I would like to personally welcome you to University College and the Weir Common Room (WCR), the graduate body of Univ. My name is Ethan Petrou and I am the current WCR President here at Univ. As an incoming Univ graduate, you have become a member of the WCR, which is one of Oxford’s most active and social graduate communities. Univ is a proudly international, open and diverse group and the WCR Committee and our returning members look forward to having you join us! You can get to know your current WCR committee representatives and their roles along with other aspects of graduate life here at Univ on the “WCR” section in the “Live@Univ” tab on the Univ website.

Enclosed in your pack, you will find the draft schedule for the pre-term welcome events we have planned. The focus is on ‘Welcome Week’ which runs from 3rd to 9th October 2021. Welcome Week is always remembered as a highlight of the academic year and I’m sure that this year will be no exception. However, for those arriving slightly earlier we have a wide range of activities from September onwards. These are a great way to meet other graduates at University College while exploring the city at the same time. We hope that you attend as many of the welcome events as you are able to, so that we can meet you in person!

The current pandemic has certainly been a strange time for us as a student community but we are still thriving with online seminar series, walking-buddy schemes, virtual study sessions and other online events. Thankfully, with the ease of lockdown and the rise of summer weather we have begun to run some socially-distanced engaging events. You will find the WCR to be particularly socially vibrant and supportive this year. From your close-knit households and college “families”, through to more outside and alternative events than ever before, we very much hope that the Univ graduate community and wider college society will make you feel at home.

If you arrive and are at a loss as to what to do, check out when the WCR Committee are putting on an afternoon social, and come along to meet some friendly faces who will be there to answer questions, help you settle in or just to have a chat over a cup of tea! Please check the timetable of events to find the “meeting point” for each activity – WCR committee members should be easily recognisable and ready to say hello. Please also note that our common room is located in the Mitchell building on the main site of the college, near the old library.

For the most up-to-date information on our activities, please join the University College WCR group on Facebook. More general information on the WCR, Univ and Oxford may also be found on the “Learn@Univ” tab on the Univ website: www.univ.ox.ac.uk. The website also has up-to-date college coronavirus information, a dedicated space for “New Student” information and a series of useful FAQs which I recommend using as a first port of call. On a more social front, please feel free to get connected with us on twitter (@UnivWCR) and instagram (@thegradlet and @univwcr) where we post regular posts of student profiles and events occurring at Univ. More information about these accounts can be found within this section of the website.
Finally, if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me or the excellent WCR welfare and social teams or any of the other committee members by email. The entire WCR Committee and I are more than happy to help in any way we can.

I look forward to meeting you!

Kind regards,

Ethan