Mansfield College Equality Report 2016-17

The Equal Opportunities Policy and Monitoring Group met twice in 2016-17.

Disability and Access
Building work on the College’s new Hands Building is due to be completed by the end of summer 2017. This building will comply with all applicable building control regulations relating to disabled access and use. In particular:

- It includes three student study-bedrooms of a larger than standard size and specifically configured for occupation by disabled users, including wheelchair users.
- Access will be via ramp and automated entry door to support wheelchair access.
- All floors will be accessible by lift, suitable for wheelchair access and any other limitations on mobility. Access to the lift (via fob permissions) can be requested through the Porters.
- The toilets include one disabled toilet facility and other cubicles which support access by persons with mobility issues.
- All common area lighting is motion detected, removing the need for switches.
- The project also includes completion of the resurfacing of the quad for ease of use by wheelchair users and other users with mobility issues.

The College purchased an ergonomic chair and height-adjustable desk for the Library at the start of the year. The items have proved to be in high demand by students, so the College purchased a second set, which was delivered to the Library in June 2017.

In Trinity Term, a survey on disability provision was circulated to all Mansfield students, with a request for responses by the end of 5th week of Michaelmas Term 2017. The responses from this survey will help the College to review its processes and facilities for disabled students, and consider ways in which these processes and facilities could be improved.

Student Initiatives
In Trinity Term, the JCR appointed a BME Officer. The new BME Officer is currently compiling a mailing list for BME students to improve communication and facilitate contact regarding BME issues and welfare.

The MCR had also compiled four mailing lists for Equalities: Disabilities; Women; LGBTQ+ and BME.

At the end of Hilary Term, the MCR Equalities Rep and the JCR LGBTQ+ Rep organised a JCR-MCR joint equalities film screening of ‘Pride’, a 2014 British LGBTQ-related historical comedy-drama, written by Stephen Beresford and directed by Matthew Warchus.

Welfare Provision
The construction of the Hands Building provides more accommodation for students and so will allow for more welfare provision on-site. From Michaelmas Term 2017, 24-hour portering will be available, which will allow the Junior Dean roles to have a greater focus on welfare issues.
College Lectures and Events

Peter Tatchell, 24th February 2017 – ‘Equality v Liberation – Why Equal Rights is not Enough’

Professor Lord (David) Alton of Liverpool, 3rd March 2017 – ‘Freedom of Religion and Belief’

Linda Moreno, 12th May 2017 – ‘Representing the Muslim in America’