

Imperial College Union  
**Deputy President (Finance & Services) Report**  
*A Note by Christian Carter*  
*Deputy President (Finance & Services)*

**Handover and Training**

For the month of the July I received a very useful Handover going over the day to day operations of my job with my predecessor, my thanks to Chris Larvin for this. Along with the other incoming Sabbs I attended all the Handover meetings and training sessions. The two day training session as Wye proved particularly useful and acted as good means to get to know all the other incoming senior officers. The ULU training weekend at Royal Holloway proved valuable in gaining contacts throughout other London Universities.

**Audit**

Throughout August and September I have been reviewing various drafts of our Year End Accounts and working with the Finance Department to improve them. The auditors have presented the accounts to the Executive Committee last week, offering praise for the development of the Union's accounting procedures over the last two years. The accounts are still subject to inspection by the Union's Audit Committee and the Trustee Board before being presented to the College Audit Committee for their scrutinization.

**Summer Ball**

I attended the 'wrap up' meetings with various college departments during July to assess how last years ball went from their point of view and received very positive feedback. Internal planning and budgeting for next years ball has already begun. I will be looking to hold a working group to review how last years ball went from the students' perspective and to throw around ideas for this years ball. The first meeting will be scheduled in early to mid November. Please email [dps@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:dps@imperial.ac.uk) if you are interested in sitting on this group.

**Clubs and Societies**

The Finance Manual has been included within the new Clubs and Societies Officers' Handbook this year. It is also available as a separate document on the website at [imperialcollegeunion.org/forms](http://imperialcollegeunion.org/forms)

The new Transaction Pages are now available and can be found at <https://workbench.union.ic.ac.uk/finance/transactions.php> They now offer a much more friendly user interface, with the addition of a "three dimensional" summary box for comparison purposes. They also offer live, up to the minute data, directly from our accounting software.

Over the summer we have seen the addition of three new Honorary Senior Treasurers; Richard Murphy, Christos Papavassiliou and Carol Jovanovic who is based at Wye. In September I ran an introductory meeting/training session for all the HSTs. The session was well attended and went down extremely well amongst the HSTs, it was advised that the meeting become an annual occurrence.

Finance training sessions have begun again. I have given three sessions so far this month with an aim to deliver two more during October.

Despite the deepening economic crisis, clubs are still managing to nail down sponsorship deals. To date there have been 46 sponsorship deals which average nearly £1500 each. The need to bring Clubs and Societies admin online is ever increasing and it is my aim to start with the introduction of an online budgeting process this year.

### **Vans**

The Union has recently purchased four new fifteen seater minibuses; this is in addition to the four purchased the year before and one slightly older nine seater. We therefore currently service nine functional minibuses at South Kensington and an additional even older seventeen seater at Silwood. There are imminent plans to buy a new fifteen seater for Silwood to replace the current almost un-roadworthy van.

### **Commercial Services**

Da Vincis and dB's have both seen a refurbishment which has transformed the atmosphere of both bars. The old décor was in much need of touching up and the new look is intended to last until Phase 3 of the Beit Redevelopment is implemented. We have also replaced fridges, ovens and other catering equipment that was not fit for purpose.

The bar prices, regrettably, have had to be raised by roughly ten percent this summer in order to accommodate inflation and rising cost prices. We have managed to keep most of the popular ales at the same price as last year. Despite the raise, the new prices are still amongst the cheapest of the London Student Union's and the surrounding area.

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