

DPEW's Report
A report by the DPEW

Top-up fees

I attended a meeting to discuss the campaign against top-up fees at ULU in late August. It was agreed that ULU would produce publicity and help coordinate the ULU contribution to the NUS demo on October 29th. Unfortunately when I tried to chase this up before Freshers' Week it emerged nothing had been done. It is still the intention to join the demo and this will probably be coordinated with Southampton University Students' Union (another non-NUS Union).

Equalities officers

I began investigating the possibility of establishing campaigns officers (likely to include Womens', LGBT, Racial Equality, Students with Disabilities and Ethics and Environment) at Imperial. This included meeting with external people with expertise in this area, and relevant groups of students within college. The details of this are still to be decided and any final decision obviously rests with Council. Expect more details in November.

Governance Review

I was responsible for taking the lead on the Student Involvement sub-group of the governance review. Unfortunately most of the suggestions made by this group, including allowing all members to vote on certain issues at Council, were deemed to controversial to be included in the consensus report so will be brought to Council at a later date.

Training

Officers' Training took place in Wye on the 23rd/24th September. For any number of reasons this poorly attended, leading to a less than optimal training weekend. I will be reporting on why this occurred and what improvements can be made shortly.

Meetings

I attended a bewildering array of College meetings. Points of interest include:

- **Southside:** is on time and on budget. The colour scheme is almost finalised – it's a lovely array of reds and orange mimicking a sunset.
- **Libraries:** the current reorganisation will cause some disturbance but this should be over before the end of term. The next phase is a complete re-design of the ground, and students will be involved in this process.

BTH – 09/10/06