



Presented to Exec Committee 2nd April 2009

ICSMSU CONSTITUTION

1. Name

The name of the Faculty Union of Imperial College Union referred to in this constitution shall be "Imperial College School of Medicine Students' Union", hereinafter referred to as the "Union"

The School was created by the bringing together, by Act of Parliament, Charing Cross and Westminster Medical School, The National Heart and Lung Institute, the Royal Postgraduate Medical School and St. Mary's Hospital Medical School into the single entity of Imperial College School of Medicine on the first day of August in the year *anno Domini* one thousand, nine hundred and ninety seven. The Union was formed from the constituent unions of these schools.

The Union and its recognised clubs and societies may use the name and shield of the Imperial College School of Medicine and the arms of Imperial College in their titles and in the pursuit of their activities, but may not assign the privilege to any other individual or group. In using the name and arms, the Union and its clubs and societies shall have due regard for College Regulations and the School's and the College's status and reputations.

2. Status

2.1 The Union shall be a Faculty Union of Imperial College Union.

3. Aims and Objects

3.1 The Aims and Objects of the Union shall be:

3.1.1 The furtherance of the academic, welfare, sporting and social interests of the students of the Faculty of Medicine

3.1.2 The encouragement, promotion and support of the clubs and societies of the Union

3.1.3 To represent the needs and interests of its members to the Faculty of Medicine, Imperial College, Imperial College Union, and external bodies.

4. Membership

4.1. The categories of membership of the Union shall be Full, Honorary and Life.

4.2 Full Members

4.2.1 All full-time registered students of the Imperial College Faculty of Medicine are ipso facto Full Members of the Union

4.2.2 Any student shall have the right not to be a member of the Union and to signify that he or she does not wish to be represented by it. Such a person shall enjoy all the facilities and amenities of the Union, but may not participate in the governance of the Union, including, voting or standing for election. Any person opting out of membership of the Imperial College Union is deemed to have opted out of membership of the Union.

4.3 Honorary Members

4.3.1 Honorary Membership is awarded by the Union to those persons deemed to have served the Union in a positive manner. Union policy shall define the terms under which persons are elected to Honorary Membership.

4.4 Life Members

4.4.1 The election of Honorary Life Membership shall be by simple majority of the Executive Committee. Honorary Life Members need not pay any annual subscription, and shall have the same privileges as Full Members save the right to participate in the government of the Union.

5. Affiliation

5.1 The Union and its clubs and societies shall have the right to affiliate to any organisation which furthers the aims and objects of the Union, subject to a resolution being passed at the Executive Committee or the club's or society's committee, as appropriate.

5.2 The Union shall not affiliate to any organisation of a political or religious nature, though its clubs and societies are free to do so. Neither the Union nor any club or society shall knowingly affiliate to any organisation engaged in illegal activities.

6. Officers of the Union

6.1 The Officers of the Union shall be listed in Regulation 1.

6.2 The duties, obligations and responsibilities of the Officers of the Union shall be listed in Regulation 1.

6.3 Officers shall be elected in accordance with Regulation 2.

6.4 The Union shall provide for the censure and dismissal of Officers of the Union under Regulations stipulated in the ICU Constitution.

6.5 Officers of the Union and any other position in the Union shall hold a period of office from August 1st in the year in which they are appointed until July 31st the following year.

7. General Meetings

7.1 General meetings are the sovereign body of the Union.

7.2 General Meetings of the Union shall be categorised as Ordinary, Emergency and Annual

7.3 All General Meetings shall:

7.3.1 have a quorum of fifty members,

7.3.2 be chaired by the President of the Union,

7.3.3 permit all Full Members of the Union to participate in any aspect of the meeting,

7.3.4 speak for the Union and mandate its Officers,

7.3.5 be entitled to hold all Union officials, clubs and societies to account, and exercise any other authority given to it by regulations or policy.

7.4 Ordinary General Meetings shall;

7.4.1 be held once per term and additionally as necessary with at least ten college days notice,

7.4.2 receive reports from the President and other officers and committees that it requires,

7.4.3 be entitled to refer back or overrule any decision or policy of the Executive or other committee of the Union, and

7.4.4 discuss and rule on any matter.

7.5 Emergency General Meetings shall:

7.5.1 be convened upon request of:

- a) The President
- b) The Executive
- c) General Meeting
- d) Fifty Full Members of the Union, or
- e) A candidate or Officer appealing against disqualification or dismissal, as prescribed in regulations or policy,

7.5.2 shall be held between two and five college days of being called,

7.5.3 discuss only those matters that it was called to debate

7.5.4 be entitled to refer back or overrule any decision or policy of the Executive or other committee of the Union, so long as it is within the matter of debate.

8. Executive Committee

8.1 The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the general management of the Union and prescribing Union policy, subject to the direction of General Meeting

8.2 The Executive Committee shall be convened and chaired by the President or his or her nominee at least every three weeks during term time. Composition shall be the fifteen Officers elected from the entire Faculty with quorum of eight members.

8.3 An emergency meeting of the Committee can be called by

- a) The President,
- b) Three of its members
- c) General Meetings, or
- d) Twenty Full Members of the Union

8.4 The Executive Committee shall meet once per year for reviewing the constitution and other rules governing the Union

8.5 The President may act on behalf of the Executive Committee, provided that these actions are reported at its next meeting.

8.6 The Executive Committee may act on behalf of a General meeting in matters of urgency, provided that these actions are reported to and reviewed by the General Meeting at its next meeting.

9. Committees of the Union

9.1 The standing committees of the Union shall be

- a) RAG Committee
- b) Summer Ball Committee
- c) Shrove Tuesday Final Year Dinner Committee
- d) Reynolds Bar Committee
- e) Clubs and Societies Committee
- f) Colours Committee
- g) Halfway Dinner Committee
- h) [Entertainments Committee](#)
- i) [ICSM Alumni Committee](#)
- j) [Education Committee](#)

9.2 General Meeting, the Executive Committee and other committees may establish and dissolve sub-committees and may delegate any powers to them or individuals save that such establishment or delegation shall not affect the rights, powers and responsibilities of any other committee.

9.3 The President is an ex-officio voting member of all Union Committees.

9.4 Standing Orders for the committees are prescribed in Regulation 3.

10. Clubs and Societies of the Union

- 10.1 The Union shall establish clubs and societies in advancing its Aims and Objects.
- 10.2 Clubs and Societies shall be managed by their committees under their constitutions, which shall not contradict this constitution or its Regulations of Policy.
- 10.3 Any full member of Imperial College Union is entitled to join any Club or Society of the Union.
- 10.4 Any full member may stand for election to its committee.
- 10.5 A new club or society may be started by submission in writing by twenty Full Members of the Union stating its Aims and Objects of the new club or society. The new club or society shall be formed by the approval of its constitution by majority vote of the Clubs and Societies Committee. The Executive Committee and then the New Clubs Committee of ICU must ratify this.

11. The Financial Responsibility of the Union.

- 11.1 The President is ultimately responsible to the President of Imperial College Union through the ICU Deputy President (Finance and Services) for the finances of the Union.
- 11.2 All constituent parts of the Union shall comply with the ICU Financial Regulations and Procedures.
- 11.3 There shall be at least one Honorary Senior Treasurer of the Union who shall oversee the financial management of the Union on behalf of the college, and shall bring any possible anomalies or discrepancies in financial management of the Union to the attention of the President.
- 11.4 The Honorary Senior Treasurer shall be appointed from the academic staff of the Faculty of Medicine by the Imperial College Union Council on the joint nomination of the Principal of the Faculty of Medicine and the President of the Union.
- 11.5 The Union shall produce annual budget submissions for itself and its clubs and societies to be submitted to Imperial College Union in line with the timetable set by the Student Activities Committee of ICU.

12. Constitution and Interpretation

- 13.1 Status and amendments
- 13.1.1 This constitution is bound by the Constitution of Imperial College Union.
- 13.1.2 This constitution binds the Union in its entirety, including the clubs and societies.
- 13.1.3 Amendments to this constitution shall be proposed by Executive Committee at two successive meetings between three and five weeks apart. General Meeting

may request that it approves any proposal. The Principal of the Faculty of Medicine shall approve any amendments, which shall be as valid as this constitution.

13.1.4 This constitution overrules Union regulations, which overrule Union policy, which overrules clubs and society constitutions and any other committee or individual.

13.2 Policy

13.2.1 Policy is established by the Executive Committee subject to direction given by General Meeting.

13.2.2 Policy shall be re-presented by the President every three years to the Executive for re-approval, otherwise it shall lapse.

13.2.3 Policy shall be kept by the President and shall be freely available to any member of Imperial College Union.

13.3 Interpretation

13.3.1 In the event of an interpretation being sought for this constitution, its regulations or policies, the President shall make a ruling, which shall be reported to the Executive and recorded in the minutes. Precedent shall provide a basis for future interpretations.

13.3.2 Where an interpretation involves the Constitution of Imperial College Union, and the matter is not resolved, it shall be referred to Imperial College Union.

13.4 Revocation

13.4.1 This Constitution shall supersede all previous Constitutions

The Imperial College School of Medicine Students' Union Constitution is Approved by:

Professor Stephen Smith

Date

Principal of the Faculty of Medicine
Imperial College London

Mr Mark Chamberlain

Date

Deleted: Timothy Wills

ICSM Students' Union President

2008-9

Deleted: 2007 – 2008