

Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) Report *A Report by Lily Topham*

Freshers' Fair

This happened on Tues 7th Oct, and my thanks to everyone who helped – especially the CSC/FU Execs who turned up at 7:30am to help set up, manned the Information Stall, looked after different locations during the day and helped tidy up. It was one of the most successful Fairs we've ever had and everyone who came seemed to have lots of fun. A good relationship was maintained with Security, the Fire Officers and College Electricians during the day (apart from a few minor incidents which were quickly resolved) which is promising.

Due to the weather forecast for Tuesday 7th, the Wet Weather Plan was implemented for the day which moved clubs from Queen's Lawn and Upper Dalby Court to Tanaka Foyer, JCR and the Union Building. When the plan was rolled out on the Monday, plans were put on the Union website, a link on the College website, in the Union Reception, Student Activities Centre, Student Hub, Ethos Reception and an email went out to all students. There was an Information Stall in Beit Quad on the day distributing maps and orientation advice. Despite the general lack of rain on the Tuesday the plans seemed to work well, especially considering the near-gale-force winds on Upper Dalby Court, with both Union and College locations very busy all day. A special thanks to Paddy Jackman and Jane Neary for saving the Wet Weather Plans at the last minute.

Freshers' Fair Afterparty

This ran for the first time directly after Freshers' Fair from 4:30pm on the stage in the Union Marquee. Its aim was to bolster the number of people coming to the Union after Freshers' Fair, provide a showcase for Clubs & Societies which they could advertise during the Fair and create a celebratory environment for students and particularly Clubs & Societies after the biggest Clubs & Societies event of the year.

The stagershow and the night itself was a great success. The show included the following clubs: Chamber Choir, Musical Theatre Society, String Ensemble, Dance Company, Classical Guitar, Gospel Choir, Afro-Caribbean, Hindu, Funkology, Capoeira, Dance Club, Music Technology, Jazz & Rock and was brilliantly compered by student Billy Feenan and teched by Dramsoc. All my thanks and congratulations to all involved and to Malcom and the Ents and Stewarding teams who helped the night run smoothly. Again, there was a great atmosphere all night, people said there was a great community feeling, it was a great chance for Clubs & Societies to show what they can do, and it was also a commercial success as the bar takings show: £7261.64 this year compared to 3501.76 in 2007.

I would highly recommend something similar to happen next year.

Clubs & Societies Introductory Talk

A talk was held for all Clubs & Societies on the first Monday of term in the Great Hall. All club Chairs, Treasurers and Secretaries were invited though the invitation was extended to any other committee members with a maximum of 3 per club.

The talk was aimed to give clubs an overview of the year ahead, let them meet and see the other 300-odd clubs in the Union, be introduced to all the CSC/FU Execs, the Sabbaticals and Union staff, update clubs on the Beit Redevelopment, give a quick brief about Freshers' Fair (including the wet plan, Health & Safety, and the need to be considerate), distribute the Club & Society Year Packs and introduce them to the Clubs & Societies Officers' Handbook and wiki. Around 600 people attended and the talk was a great success – the feedback which I've received was that it was informative and was particularly nice to see all the other clubs in the Union and had a good 'Clubs & Socs' atmosphere. My thanks to Ian Gillett (College Head of Health & Safety who gave a quick talk), all those who helped out and who turned up to be introduced!

I would also strongly recommend that this is repeated in the future. If anyone has more feedback on the session please do get in touch.

Clubs & Societies Officers' Handbook and wiki

Over the summer, myself, Christian and other CSC/FU Chairs have been working on putting together this Handbook and wiki. They are a compendium of all knowledge which club officers might find useful in running their Club or Society. They contain the Finance Manual, Documentation details, Contact Details of staff and CSC/FUs, Room Bookings, Running Events, the Workbench Manual, Tours and so much more. There are many Handbooks available for people to pick up in the Student Activities Centre.

The wiki has all the information contained on the Handbook as well as more things which were not able to fit. Anyone with a College login is able to login (personal logins only), edit the wiki and pass on any pearls of wisdom they may have. We are hoping to make the wiki not just an online version of the Handbook but an indispensable tool for Clubs & Societies, e.g. with a 'Useful Suppliers List' etc.

Please encourage Clubs & Societies to use both the Handbook and the wiki and to pass on any feedback on to me so we can improve both.

Club & Societies Year Packs

All Clubs & Societies and CSC/FU Execs have a Year Pack containing Documentation, the Clubs & Societies Officers' Handbook, Finance forms and the Student Activities Centre business card. These are to be filled by incumbent committees with useful and relevant club-related things and passed on to future committees as part of the handover process, and is our way of trying to persuade people to ensure some continuity between years.

The Packs have been labelled and were distributed to the clubs who were present at the Introductory Talk by their relevant CSC/FUs. The clubs who were not present will receive their Year Packs from their relevant CSC/FU Execs at their next meetings.

There will be provision for new clubs set up during the year as well.

Club Training

Christian, Phil Power, Alissa Ayling, Rebecca Coxhead and myself have been giving training sessions for officers unable to make last term's sessions. There are two more weeks of training to go.

New Clubs Committee

The interim New Clubs Committee composed of CGCU President Mark Mearing-Smith (Chair), ICSMSU President Mark Chamberlain and SCC Chair Peter Mabbott met on 10th September. Filipino Martial Arts (ACC) and Asian Medical Students' Association (ICSMSU) were set up and duly got tables at Freshers' Fair.

Beit Redevelopment and Space

I have been working with Phil Power and Peter Haldane to rehouse various club stores and manage the effects of the building works on clubs. Snooker club will unfortunately lose one of their rooms for this term. Other club stores which have been affected since last term due to recent developments are MTSoc, Dramsoc and Cinema. Rooms which will be affected for the foreseeable future are the Union Dining Hall which has a wall in it and the Union Concert Hall which will have the Concert Hall chairs stored in it due to loss of large parts of both Dramsoc and Cinema stores. There is currently no spare storage capacity, so clubs will have to think very carefully if they are planning to purchase new equipment.

OSC Elections

We have now got an OSC Exec who are very promising and I have high hopes for an SCC-style resurgence of the OSC this year. The committee are: Chair: Eugene Chang, Treasurer: Alexander Balikhin, Secretary: Heng Lee, Assistant Treasurer: Andrew Holland. The OSC Exec will be holding an EGM to elect their International Night Co-ordinator imminently.

Health & Safety Consultation Meeting

On Fri 10th Oct I attended this meeting which recommended that Health & Safety be reported more frequently across College meetings.

Healthy Living Week

I have been working with the DPEW, Sport Imperial and Union and College Catering on this week which will run from 3rd Nov-7th Nov across campus. It is aimed at getting people across campus taking part in healthy activities, including sports, as well as taking healthy options in their day-to-day lives, e.g. healthy food. Our Clubs & Societies are getting involved by having free try-out sessions for all in a mixture of venues, including Upper Dalby Court, Hyde Park and Ethos. Clubs currently involved are: Boat, Dance, Capoeira, Indoor Hockey, Floorball, Table Tennis, Fencing, Netball, Handball, Kung Fu, and possibly Rugby, Gaelic Football and Mountaineering. Hopefully lots of students will get involved in the week.

Leave

I have been on annual leave from 1st – 4th July and 28th July – 8th Aug.