

Trustee Board
17th September 2007

Imperial College Union

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A note by Stephen Brown

Staffing report

Closed session business – verbal.

Finance Division update

I spoke with Hameed Khan last week and he confirmed that satisfactory progress is being made with the year end work and this is expected to be completed by October. He also indicated that he expected the Head of Finance to have completed a review of our financial procedures by the end of November. At this point the Union Executive will decide which of the recommendations they consider beneficial as the basis for a discussion on the future of our finance operation.

Regulatory issues

BWB have had a look at our new constitution and have suggested some minor changes which will clarify the relationship between the Trustee Board and other Union Committees. They have also provided us with an update of their work with the Charity Commission regarding Students' Unions. Their letter summarising this is attached to this report.

The DPFS and I have also identified an inconsistency in our finance regulations which can only be corrected by College Council. I have spoken with Jon Hancock who indicated he is happy with the temporary solution that the Executive Committee proposed. I will work with Jon during the Autumn term to make these minor tweaks to our governing documents so that they can be presented to College Council for ratification as a single item.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has been meeting on an as required basis over the summer. Constitutionally it is required to meet once a month and this obligation has been fulfilled. The only major allocation of Union Reserves that Exec have made since the last meeting is a £13,602 purchase of two awnings for Beit Quad. Sabbatical reports were accepted on behalf of Council last Thursday to provide the membership with an accountability trail of what the Deputy Presidents and I have been up to over the summer.

Nominations Committee

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Contact has been made with Mandy Hurford who is provisionally interested in one of the lay trustee positions. Unfortunately the majority of the people we have contacted over the past month have indicated that they are unable to fulfil this role. I believe that this method of recruitment is sub-optimal and intend to publicly advertise them over the next 2 weeks. Other Unions have proceeded in this fashion and I see no reason why ICU should not be able to follow their lead.

Health and Safety

The DPCS and DGM have completed ICU's annual health and safety report. The DPCS will be attending Colleges annual health and safety meeting on 27 September and the report is included as an agenda item for this meeting for approval.

Elections

Former DPFS Jon Matthews has been duly elected to the new position of GSA Chair. Whilst it was not ideal that we were having to run an election over the summer it was the best outcome that we could have had given the circumstances surrounding the initial election. I am pleased that this position has been filled as it means that there is an officer in place in time for new students arriving who is responsible for postgraduate provision.

Start of term arrangements

- The entertainment schedule has been finalised.
- ICU welcome packs are in the process of being sent out. This is a key opportunity to promote ICU to all incoming students.
- The organisation of freshers fayre is so far going according to plan.