

OUDS Committee Meeting

TT19 WEEK 3 13/05

13 MAY 2019 / 1:15PM / GRAVES ROOM, ST JOHN'S COLLEGE

PRESENT

Amitai Landau-Pope, Cesca Echlin, Laura Henderson-Child, Joel Stanley, Ben Millard, James Gurd, Aurelia Aslangul, Ros Ballaster

APOLOGIES

Seb Dows-Miller, John Watts, Bethan Chalmers, Chris Burr

AGENDA

1. Action point updates

ALP: contact Deborah Warner to assist in the adjudication of the Juliet Bernard Memorial Prize

ALP has emailed DW regarding another matter, she is yet to reply.

CE: BT Bid Social

This weekend proposed - Monday originally proposed, then Wednesday 11-2 proposed. The venue suggested was Turl Street Kitchen.

The purpose of the social: bid advice before most people begin writing their bids. It will be called a "Bid Surgery". As well as advice, it can serve as an opportunity for those who attend to meet the committee and fellow interested in making theatre (they might then team up on future ventures). The event will be aimed at producers and directors.

Action point: CE to email TSK and organise event.

Unassigned: OUFF-style spreadsheet for production teams

ALP completed this. Committee should encourage people to sign up who might be interested.

2. OFS Debrief

The OUDS showcase was very successful.

ALP has received emails from the OFS asking to arrange a date to do it again next year. ALP would like to suggest pushing the show date a week later than this year, or moving OUDS elections earlier, as organising this was a surprise for this year's committee. Other solutions to this issue were also suggested, which included better equipping the next incoming committee, or taking the reins again next year. ALP will create handover pack with important details and some things he would have done differently.

We should have been more clear with the OFS about their policy on alcohol (not allowed on or off stage due to the theatre's CRISIS links). We originally did not understand that this also applied to props.

The social that followed the showcase was very good. We estimate around 70 people came to the social after the event.

ALP sent thank-you emails to everyone who performed.

One of the positives mentioned was the way in which the showcase enabled the years to mix. For example, third years saw shows from 1st and 2nd years which they may not have seen otherwise (and enjoyed them).

The show hasn't been settled yet, but OUDS certainly made money on the endeavour.

3. Scratch Night Content Warnings - LHC

LHC noticed there was an incident at the OUDS showcase relating to a response to a piece of theatre which did not have a content warning but should have done. There may have been more incidents that we were not made aware of.

It is worth thinking about content warnings for all scratch nights.

For events the OUDS run, it might be worth OUDS reading over material before and adding our own content warnings.

OUDS ought also to ensure that the OUDS National Tour is marketing itself responsibly and appropriate content warnings are used (since it deals with themes related to mental health).

RB: maybe if there was a printed programme available for all attendees at the showcase, they might have been able to see what the different plays involved in advance.

For productions which OUDS does not directly run (i.e. those which it funds), content warnings should be encouraged – but in such a way that doesn't feel disciplinary. It should just be understood as something which is done as part of the process of putting on a play.

4. AOB

JG asked JS where committee handover packs were. JS to create a Google Drive with the ones Lucy Miles (ex-secretary) was sent. JS is still chasing a handover pack from the New Writing Festival team.

ALP: co-opting Natasha Saunders for the Showcase worked well. It is a good model, and OUDS should continue to do this for other things like Cuppers and NWF.

A concern was raised about the size of the committee – it is potentially slightly small and could get spread too thin or burnout. The general response was that whilst the core committee is smaller than previous years', co-opting should alleviate this problem.

College reps: OUDS to determine which 2018-19 reps would like to continue their role into 2019-20, and to recruit further college reps where appropriate. OUDS plan to have a meeting with them, and outline roles more clearly for this coming academic year, with an aim to getting them more involved.

The OUDS Executive Committee ought to have a meeting with TAFF this term.

JS: A co-opting call-out for people to help with Cuppers ought to be done sooner rather than later, otherwise it may drag on into Michaelmas which would

make planning unnecessarily time-pressured. JS to email people involved in Cuppers this year and advertise the position(s) in the OUDS Newsletter.

Committee photos will be taken next week when OUDS jumpers arrive.

NOTES

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ACTION POINTS

- CE to email TSK and organise Bid Social.
- JS to begin advertising Cuppers co-opted committee roles.
- JS to create Google Drive with handover packs.
- Unassigned: determine which college reps from this current year are willing to continue in the role for next year.