

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
of the sixth ordinary meeting of
the
Executive Committee
of the
Imperial College Union
in the 2008-2009 Session

The meeting of the Executive Committee was held in meeting room 7 of the
Union Building on the 29th January at 12.30pm.

Present:

President	Jennifer Morgan – Chair
Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Lily Topham
Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Christian Carter
Deputy President (Education & Welfare)	Hannah Theodorou
ICSMSU President	Mark Chamberlain
City and Guilds College Union President	Mark Mearing-Smith
RCSU President	David Charles
GSA Chair	Rhys Morgan
Clubs and Societies Board representative	Samuel Furse

Permanent Observers:

General Manager	Peter Haldane
Governance and Administration Co-ordinator – clerk	Rebecca Coxhead

Observers: OSC Chair Eugene Chang, OSC Secretary Alex Balikhin, Zizgham Afidi Pakistani Society Chair, SCC Chair Peter Mabbott

Apologies: Clubs and Societies Board representative Adam Baldwin, Representation and Welfare Board representative Tim Barrett (proxy Samuel Furse) , Representation and Welfare Board representative Kathryn Wright, Honorary Senior Treasurer Simon Archer

1. CHAIRS BUSINESS - none

2. MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

RECEIVED: The minutes from 15th January 2009

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the minutes as a true and correct record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

NOTED:

- a) In regards to the 3% retrospective discount that was in the August accounts for the South Kensington bars, the Deputy President (Finance & Services) report that this was due to a deal with Carlsberg and suppliers have now been changed.

At this point the agenda was changed to consider agenda item 5 as the next item.

5. PAKISTANI SOCIETY TOUR PROPOSAL APPEAL

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the OSC Chair

NOTED:

- a) The tour application was originally rejected by Clubs and Societies Board due to the proposal not fulfilling the core aims and objections of the society.
- b) The OSC Chair stated that in his opinion the tour policy needs more discussion and interpretation in how this can be applied to social clubs.
 - i. The Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) agreed that it is a grey area in regards to the core aims and objectives of social/overseas clubs as they tend to focus on a welfare aspect as well as education people about their culture.
- c) Another overseas societies tour application was approved at the last meeting of the Clubs and Societies Board and this was due to the proposal showing that the tour was going to be a cultural exchange and it specified aims that meet the clubs more aims and objectives which the board deemed the Pakistani tour application not to have.
- d) The social aspect of clubs becomes more important within cultural clubs.
- e) The SCC chair stated that the Clubs and Societies policy stipulates that no Club or Society can have the same aims and objectives.
- f) The Pakistani Society Chair stated that his club should be a platform to allow its members to explore the country of which they are now residing during their time studying at Imperial College.
 - i. It was questioned if the tour would then be restricted to overseas Pakistani students only.
- g) The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) stated that the International Office relies on the Union to provide social support for its overseas students.
 - i. The SCC Chair stated that it is the Unions obligation to help integrate international students but 'Tours' are not necessarily the correct way of doing so.
- h) The OSC Chair stated that a 'one size' tours policy does not fit to all situations and it should perhaps be looked at being changed to reflect the differing situations.
 - i. It was pointed that this creates a double standard.
- i) It was suggested that the Tours policy be taken to Court for an interpretation of this situation.
 - i. The Deputy President (Finance & Services) stated that this will inhibit the processing of the other applications as money can not be allocated until the Court determination has been heard.
 - ii. The RCSU President stated that this would set a dangerous precedent if Court was then to decide on Tour applications appeals.
- j) The OSC Chair stated that as being RCC Chair last year and now OSC, he can appreciate the vast differences in the activity based clubs and overseas clubs.
 - i. It was pointed that overseas clubs are not necessarily about teaching their culture, its also learning about the culture of Britain.
- k) The Deputy President (Finance & Services) stated that the tours allocation fund is grant money that is not able to be used to fund social activity.
- l) The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) suggested that the Pakistani Society tour be funded from the Executive Committee reserve.
 - i. The Deputy President (Finance & Services) stated that Clubs and Societies will then see the Executive Committee reserve as an alternative tours pot.
- m) It was suggested that the Clubs and Societies Policy needs to be looked at but this should be a job of Clubs and Societies Board.
- n) It was suggested that essentially this tour equates to funding tourism for an OSC; a jolly for the club.
- o) The President stated that the committee will decide on the appeal but perhaps the tours policy should be taken to court for interpretation for future reference.
- p) The SCC Chair stated that he is taking a paper to CSB in regards to Tours.
- q) The committee moved to a vote to approve the appeal

FOR	2
AGAINST	6
ABSTAIN	1
Falls	

ACTION:

1. The President to forward to policy on to Court for interpretation.

The agenda returned to normal ordering at this point

4. HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT

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

NOTED:

- a) The majority of incidents within commercial services were due to alcohol.
- b) As usual, not all incidents are reported.
- c) The Union will be reporting to the next meeting of College Health and Safety committee.

6. UNION BUILDING PROJECT – PHASE 2

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) Currently the building work is £600k under budget due to the work becoming cheaper.
- b) College have told the Union that they can afford to contribute more to the works due to out trading profit.
 - i. The Union Finance Manager has confirmed that this is feasible.
- c) It was confirmed that there will be no effect on Clubs and Societies funding.
- d) The Deputy President (Finance & Services) stated that the Union is very cash rich.
- e) The committee were asked to decide on whether to fund the £284k which is half the cost.
 - i. There were no objections and it was resolved.

RESOLVED:

1) To increase the Union contribution to phase 2 of the building project to £284, 000.

- f) The committee were asked to decide on whether funds should be spent on costing the strip out the current Union offices (1st floor East) and prepare them as a basic activity space (Stage 2).
 - i. There were no objections and it was resolved.

RESOLVED:

2) To approve the costing of the strip out the current Union offices (1st floor East) and prepare them as a basic activity space (Stage 2).

Meeting closed 1.30pm

Approved as a correct record at a meeting
of the Executive Committee on

_____ 2008/09

_____ Chair of the Meeting