

President 's report - A note by Jenny Morgan

Election Results

I'd like to welcome the following ordinary council members who have been elected in the recent elections and the new GSA chair to Council.

John James representing CGCU UG with three still to elect. Najette Ayadi O'Donnell, Albert Poon and Salman Waqar representing ICSMU UG. Sammi Elfituri, Nida Harwood and Christopher Gibbs representing RCSU with one still to elect. Ali Mozaffari representing non faculty. Rhys Morgan is the new GSA Chair and Jenny Lim is the new secretary.

The new Student Trustees on Trustee Board are Ravi Pall and Ton Van Den Bremer.

So my congratulations to everyone! We will be electing the remaining positions available in a by election at this Council meeting.

Widening Participation

I am working with Robin Pitt (who received a national award for a project he started at Goldsmiths which was working with Young Offenders) on making ties with the College Outreach department and also to come up with our own WP project which might involve a one day event for schools in the surrounding deprived areas. It looks like funding might be available to have a one day festival towards the end of the year involving as many clubs and socs as possible.

Silwood

Following our visit to Silwood in October I have been working with Paddy Jackman, the Head of College Commercial Services to have vending machines installed for them as the refectory closes at 2 and there are no shops so they need some refreshments down there for those who aren't in halls. Those will be installed in December. Unfortunately it will not be possible to get a cash machine down there, the figures do not add up. Hannah has been working on accommodation troubles with Sharine Brown, Head of Residences and the idea of moving an accommodation office down to Silwood has been received warmly. We are still awaiting confirmation of some funds going towards prettying up the social room down there.

Wye

Myself, Lily and Phil will be going to Wye on Wednesday 19th November to see if there's anything we can help with down there in their final year as belonging to Imperial College.

RCA and RCM

On Thursday 6th November I had dinner at the Houses of Parliament with Marcus Lanyon (RCA President) and Mary Kelly (RCM President) hosted by Prof Lord Robert Winston. RW is the new Chairman of RCM and one of his little jobs is to get us to work collaboratively.

Sabbatical Roles

I would really appreciate your feedback on splitting education and welfare into two separate sabbatical roles.

Knightsbridge Association Law & Order Meeting

Last week I attended this neighbourhood watch meeting and met our local Police. Crime is reducing in our area which is fantastic. Priority is being given to looking into bike theft and bike safety. An alarming number of dogs are being killed in the Royal Parks by people illegally cycling on the walkways. Police Officers, who can legally ride their bikes in the Royal Parks, are especially keen to solve this problem.

NUS Extraordinary Conference 12 November 2008

Seven delegates (Rikki Norris, Alice Rowlands, Joseph Lees, Tim Barrett, Ali Mozaffari, John O'Loughlin and myself), went to Wolverhampton Civic Hall, free of charge, to decide on the new constitution of the NUS. These reforms did not pass at the last annual conference because it narrowly missed the two thirds majority required. ICU was one of the Unions that proposed the reforms and so it was important for us to go the extraordinary conference that had been called to discuss the reforms in particular whilst we are still members. (We are members until the end of the academic year as confirmed by College Solicitors.)

Reforms passed this time with a clear two thirds majority, but they still have to be ratified, either at another EC or the next annual conference, they also have to be put into action.