved in at university to reduce stress, make friends and have some of the best socials. In college, sports can be as competitive or as light hearted as you wish with teams consisting of mixed ability players. I am also the women’s rowing captain for this year and the ex-women’s rugby captain, both of which I started as a complete beginner, so no matter what standard you are you should definitely get involved as all the teams are extremely welcoming.

Your Freshers’ Committee

We have a whole bunch of helpers who will be around during Freshers’ Week. They will be there to help you move in and to take you to and from activities. They’ll all be wearing Freshers helper T-Shirts, so you can approach any of them if you have a query.
Top Tips

1. If you haven’t already, have a look at our amazing ‘Alternative Prospectus’ (found here: www.univ.ox.ac.uk/prospectus)

2. Don’t worry about buying sub-fusc before you get to Oxford. Matriculation is after Welcome Week, so you have plenty of time while you’re here to buy it.

3. You don’t need to bring everything with you to University. Univ is in a great location; there are plenty of shops nearby if there is stuff you forget!

4. Try and prepare a costume ready for our 0th Week Freshers’ Bop, themed ‘Dress up as your subject’. If not, there’s plenty of time to pull one together when you’re here!

5. Many students bring a bike to get to and from places in Oxford. It can definitely save time but most things are walking distance from college anyway.

6. Do bring posters and photos to stick up on your pin boards to personalise your room. It can help if you’re ever feeling homesick!

7. Even though there are few student kitchens and most students eat in Hall, it is always useful to keep some mugs, cups, plates and cutlery etc. in your room.

8. Most people attend Formal Hall from time to time, so you may want to bring some formal clothing.

9. Do not worry about buying books before arrive. We have two great libraries in college and there are many more libraries around Oxford.