

## **Council Chair's Report.** **A note by Mark Mearing-Smith**

### **Fifth Council**

Sabbatical, Faculty and Felix reports. GSA and Union Election timetables. NUS conference group, Resolution against Sanctions and War on Iran and the Constitution. The Guilds President did not submit a report.

The "Resolution against Sanctions and War on Iran" paper caused considerable debate with the view being that it was Ultra Vires, and fell.

Jon Matthews (DPFS 2006-7) submitted the Union's Constitution for approval. It fell and issue was submitted to Court who ruled that what happened was constitutional. Just in case the Court Chair hasn't explained I will. Before the Governance Review changes, if the union wanted to change it's constitution it must submit the changes twice to Council, which would then go on to College Council. Last year changes were made to the Constitution in between the readings, which were not flagged properly. Mr. Matthews believed that this meant that the constitutional changes were done un-constitutionally and therefore needed a second reading. Court ruled that the changes were not substantial enough to warrant a completely new set of reading.

### **Sixth Council**

Sabbatical reports, Court's determination on the Constitutional issue, Summer Ball group, NUS Higher Education amendment and variable teaching funding, UKFPO reform, Greening the NUS and Motion to Support Student Military Organisations recruiting at Imperial College. The Guild's President didn't submit a report, but gave a quick verbal one, after which he was asked to submit a written one for the next council.

Unlike other Student Unions there was strong support for the Student Military Organisation paper, compared to others that have banned them.

### **Seventh Council**

Sabbatical reports, Supporting Iranian Students, Higher Education Funding Policy, NUS delegate instructions, Student Media Regulations changes and The Guilds president report.

The Guild President's report was rejected, and council moved on to Censure him. He has since resigned.

An amended "Supporting Iranian Students" paper was passed. And parts of the Student Media Regulation changes were accepted.

### **Eighth Council**

Sabbatical, Faculty, Felix and RSM reports. NUS conference report, Council membership report, Restoring Union Status to RSM and a Court appointment.

The NUS report stated that the Union is going to reassess it's NUS membership.

The RSM paper fell by not reaching the 2/3rd mark. It called for the RSMCSC (Royal School of Mines Clubs and Societies Committee) to be changed to a CCU (Constituent and Campus Union) under the City and Guilds College Union. It would also rebranded Silwood and Wye campus Unions to CCUs. It also asked for the RSM president to have a permanent seat on Executive and a permanent representative on RWB, both of which were struck out before it fell. Council felt that this paper not properly consulted, seeing that it was prepared during the holidays. The proposers have gone away and are going to consult all affected parties then come back to Council.

This was a very heated debate with questions of privileges.

I have not been asked to do any other duties for the Union. Also I will not be able to Chair the last council of the year, so I will ask the Council Chair elect to chair it.