

Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) Report *A Report by Alistair Cott*

Introduction

I missed one week at the start of the handover month due to being away in the French Alps, two weeks after I got back Eric Lai left. However I had been given a thorough handover after my exams in June so I haven't been walking blindly into the role.

BUSA Invoices

The first task I found to do was paying outstanding BUSA entry fees from last year. By collecting everything the Union owed BUSA into one lump sum and taking off the double payment owed to the Union by BUSA everything got paid in time.

Freshers' Fair

The Freshers' Fair map is all but done with only the final draft for Felix needing to be done. The day will have all the same spaces as last years' Fair with the marquee taking the space of the Queen's Lawn and the stalls along the side of the library having been moved else where. I have organised to have 271 Union related stalls with many externals also coming. This year there a stage for clubs and societies to perform on, as of now I have had 14 requests for the use of this space. There is also a large number of larger equipment being brought to the Fair; examples of such are nets for Badminton and Volleyball, three boats and a rotating climbing wall. Having to find space for all these larger features and storage for them outside the day was quite a large job, but the plan will display the bigger features on it. During the day the Union building is only being used as the catering outlets, music being played in db's and NUS extra cards being given out in the Union's Dining Hall.

Over in the marquee I have been working closely with Jane Neary to open as many catering outlets and free samples on campus as possible, this would hopefully make the day more enjoyable by cutting queues.

Handbook

I wrote the forward for the section for the club and societies. The Freshers' handbook was designed and written well with the largest section being that of the clubs and societies.

New Clubs Committee

After having lots of requests from groups of people wanting to set up clubs, with some waiting since last year, I decided to create an interim New Clubs Committee to hear all their requests. An electronic nomination and voting process happened with Andrew Mason A&E Chair, Lily Topham SCC Chair, and Tristan Sherliker Guilds President being voted in to the committee. The committee met with five hopeful club candidates and decided to create four new clubs for Freshers' Fair. These were Indoor Hockey, Consultancy, Stop The War, and Medical Humanities. The unsuccessful club candidate was that of Gymnastics, there has been a lot of interest in this club and I expect it to be created once term has started. There was also interest in starting up six other clubs but it was felt that by the clubs that they couldn't gather the required signatures and interest in out of term time and so will wait until term has started. These were Liberal Democrats, Beaded Jewellery and Crafts, Boxing, Fishing, ICSM Table Tennis, 5-Aside Football.

Free Weights

Before building work commenced on the new Eastside Halls some equipment had to be removed for the store room beneath it. I had help from the Deputy President for Education and Welfare and we moved everything which was need over to the Sport Imperial offices in 14 Prince's Gardens.

Spanish Election

I got contacted by a concerned Spanish society member as the society did not have a committee for this year. So I initialised an election to vote in one in. Four people stood for the three positions available and electronic voting was used to elect the committee in. The successful candidates have now been told about their role and what trainings they have to go to before they can start running the society properly.

NUS Activities in Action

From the 14th to the 16th of August I was over in University of West England on a NUS training course. I believe that I learnt a lot about how other Unions' run their affairs and new ideas of how to move our Union forward.

BUSA London Division/ Inter Collegiate Sports Committee

I have recently been to the 1st meeting of each committee at ULU to discuss the various leagues and cups that the Union's sport clubs play in.

Position with the Union Gym

I have worked out how much it would cost the clubs which used the Gym last year to move into alternative venues with the Gym being out of action. There is some thought that the building project will not start until the start of next year and so whether moving clubs from the gym in the first term could be a waste of resources. The total for the first term use of alternative venues is calculated to be £7600. I am now working out when the start date of building will actually be.

Health and Safety Annual Report

Robin Pitt and I completed last years Health and Safety Annual Report for the meeting which is going to be on the 27th of September.

Clubs and Societies Bookings

I went to a meeting in the Conference office in College as they have slightly changed their rules concerning club and societies bookings within College. There will be no deposits for bookings and have updated the Food Safety/Hygiene regulations.