

OUDS Meeting: Trinity Term Week 6

1st June 2020, via Zoom

Present: Alasdair Linn, Ana Pagu, Henry Calcutt, Alison Hall, Ros Ballaster, Krishan Emmanuel, Katie Friedli Walton, Georgina Dettmer, Darcy Dixon, Emma Hawkins, John Watts, Lola Beal, Nancy Case, Mina Moniri, Ariadne Si Suo, John Livesey

Agenda

1. Senior Member

AL email sent to Prof Emma Smith, nominated by DD, she is up for it. DD said that she's a really perfect fit, and very receptive to student voices. AL will email her - he says that the senior member is co-opted and doesn't need to be voted on.

RB brought up David Taylor, a Professor of 18th Century Studies, has done work with the Globe. He could replace John in two years, once his term is up.

AL will email both Emma and David, then, in the week, and will get in touch at the next meeting if there is any progress.

2. WUDS 'Students Saving our Theatres'

President of Warwick University Drama Society has been in touch with AL, students from different universities doing various challenges to work to save local, regional theatres, running for five weeks.

AP wonders whether, instead of the scratch night that the WUDS sees as the culmination of the fundraising effort, we could use the Monologue Festival as a kind of fundraiser for the Playhouse or the New Theatre.

RB wonders what theatres we might want to support, the Playhouse is university-funded, as well as a local theatre - might have to think about what we would want to support.

JL - we need to be sensitive to the relationship that already exists between the university and the Playhouse. Idea of sharing charity campaigns that are already going at the end of the workshop and Q&A that are going on over the next week.

RB thinks AL should go back to Warwick and ask about the specificities of designating theatres - do we have to designate which one we are fundraising for, or can we just fundraise for the local theatres at large?

JL wonders if it's worth raising the possibility of fundraising to this Playhouse this week soon, or should we wait?

AL thinks it would be a good idea, but to frame it as an idea that he has had as opposed to one that the OUDS committee has had.

JL will also ask the university what they are doing at the moment in conversation with the Playhouse - whether they are giving them more money or taking it away - will give us a better idea about the fundraising stuff.

NC wonders whether there are particularly individual theatres doing work within the community, an initiative - we could fundraise to make sure that they can keep these projects going.

RB says that Pegasus is the obvious theatre for that - it was set up specifically to work with schools and East Oxford.

3. OUDS/TAFF Social

KFW reported on her correspondence with Sybill - an event of some sort to celebrate the end of the term. What are people's opinions?

AL wonders what this joint social might entail.

KFW thinks a pub quiz would be the obvious way to go, proven that they work really well on Zoom. Do you want to save that for the OUDS Festival, or could this be the thing that we do with TAFF?

AL - might be best to do the social with TAFF, and not do anything social for the festival.

KFW suggests a watch party for the Monologue Festival. So, she will talk to TAFF.

4. Virtual Open Day

Prospect of doing an OUDS Open Day online - we don't have to do it tandem with the rest of the university.

RB - we should think about doing it with the University Open Day. Clips from previous shows - outreach rep then saying something.

GD - updating the website re 'how to get involved in Oxford drama' with a bit more detailed information.

JL - structure of Oxford drama, how to get involved... Opportunities for people to get involved in the online activity of Oxford over the summer.

JL - Krishan and Nancy using the video to introduce DisDram and OxBame.

Georgie to have a think in the week about how to reach out, and to get in touch with AL.

5. Lockdown Shakeup

AL will be in touch with people who applied to be editor/graphic designer.

6. ODA (*in camera*)

Other business

KFW wondered if OUDS could make a statement about Black Lives Matter. Could we contribute some OUDS money to the Minnesota Freedom Fund?

A joint statement from OUDS and OxBame? Posting out plays to people?

Jeremy O. Harris ?

Committing to the building of an OUDS library, links to screened versions of plays concerning race etc.

AL wonders who would be best to write the statement, DD is happy to architect it. A welfare aspect, encouraging people to reach out to DD as the diversity rep in terms of how this could be affecting people's mental health.

So, we're sending out a statement, resources, and donation - to be put together in the next 72 hours (Darcy, Ana, Alasdair, Krishan, Emma), and to get back to the committee.