



Proposal for Programme of Workshops to be delivered by the Vice-President

Michaelmas 2017

Background

The Vice-President was elected to improve facilities and services to the Members of the Graduate Union, and to facilitate effective communication between the Union and its Members. Following consultation with Clare MCR, the Vice-President has put together a proposed series of workshops to be run, with the view to informing both Council Members and Members of the Graduate Union, of University Policies which directly affect these bodies.

'Know Your Rights: Making Cambridge Work for You'

This workshop will provide a brief overview of the University's Code of Practice for Research Students (which sets out what a student can expect from their PhD supervisor), the Student Complaints procedure, and the new Sexual Misconduct policy; specially tailored for postgraduate and graduate students, it will focus on equipping students for the academic and interpersonal power dynamics of the University.

'Negotiating Rents'

This workshop is designed specifically for those MCR Officers who will be negotiating rental increases on college properties, with their college bursars. It will focus on the importance of understanding CPI, RPI, and their relevance (or indeed relevance) within a college context, and on ensuring continuity between successive MCR committees.

'Defining your Membership'

Building on the work of the previous GU President, this workshop aims to ensure that MCR Officers are fully equipped for assessing who should be a member of their MCR, and what permitting membership means (considering 4th years, postdoctoral affiliates, visiting scholars and ERASMUS students amongst others). It will also allow a forum for MCR Presidents to compare their Membership to others.