



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	Day	Month	Year		Day	Month	Year

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Ustinov College Graduate Common Room

Other names charity is known by

Ustinov GCR

Registered charity number (if any)

1164865

Charity's principal address

Ustinov GCR, Ustinov College, Sheraton House,

Sheraton Park,

Durham

Postcode

DH1 4FL

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Joel Lozano	GCR President		Student Body
2	Artem Chuiko	GCR Treasurer		Student Body
3	Oleksandra Mazurkevych	GCR Chairperson		Student Body
4	Anthony Jones	GCR Vice-President		Student Body
5	Mathilda Butler	GCR Welfare Officer	From February, 2023	Student Body
6	Abhinandya Sengupta	GCR International Students Office	Until April, 2023	Student Body
7	Adam Fletcher	Student Trustee	From February, 2023	Student Body
8	Katherine Schofield	Student Trustee	From February, 2023	Student Body
9	Tom Briton	External Trustee	Until January, 2023	Appointments Committee
10	Ray Mumford	External Trustee		Appointments Committee
11	Thom Addinall-Biddulph	Alumni Trustee		Appointments Committee
12	Nicholas Cresswell	Alumni Trustee		Appointments Committee
13				
14				
15				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountant	Bryan Howarth	Design Works, William Street, Felling, Tyne and Wear, NE10 0JP

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Joel Lozano (GCR President)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution and Standing Orders
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Unincorporated Association
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Student Trustees and the GCR officers are elected at the Annual General Meeting at the beginning of summer by the wider membership in an election process. The alumni and external trustees are both appointed by a simple majority vote of the Appointments Committee provided that the appointment of each Alumni Trustee is ratified by a two-thirds majority vote of a general meeting.

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The current trustee board comprises five officer roles (President, Vice President, Chair, Welfare Officer, and Treasurer). Along with being members of the Trustee board, these officers also sit on the executive committee and head the general GCR committee, which governs the day-to-day activities of the GCR.

The Trustee board also has space for up to three alumni trustees, of which two positions are filled. There is space for up to three external trustees, of which we currently have one. The trustee board meets as needed or at least once per term. The trustee board also meets before the AGM of the GCR each year to approve the accounts before they are presented to the GCR body and ratified by a two-thirds majority. Trustees are recruited through the election or through being previously involved, in some way, with GCR activities. Alumni trustees were typically heavily involved in the GCR activities at Ustinov. Usually, alumni trustees and external trustees are sought out by the trustee board.

The Trustee Board's main objective is to ensure compliance with standing orders and the constitution. Both documents prioritise welfare support and enhance the overall student experience at Ustinov College.

During the last year, Thom Addinall-Biddulph, external trustee, acted as the Chair of the Trustee Board.

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

The GCR's objectives are outlined as followed by the constitution:

"3. The GCR's objects are the advancement of the education of Students at Ustinov College for the public benefit by:

3.1 promoting the interests and welfare of Students at Ustinov College during their course of study and representing, supporting and advising Students;

3.2 being the recognised representative channel between Students and Ustinov College and any other external bodies, including the DSU and Team Durham;

3.3 providing social, cultural, sporting and recreational activities and forums for discussions and debate for the personal development of its Students;

3.4 promoting intercultural understanding among Students, informed by the College motto *Diversitate Valemus*;

and 3.5 promoting ecological awareness among Students, and encouraging sustainable and environmentally-friendly behaviour, with the aim of improving the environment in which Students live, both locally and globally."

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The GCR has been an inclusive hub of support and enrichment for postgraduate students, fostering fulfilling experiences throughout the academic journey. Among our most important activities are:

Welfare Campaigns: The GCR has consistently championed the well-being of postgraduate students through targeted welfare campaigns.

Social Engagement: Our GCR has orchestrated various engaging and inclusive social events, creating opportunities for meaningful interactions among postgraduate students. From themed parties to our weekly pub quiz, these events are aimed to foster connections and forge lasting friendships with the students.

Cultural Enrichment: The GCR has facilitated enriching cultural experiences through events and external excursions. These endeavours have allowed postgraduate students to explore local landmarks, historical sites, and diverse cultural offerings.

Supportive Community: The GCR has created a welcoming and inclusive community beyond academic pursuits. By organising support groups and informal gatherings, postgraduate students have found a network that encourages personal development, shared learning, and mutual encouragement.

Advocacy and Representation: The GCR has actively advocated for the needs and concerns of postgraduate students, acting as a voice to ensure their perspectives are heard and their interests are addressed within the broader university context.

In summary, the GCR's initiatives encompass comprehensive activities to support postgraduate students' well-being, social connections, cultural enrichment, and professional growth. By fostering a supportive and inclusive environment and facilitating diverse experiences, the GCR plays a vital role in enhancing the overall student experience.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Section D

Achievements and performance

Section D

Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

After two years of lockdowns due to the COVID pandemic, this year the GCR, committed to fostering community, inclusivity, and social impact, has achieved significant milestones across various domains, demonstrating our dedication to inclusivity, engagement, and positive change:

Exceptional Postgraduate Engagement: Our charity has successfully cultivated a vibrant and engaged postgraduate community, fostering intellectual and social interaction among scholars from diverse backgrounds and nationalities (Ustinov College is the largest and most diverse from Durham University). Our events, discussions, and collaborative initiatives have led to a thriving network that has been praised from students and staff.

New Clubs and Societies: We are proud to have introduced a range of new clubs and societies that provide a wide array of interests. These include the Knitting and Crochet Society, providing a creative outlet for members, and the Pool Society, promoting friendly competition and networking through the game of pool.

Volleyball Triumph: The GCR's commitment to teamwork and dedication paid off as we secured the first-place position in the prestigious Premiership Volleyball League. Our volleyball team's outstanding performance not only exemplifies athletic excellence but also showcases our commitment to inclusivity and teamwork.

Women's Football Team: The women's football team showcased their outstanding skills and determination by clinching victory in the Floodlit Cup. This achievement not only celebrates their athletic prowess (now for the second year in a row) but also highlights the power of teamwork and dedication.

Largest GCR Committee in Years: With an impressive 22 active members, our GCR committee has demonstrated an exceptional level of dedication and commitment. Their hard work has been instrumental in organizing events, fostering connections, and ensuring the well-being of our postgraduate community.

Impactful Welfare Campaigns: Our welfare team, led by the general welfare officer and comprising by women, men, BAME, and LGBTQ+ officers, has successfully executed a series of impactful welfare campaigns throughout the year. These campaigns have addressed critical issues, promoted awareness, and provided valuable support to members of Ustinov students.

Social Events: We shattered previous records by hosting the largest social events ever recorded within our community. The Halloween Party, Summer Ball and Ustinov Day (formerly known as Ustinov's BBQ) brought together a record number of students for memorable evenings of festivities and fun.

Exploration and Cultural Enrichment: The GCR organized external trips to notable destinations, including Raby Castle, High Force Waterfall, and Lindisfarne Island. These excursions provided opportunities for cultural exploration, learning, and fostering bonds among students.

In summary, the GCR's achievements reflect a deep commitment to fostering a dynamic and inclusive community, promoting excellence in sports and academics, and actively contributing to positive change

through impactful initiatives and events. We remain dedicated to furthering our mission and creating a lasting impact for years to come.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity's reserves are maintained such that any complication with the GCR's relationship with the university would not result in a deficit in the GCR's accounts. This effectively results in a reserve of £70,000, assuming that any dispute would be quickly resolved. Similarly, this would allow the GCR to continue functioning were our income to substantially change within the period of one year. Reserves stand at £70,000, which is currently the required amount.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

Not applicable.

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Section F

Other optional information

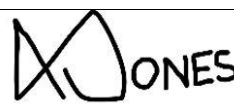
Section G

Declaration

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Joel Eduardo Lozano Perez

Anthony David Jones

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

President

Vice-President

Date

August 15th 2023



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM

1164865

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

Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	01/09/2021	To	31/08/2022
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Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
UNIVERSITY GRANT	14,220	-	-	14,220	13,793
INTEREST EARNED	-	-	-	-	5
GCR LEVIES	-	14,362	-	14,362	494
RECEIPTS FROM ACTIVITIES	-	17,309	-	17,309	5,247
TRANSITIONAL FUND	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER INCOME	-	435	-	435	11,426
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	14,220	32,106	-	46,326	30,965
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	14,220	32,106	-	46,326	30,965
A3 Payments					
CLUBS AND SOCIETIES	904	-	-	904	1,341
COMMON ROOM	-	-	-	-	-
ADMIN AND WELFARE	2,563	-	-	2,563	355
INDUCTION WEEK	-	-	-	-	-
TV AND RADIO	-	-	-	-	456
LICENSING AND INSURANCE	2,175	-	-	2,175	3,332
ACTIVITIES	-	23,682	-	23,682	12,104
MERCHANDISE	-	-	-	-	-
EQUIPMENT	-	-	-	-	369
TRAVEL COSTS	-	-	-	-	-
ACCOUNTANCY	-	-	-	-	708
DONATIONS	-	-	-	-	-
BANK CHARGES	-	-	-	-	-
OTHER EXPENSES	5,578	-	-	5,578	-
Sub total	11,220	23,682	-	34,902	18,665
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	11,220	23,682	-	34,902	18,665
Net of receipts/(payments)	3,000	8,424	-	11,424	12,300
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	48,900	48,148	-	97,048	84,748
Cash funds this year end	51,900	56,572	-	108,472	97,048

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	CURRENT ACCOUNT	51,900	56,572	-
	SAVINGS ACCOUNT	-	-	-
	CASH IN HAND	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	51,900	56,572	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
	LOAN TO UNIVERSITY	UNRESTRICTED	1,500	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Thomas Addinall-Biddulph	08/09/2023	
		Anthony Jones	08/09/2023	



Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

USTINOV COLLEGE GRADUATE COMMON ROOM

On accounts for the year
ended

31ST AUGUST 2022

Charity no
(if any)

1164865

Set out on pages

Respective
responsibilities of
trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act, and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent
examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent
examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; and
 - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

08/09/2023

Name:

B.H. ACCOUNTANCY LTD

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body:

THE INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS
IN ENGLAND AND WALES

Address:

363 WEST ROAD, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE, TYNE AND WEAR, NE15 7NL

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight material problems.

Give here brief details of any items that the examiner wishes to disclose.