

Imperial College Union  
**Referendum to Affiliate to the National Union of Students**  
*John Collins, IC Union President*

### **Introduction**

On the 13<sup>th</sup> October, there was an emergency meeting of the Executive Committee at which a petition bearing the signatures of over five percent of the Full Members of the Union calling for a referendum on Imperial College Union affiliating to the National Union of Students was presented. Under regulation 2.33, the Executive Committee authorized notice to be served of the referendum with immediate effect.

### **Returning Officer**

Regulation 2.36 nominates the President as the Returning Officer but gives the allowance for the President to appoint another Returning Officer if approved by the Council. As the President has declared an interest and so cannot act as returning officer, the Executive Committee, in the presence of the *de facto* leaders of the Yes and No campaigns, acted on behalf of the Council in appointing Jon Matthews as Returning Officer, Council is now invited to approve this appointment.

### **Elections Committee**

Under regulation 2.36, the Executive Committee form the Referendum Committee. Some members of the Executive Committee have declared an interest in the referendum and have therefore stood down from the committee. This reduced the committee to Jon Matthews, Shama Rahman, James Millen and James Yearsley. As this gave an even number of people, the Returning Officer has nominated Maggie Holme (A&E Chair) to sit on the committee. The Returning Officer, under Regulation 2.66, has also nominated Chris Ince as an Independent Scrutineer to oversee the referendum.

### **Decision Required**

To ratify the appointment of Jon Matthews as Returning Officer.