

**Dear New Queens' Graduates,**

Welcome to Cambridge, and welcome to Queens'! We look forward to meeting you soon when you arrive in October or before! This letter is just to get you up to speed on the MCR (middle combination room), which forms the graduate community in Queens', and what we and the college offer here for all who join us. For many of you, the first time you arrive will be at the start of October for our Fresher's week, which contains a wide range of activities and events designed to help you settle in to Cambridge, feel welcome, and quickly become one of us. There will also be some events held for those MBAs and others arriving earlier for their courses. Look out for the programme online, and for our welcome pack, which will contain plenty of guidance and information to help you get started. Our website <http://qmcr.org.uk/> and the main college website <https://www.queens.cam.ac.uk/> are other great sources for more information about life here in college. Feel free to contact the MCR Secretary [mcr-secretary@queens.cam.ac.uk](mailto:mcr-secretary@queens.cam.ac.uk) or myself [mcr-president@queens.cam.ac.uk](mailto:mcr-president@queens.cam.ac.uk) or for any general queries; we can point you towards others if you don't know who to get in touch with. Our facebook group for new students is now active too, so join us there also: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2060442327365123/>.

Queens' has one of the largest, most diverse, and active graduate community of any old Cambridge College, and the MCR runs a wide range of activities and events throughout the academic year to give you a well-earned break from the intense working environment. These include regular parties and receptions in the beautiful Old Hall, formal dining within Queens' and in other colleges, day trips, tea evenings, quizzes and much more. We try to ensure there is something for everybody, so get in touch if you have ideas too! In addition, a comprehensive range of clubs and societies which includes sports, arts and music, are also on offer here for graduates, undergraduates and fellows alike: more details can be found on the two websites linked above. As a community we leverage our academic diversity as a group of students and researchers, by holding a series of talks jointly with the college fellows. This means that conversation and collaboration across traditional subject boundaries and between the different age groups, one of Cambridge's unique features, is enhanced and enriched.

Your MCR committee are also your primary representatives within the college, and we work hard to collate views and make sure college works for everybody. Please come and talk to us if you have any suggestions on any matter. Regardless of if it's the wrong type of tea or coffee in the Woodville room (our common room on the main site, where you can relax at any time), accommodation-related issues, or personal problems, we are here to listen, understand, signpost, represent, and make changes, so that everybody can feel at home and excel individually as part of a rich community. The wider college, through tutors and welfare staff, are also here to offer much guidance and advice throughout your time here.

In conclusion, we are looking forward to getting to know you soon in September or October, and hope that you're equally excited to join us as you settle in here! See you soon, and please get in touch if you have questions.

Best Wishes,

**William Ackernley | MCR President | Queens' College**