**Mansfield College Alumni Association**

2 October 2024

18:00

Via Teams

**Annual General Meeting Minutes**

1. **Welcome and Introduction**

Present: Dan Tarry (President), Becca Goodman (Secretary),Helen Lacey, Eleanor Hutson, David Seymour, Julian Macro, Pieran Maru, Mike Walton, Shahenda Darwich, Tess McCormick, Ryan Lewis, Veera Vudathu, Ellie Loughnan

1. **Apologies for Absence**

Received from: Robert Porrer, Gerald Moule, Adi David, Natalie Brigago, Lydia Felty, Lucy Maohoney, Damola Shobowale,

1. **Minutes of the previous AGM – 27 September 2023**

Proposed as an accurate record by BG, seconded by MW.

No suggestions received.

1. **Notification of Items of Any Other Business**

None proposed.

1. **Reports**
   1. **Annual MCAA Report (President and Secretary)**

* DT paid tribute to Bob Skelly, who is deeply missed by the Mansfield community, and sent condolences to friends and family.
* Tribute was also paid to Lucinda’s work as Senior Tutor, noting her work to boost access to Mansfield and the life-changing benefits to community.
* Having summarised highlights of a successful year for Mansfield’s alumni community, including a range of events and the impressive launch of For Mansfield, For Ever.
  1. **Annual College Report (Helen Lacey)**
* HL noted several highlights of the previous year, including a successful year in Finals which bodes well for a good place in the Norrington Table.
* In early September, Mansfield hosted an Open Doors event, in which the public is invited to look around. This was highly successful, with over 500 visitors. Grateful thanks to the catering and library staff who made the day so successful.
* Open Day this year also saw over 700 prospective students, with student helpers providing excellent support.
* The Friends and Family Day also went very well; this is a recent innovation designed to allow students to bring 4 guests to see college and engage with Mansfield life.
  1. **Annual Development Office Report (Tess McCormick)**
* For the Development Office, the highlight of academic year was launching For Mansfield, For Ever campaign in March. So far there has been an incredible response to campaign, with over £46 million raised so far.
* College is now thinking in earnest about dramatic capital project, making changes to buildings on South side of quad as well as raising funds for everything that happens in Mansfield.
* London alumni drinks oversubscribed and very successful this year.
* Mansfield campaign also launched in NYC in skyscraper setting. Alums attended from Manhattan area but many also travelled great distances.
* Summer Eights Dinner was roaring success, and this coming year sees the 60th anniversary of MCBC so hoping to build on this success further by encouraging alumni to return.
* This year’s Garden Party was also a triumph – a winning formula appears to have been devised: event was largely hosted on the quad and highly inclusive this year, with fellows attending, as well as kids’ activities and lots of student helpers so parents could relax and go on tours around college.
* Evening of the Garden Party also saw the first Benefactors’ Dinner, where everyone who has pledged donations of any size and form is invited as a thank you. Combining the two events on the same day worked very well.
* Last weekend saw Gaudy for matriculants of 00’s – relatively low turnout (perhaps due to alums’ stage of life) but brilliant evening.
* 2 gaudies are planned for this year with 1960’s alums in March. This will also feature academic talks on offer in the afternoon.
* TM also paid tribute to EH’s outstanding hard-work; the monthly e-shot gets highest read rate of any in Oxford. EH is also preparing this year’s college magazine, which will be another super-edition.
* EH updated everyone on the Mansfield Lives Project (launched in February last year). Currently there are 160 items in archive, including a fascinating range of images and stories. In future, EH is looking to create a substantial archive of memories, photos and text that will become a digital repository; this will share content with the Mansfield community but also become a permanent historic record. Huge thanks noted to Simon Giddings (Physics, 1989) who has contributed substantially to the project.

<https://www.mansfield.ox.ac.uk/alumni/introducing-mansfield-lives/>

1. **Student of the Year Award**

John Muddiman award given to Eric Balonwu in Trinity Term.

1. **Election of Officers**
   1. **President**

* DT volunteered to continue in his role as President. Proposed by MW, seconded MK. DT duly re-elected.
  1. **Secretary**
* BG also volunteered to reprise role as Secretary. Proposed by JM, seconded by MK. BG re-elected.
  1. **Re-Election of Committee and Co-option of Any New Members\***
* HL to assumer role as College Rep; TM and EH to continue as Dev Off reps.
* DT proposed Pieran joins committee. Proposed by VV, seconded by EH.

1. **Future MCAA Programme/Activities/Committee Meetings**

* The next MCAA committee meeting will be in **person** at Mansfield:
* TM noted plan to reduce span of matriculation years when arranging gaudies so alums will be more familiar to each other. It was noted that uptake to gaudies varies a lot on people’s time of life and that a handful of people in a group who corral others can be invaluable. It therefore could be worth considering year or subject reps to encourage attendance.
* MK suggested considering age of alums as well as matriculation year for meetings, gaudies and other events and noted that events could be arranged for former Mansfielders with particular fields and interests – to be discussed further at next meeting.

1. **Any other business**

* The committee congratulated Julian on acting as Mayor for his town this year.
* It was noted that the corridors of power are seeing increased footfall from Mansfield alums, with 7 former Mansfielders now sitting as MPs.
* MK has climate delegation going to Azerbaijan in November for COP, please let Miriam know if interested.

Couple next MCAA meeting with Formal Hall – Weds of 4th week – Weds 6th November.

\*Existing Committee: Dan Tarry (President), Becca Goodman (Secretary), Helen Lacey (College Rep), Natalia Brigagao, Shahenda Darwich, Adrian David, Lydia Felty, Miriam Kennet, Lucy Mahoney, Gerald Moule, Donald Norwood, Robert Porrer, Daniel Seiderer, Damola Shobowale, and Mike Walton.

From Development Office: Tess McCormick, Ellie Hutson, Ex Officio: Helen Mountfield