



MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
of the fourth ordinary meeting of
the
Council
of the
Imperial College Union
in the 2007-08 Session

The meeting of Union Council was held in the Union Building on 10th December 2007 at 18.33pm in the Union Dining Hall.

Present:

Council Chair	Mark Mearing – Smith
President	Stephen Brown
Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Alistair Cott
Deputy President (Education & Welfare)	Kirsty Patterson
Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Chris Larvin
ICSMSU President	Tim Wills
RCSU President	Jennifer Morgan
ACC Chair	Luke Taylor
A&E Chair	Andy Mason
RCC Chair	Eugene Chang
RSM President	Danny Hill
SCC Chair	Lily Topham
RAG Chair	Karandeep Dhanoa
Equal Opportunities Officer	Chiraush Patel
Welfare Campaigns Officer	Hannah Theodorou
RCSU Welfare Officer	Inger Eriksson
CGCU Academic Affairs Officer (Taught)	Alexander Grisman
RCSU Academic Affairs Officer (Taught)	Andreas Esau
CGCU Academic Affairs Officer (Research)	Eirini Spentza
ICSMSU Education Rep (4 and PG)	Laura Thomas (arrived 7pm)
CGCU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	John James
CGCU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	John O’Neil
CGCU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	Rosie Smithells
RCSU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	Jose Videria
RCSU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	Ryan Dee
CGCU ordinary member (Postgraduate)	Ashley Brown
ICSMSU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	Mark Chamberlain (arrived 7pm)
ICSMSU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	Alexander Walls

Permanent observers

Union Manager Peter Haldane

Observers: Andrew Somerville, Jon Matthews, Tom Roberts Felix Editor, Clerk to Council Peter Mabbott

Apologies: CGCU President Tristan Sherliker, OSC Chair Marie-Louisa Awolaja, ICSMSU Education Rep (123) Sukhpreet Dubb, Media Group Chair Karl Bonney, ICSMSU Welfare Officer – Mo Khaki, WCUS President Leila Serrao, RCSU ordinary member (Undergraduate) Shray Amar (proxy Jose Videna), ICSMSU ordinary member (Undergraduate) Olivia Kenyon

Not present: CAG Chair Radha Gadhok, CGGU Welfare Officer Sam Piper, ICSMSU Education Rep (56) Hannah Dixon,

1. CHAIR'S BUSINESS

- a) The Chair reminded members of the Council that they can proxy to any full member of the Union.
- b) The Chair noted that he would be standing down from the Chair during the Mascotry paper, since he had a conflict of interest.
- c) Although the Deputy President (Finance & Services) report should technically be 'Any Other Business' due to the late submission, it shall be considered in its usual place.

2. MINUTES

RECEIVED: Minutes from 19th November 2007

NOTED:

- a) The Chair has a hyphen in his name.
- b) Section 8a) of the Report of the Deputy President (Education & Welfare) should be clarified to explain that there was little interest in organising the event.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the minutes as amended.

It was agreed to reorder the agenda to consider agenda items 9 & 15 as the next items.

9. APPOINTMENT OF RWB REPRESENTATIVE TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

NOTED:

- a) Council moved to a vote and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To approve the appointment of Hannah Theodorou as a representative of Representation and Welfare Board to the Executive Committee.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 STUDENT TRUSTEE ELECTION

NOTED:

- a) The election was undertaken with the President acting as the Returning Officer.
- b) Nominations were taken from the floor.
- c) Andrew Somerville stood as the only candidate.
 - i. It was clarified that it is acceptable for CSC committee members to stand.
- d) Council were reminded that RON was also an option when casting their vote.
- e) Hustings took place for all positions and votes were cast by a rise of ballot card.
- f) The vote was unanimous and It was agreed to elect Andrew Somerville to the position

RESOLVED:

- 1) To elect Andrew Somerville as a Student Trustee to the Imperial College Union Trustee Board.

The agenda resumed normal ordering at this point.

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) As mentioned previously, meetings with College in regards to the position of writing up PhD students continues.
- b) It is anticipated that a Postgraduate and Faculty Union support coordinator will be in place by next term.
- c) The President clarified that there have been a slight change in application form for Harlington Trust funds that being a new section asking about applications for other sources of funding.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

5. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (CLUBS & SOCIETIES) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented on by the Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)

NOTED:

- a) The Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) clarified that 3, not 4 clubs were created by the New Clubs Committee.
 - i. The 2 other prospective clubs have now been formed; Knit Soc'k' and Music Technology.
- b) The Hyde Park Relay will again see the Union used as a hostel.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

6. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (EDUCATION & WELFARE) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented on by the Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

NOTED:

- a) Approximately £1000 was raised during SHAG week for various AIDS charities.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

7 DEPUTY PRESIDENT (FINANCE & SERVICES) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented on by the Deputy President (Finance & Services)

NOTED:

- a) The Deputy President (Finance & Services) apologised for the lateness of the report.
- b) The RCC Chair expressed concern that clubs had not been sent reminders about deadlines.
 - i. The Deputy President (Finance & Services) assured that reminders will be going out next week.
- c) Minibus charges are being set now so that clubs can budget for the changes.
 - i. The changes are being made in order to keep costs in line with inflation.

RESOLVED:

1) To accept the report.

8. ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY IMPLEMENTATION

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) Reusable cutlery and crockery will be consistently used by Union catering from next term after problems with suppliers have been dealt with.
- b) Managers have been requested to instruct staff on the correct usage of the crockery and cutlery.
- c) The Union is apparently on a water meter, but it is thought that Estates do not monitor this.
- d) The Tours Application Sheet is nearly finished to reflect the various travel subsidies.
- e) It was mentioned that a large number of reusable skiffs come out of the packaging broken.
 - i. It was pointed that the packaging that the disposable skiffs come in is excessive, which is ironic.
- f) The President invited those who experience or observe the non implementation of the policy to contact him and he would investigate.
- g) The dishwasher used by catering is very old, and seems to leave a salty aftertaste, but a replacement would be very expensive.
- h) Hannah Theodorou is currently liaising with Estates about getting recycling bins, but waste collection for the Union is tied to College, who have the power to make decisions.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the paper.**

10. LAY TRUSTEE APPOINTMENT

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) Council moved to a vote on accepting the paper and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the recommendation of the Nominations Committee and appoint Graham Howard as a Lay Trustee of Imperial College Union. His period of office shall terminate on August 1 2010.**

At this point, the agenda was reordered to consider agenda items 12, 13 and 14 as the next items of business.

12. RAG WEEK POLICY

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the RAG Chair

NOTED:

- a) The President was of the opinion that it was certainly worth trying to lobby College, but it isn't possible to do it this year, as lecture timetables are already set.
- b) It was suggested to amend Resolves 1) to read "To lobby college to suspend lectures on the Wednesday of RAG Week"
 - i. The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) expressed concern about a policy lobbying for fewer teaching hours.
 - ii. Council moved to vote on the amendment.

FOR: 16
AGAINST: 13

ABSTENSIONS: 0
Passes

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the paper as amended.
- 2) To lobby College to suspend lectures on the Wednesday of RAG Week

13. RAG REFORM POLICY

RECEIVED: The policy was presented by the RAG Chair

NOTED:

- a) The Deputy President (Finance & Services) noted that Imperial College has a very different structure compared to other universities due to the large number of clubs and societies it administrates.
 - i. He also stated that he constituted financial oversight.
- b) The Deputy President (Finance & Services) challenged Notes 2) on the basis of factual incorrectness
- c) The RAG Chair agreed to strike 'Union notes 2' from the paper.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To strike 'Union notes 2', from the policy.
 - d) The President expressed concern with the elision of "Charity" and "Demonstration based" clubs/societies, due to the rules governing fund raising for political entities.
 - i. The RAG Chair clarified that this was meant to denote entities such as Amnesty International.
 - e) The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) suggested that a better role for RAG would be as an advisory body, rather than a CSC.
 - f) Concern was expressed with the status of the paper as a policy, rather than discussion, paper which binds the Union for three years.
 - g) It was suggested that the RAG committee should have further discussions with other affected committees (especially the SCC) before bringing this paper to Council
 - h) The paper was withdrawn by the RAG Chair

14. MASCOT POLICY

The Council Chair resigned for the chair due to a conflict of interest with his position as Davy Bearer. The Chair was taken by the President.

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the RAG Chair

NOTED:

- a) Ryan Dee moved to not consider the paper.
- b) Council moved to vote on not to consider the paper.

FOR: 22
AGAINST: 0
ABSTENSIONS: 5
Passes

RESOLVED:

- 1) To not consider the paper.

The President resigned the chair, which was assumed by Mark Mearing-Smith

11. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY AMENDMENT

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

NOTED:

- a) It was agreed to amend the paper to include the word “unfair” immediately before the phrase “discrimination and free from harassment” in the first sentence, point 49 of the statement of intent.

RESOLVED:

1) Point 49 of the statement of intent to read

‘49. Imperial College Union is committed to providing services to its members which are accessible, free from unfair discrimination and free from harassment.’

- b) It was proposed to use the phrase “limit access” instead of “discriminate” in point 50 of the proposed policy.

- i. Council moved to a vote on this proposal.

FOR: 18

AGAINST: 6

ABSTENSIONS: 4

Passes

RESOLVED:

2) Point 50 of the statement of intent to read

‘50. Under limited circumstances it is necessary to limit access in order to provide services which are free from harassment.’

- c) It was agreed to strike the first comma in section 52 for grammatical reasons.
d) Council moved to vote on accepting the policy and It was agreed, with one abstention, to accept the paper.

RESOLVED:

3) To insert the following text into the Equal Opportunities Policy and renumber accordingly:

Lawful Discrimination

Statement of intent

49. Imperial College Union is committed to providing services to its members which are accessible, free from discrimination and free from harassment.

50. Under limited circumstances it is necessary to discriminate in order to provide services which are free from harassment.

Services that are single sex are deemed acceptable when:

51. The service is provided for reasons of privacy or decency and is meant to avoid serious embarrassment which would be caused if members of the opposite sex were present,

52. Services are provided by voluntary groups or charities, whose primary purpose is to provide services to one sex,

53. Services are offered by a religious organisation, to comply with the doctrines of that religion, within the bounds of UK law.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS - NONE

Meeting closed 19.50

Approved as a correct record at a meeting of Union Council

on _____ 2007/08

_____ Chair of the Meeting

