

JAMES

FOR JCR PRESIDENT



1

One JCR. For more accountability.

My first objective if elected is to collaborate with all JCR officers to create **a single document that outlines our collective ambitions for the year.** This document will be called One JCR, and will be completed before students arrive in September. It would be published in the first edition of the Halls Herald and posted on the notice board inside the door of each house. It will serve several functions. Firstly, One JCR will help identify areas of overlap between officers and ensure that we're not working in silos. In doing so, it will lay down a marker: the JCR is not 11 separate officers with 11 different agendas – but **one team with a common mission.** It will also serve as a mechanism for the JCR to hold itself accountable for its goals for the year. By publishing it clearly for all residents to see, it will help to bridge the gap between residents and the JCR, giving transparency to the work of the JCR.

2

Re-engaging residents. For more involvement.

If elected JCR President, an important goal of mine would be to see a significant improvement in the engagement of residents with the JCR. This begins with One JCR. But we need to take it further. **The JCR should check in with residents on a regular basis.** We should be a visible presence in Halls. We should stop and chat in the courtyards – and even knock on doors every now and again to see how people are doing, to get their feedback on the work of the JCR, and to get their views on broader college issues. I want to work

with the Tech Officer to create polls and feedback surveys, so that this can also be done in a confidential way. This will allow us to accurately represent the views of residents. Simple things like this go a long way, and would help **generate interest in the work of the JCR.** Following this, I would hope to see a significant jump in the numbers attending Open Forum – from barely meeting the 50-person quorum to having over 100 residents present. And I'd like to see a lot more people voting in next year's elections.

3

Fostering community. For more connection.

Above all, Trinity Hall is a community. If elected JCR President, I will strive to make residents feel safe and comfortable here. This starts with Fresher's Week. Working alongside the Publications, International, and Welfare officers, I will ensure that new residents have a comprehensive guide to life in Dublin when they arrive. I intend on working closely with the Ents and Welfare officers to offer a host of inclusive events within those crucial first days. Many of us made friends at this year's pub crawl and the early club nights, but just as many did not. I want to establish **house-warming events for each house in Fresher's Week** – attended by the JCR and the House Wardens. This would not be a talk or a presentation – but a way to get to know one another and for residents to become familiar with the JCR. Of course, we also need to work closely with TCDSU. If elected, **I will use my voice at Union Forum and TCDSU Council** to support JCR officers. In particular, I will do my best to secure the union's backing for welfare events and campaigns.

And now for a bit about me...

Hey! I'm James (he/him).

My name is James Carey, and I'm running to be your next JCR President! I'm from Kells, County Meath (yes, Trinity has unjustly stolen the book and, no, returning it is not one of my manifesto points). I study Economics and Mathematics, so I fall down the Arts Block/Hamilton divide. Don't ask me to pick a side - I'm running for election and therefore love both equally. I swear. My experience in Trinity Hall has been such a huge part of what has made my first year at Trinity so enjoyable, and I would love to have the opportunity to make that experience just as formative for next year's batch of eager-eyed residents.

Why me?

Trinity Hall JCR presents an incredible and unique opportunity for residents to amplify their voices on a college-wide level and to decide what they want for themselves. I'm confident that my warm and approachable personality will be reflected in my leadership. If you elect me as your next JCR President, I will use this opportunity to advocate for the views of each resident, to foster a welcoming and inclusive community, and to lead a unified JCR.

My experience.

Senior Prefect in my secondary school.

I was selected as an aide and role model for junior students. I regularly assisted school management with the running of school events and programmes, and guided new students through the induction period.

Student Council.

I was elected by my classmates in school to represent students in discussions with school management and to oversee the organisation of student-led events throughout my time in school.

Jigsaw 'One Good School' mental health initiative.

Chosen by my school to learn about and train in speaking about mental health, facilitated by Jigsaw, which offers mental health supports to young people across Ireland. I presented to and engaged with students in my school about the importance of talking about their mental health. I maintained regular contact with Jigsaw and pastoral care partners in my school with regard to mental health issues.

Can't place where you recognise me from?

Try picturing a hideous black cap with a yellow O on my head. Since moving to Trinity Hall in September, I've worked in the Omniplex Cinema in Rathmines. It might seem like a silly thing to mention here, but this work (alongside my two years of other part-time work prior to that) has given me a host of invaluable skills, such as teamwork, communication, and leadership.

