

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
of the third ordinary meeting of  
the  
**Council**  
of the  
Imperial College Union  
in the 2008-2009 Session

The meeting of the Council was held in the Union Dining Hall on the 17<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at 6.40pm.

**Present:**

ICU Council Chair	Afonso Campos
ICU President	Jennifer Morgan
ICU DP (C&S)	Lily Topham
ICU DP (E&W)	Hannah Theodorou
ICU DP (F&S)	Christian Carter
C&GCU President	Mark Mearing-Smith
ICSMSU President	Mark Chamberlain
RCSU President	David Charles
A&E Chair	Rachael D'oliveiro
ACC Chair	Sam Furse
Media Group Chair	Amar Joshi
OSC Representative	Alex Balhikin
RCC Chair	Jennifer Wilson
RSM President	Adam Baldwin
SCC Chair	Peter Mabbott
CAG Chair	Christoph Aymanns
RAG Chair	Jon Downing
ICU Equal Ops Officer	Bhavesh Patel
ICU Welfare Campaigns Officer	Tim Barrett
ICSMSU Welfare Officer	Kathryn Wright
RCSU Welfare Officer	Edward Poynton
C&GU Academic Affairs Officer (Taught)	Alexander Grisman
ICSMSU year 4 & Research Rep	Alex Walls
<b>Permanent observers</b>	
Union Manager	Peter Haldane
Governance and Administration Co-ordinator (Clerk to Council)	Rebecca Coxhead

**Observers:** Jovan Nedic Felix Editor, OCS Chair Eugene Chang, **Apologies:** ICSMSU Education Rep 356 Strachan Mackenzie,

**Not present:** ICSMSU Education Rep 12 Anil Chopra, RCSU Academic Affairs (Taught) Oliver Rogers, Silwood Park Chair Muhammad Tariq, WCUS President Wubetu Alemayehe

## 1. BY ELECTION TO UNION COUNCIL

### NOTED:

- a) The by elections were for as follows:
  - Natural Sciences Undergraduate Ordinary Members – 1 position
  - Engineering Undergraduate Ordinary Members – 3 positions
- b) The President was the Returning Officer and the Felix Editor was RON for all elections.
- c) Hustings took place for all positions and votes were cast by paper ballot and processed as STV.
- d) No one stood for the position of Natural Sciences Undergraduate Ordinary Member.
- e) In regards to the Engineering Undergraduate Ordinary Members election:
  - i. The candidates were Rikki Norris, Lawrence Weetman and Owen Connick.
  - ii. All candidates were duly elected.

### RESOLVED:

- 1) **To elect Rikki Norris, Lawrence Weetman and Owen Connick as the Engineering Undergraduate Ordinary Members.**

## 2. CHAIRS BUSINESS

### NOTED:

- a) The chair reminded all Council members of the Constitutional requirement that Councillors must 'think before voting'.
- b) The recently elected Ordinary Members of Council were informed of regulation 6. B. 31, 'automatic resignation of non ex-officio members who fail to attend or send apologies to the committee to 2 consecutive meetings, the members are then deemed to have resigned.

## 3. MINUTES – 13<sup>th</sup> October 2008

### NOTED:

- a) The Chair wished to clarify the following points in regards to agenda item 10 – Campaign to let Zohair Abu Shaban study at Imperial College.
  - i. In regards to point 10. c. i. The chair clarified that it was not his opinion that the paper was ultra vires, it was that the issue was raised to him rather than it being in his opinion.
  - ii. In regards to point 10.h, the Chair pointed out that he will support any paper coming to Council; he is at all times unbiased as per the role description of Council Chair

### RESOLVED:

- 1) **To accept the amended minutes as true and correct.**

## 4. MATTERS ARISING – none

***At this point it was proposed that the agenda be changed to consider agenda items 8 & 9 as the next items of business. This was unanimously accepted.***

## 8. INTERNATIONAL OFFICER - CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

### NOTED:

- a) The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) amended the name of the Officer to 'International Student Officer' to differentiate between a College International Officer and the Union.
- b) The Officer will represent all non home students.

- c) The presented paper allows any student to stand and vote for this position.
  - i. Concern was raised in regards to someone who is not interested in the position will stand for the wrong reasons such as 'CV points'.
  - ii. The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) suggested that democracy will prevent this from occurring.
  - iii. The Deputy President (Finance & Services) stated that is anyone can stand for the position it makes sense that anyone can vote.
  - iv. The OSC Chair stated the European students had expressed concern to him in that they would be able to stand but not able to vote if the voting was restricted to non home and non EU students.
- d) The section o the Constitution where this would be added would be Regulation 4, Election regulations.
  - i. The SCC Chair requested clarification on exactly where in the Constitution that this would be added.
  - ii. The CGCU President suggested adding a definition as to what an International Student is.
- e) The OSC Chair stated that the Isle of Man and Channel Islands are a grey area for those who are EU or home students.
- f) Council moved to a vote on the eligibility on who can stand for the position.
  - i. Council voted on 'only members of the Union who are non UK only are able to stand for the position' the numbers for the vote are as follows

FOR	9
AGAINST	19
ABSTAIN	2
Failed	

- g) Once it was established that there is no restriction on who can stand, it was proposed to move to vote on the eligibility on who can vote for the position.
  - i. Council voted on 'eligibility to vote for the International Officer will be restricted to non EU members' numbers for the vote are as follows

FOR	17
AGAINST	13
ABSTAIN	0
Passed.	

- h) Council moved to vote on the paper as a whole with amendments. Vote as follows.

FOR	24
AGAINST	5
ABSTAIN	1
Passed.	

#### RESOLVED:

- 1) To create an International Officer who shall:
  - a. Be responsible for those issues which specifically relate to International Students and organise relevant educational and training events and briefings, and report accordingly,
  - b. Facilitate an International Students Forum,
  - c. Support International Student involvement in Union and College activities,
  - d. Be responsible to the Deputy President (Education and Welfare) for the research and implementation of campaigns relating to International Students,
  - e. Sit on appropriate Union Committees,
  - f. Represent the Union's views on the relevant College Committees,
  - g. Carry out such duties as may, from time to time, be laid down by the Council or the Executive Committee.
- 2) To amend Union Committee membership to include the International Officer on Council and Representation and Welfare Board.
- 3) That any member of the Union may stand for the position of International Officer.
- 4) Eligibility to vote for the International Officer will be restricted to non EU members'

## 9. POSTGRADUATE STUDENT REPRESENTATION- CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

NOTED:

- a) The knock on change to the Faculty Union and GSA Constitutions will go to Executive Committee.
- b) The current structure of Union representatives don't match that of college and thus a gap is created.
- c) This essentially removes the AAO Research reps from CGCU and RCSU and creates new Postgraduate representatives who are responsible within the GCEPS and GCLSM divisions.
  - i. It was stated that the reps will still be a part of the Faculty Union however.
- d) It was questioned as to where Postgraduate students would now go with issues as in the past they have gone to the Deputy President (Education & Welfare) and do they now go to the GSA
  - i. The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) stated that she will work on the wider issues and that the Postgraduate representative will deal with the minor issues.
- e) The ACC Chair stated that he prefers the current structure where engineers represent engineers, scientist represent scientist and the likes.
  - i. The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) stated that historically these positions have not consistently been filled which is what is occurring presently.
- f) The Deputy President (Finance & Services) pointed that there are different needs to taught Postgraduates and research Postgraduates and that some Postgraduates may possibly be conflicted as they will be marking taught students work and they taught student may be their representatives.
  - i. The City and Guilds College Union President stated that in his opinion Taught Masters students are more akin to Postgraduate students.
- g) It was suggested that the Union petition College to get representatives sitting on both Undergraduate and Postgraduate committees.
  - i. The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) suggested that this is not a good idea as representatives are already over stretched and it would not be fair to expect them to attend more meetings.
  - ii. The CGCU AAO stated that it was unrealistic for Taught AAO's to sit on committees and represent Masters students.
- h) Ashley Brown stated that in his opinion the presented paper is the best solid to a 'weird' situation.
- i) The GSA Elections should be run in October as this makes the most sense.
- j) Council moved to vote on the paper as a whole with no amendments. Vote as follows.

FOR	27
AGAINST	0
ABSTAIN	5

Passed.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To create the following five Postgraduate Representatives:
  - a. Engineering Postgraduate Representative
  - b. Physical Sciences Postgraduate Representative
  - c. Business School Postgraduate Representative
  - d. Medical School Postgraduate Representative
  - e. Life Sciences Postgraduate Representative
- 2) To task the Postgraduate Representatives to:
  - f. Be responsible for representing Postgraduate students' views to the Union, College and other groups as necessary,
  - g. Assist the Deputy President (Education and Welfare) and Graduate School Association's Chair in the co-ordination of academic and welfare representation of Postgraduate taught or research students in their Graduate School Department,
  - h. Sit on appropriate Union Committees,
  - i. Represent the Union's views on the relevant College Committees,

- j. Carry out such duties as may, from time to time, be laid down by the Council or the Executive Committee.
- 3) To amend the Union Committee membership to include the Postgraduate Representatives on:
  - k. Council
  - l. Representation and Welfare Board
- 4) To change the role of the Faculty Academic Affairs Officers (Taught Students) to Faculty Academic Affairs Officers (Undergraduate Students)
- 5) To change the Ordinary Council membership from:
  - m. CGCU (Postgraduate)
  - n. RCSU (Postgraduate)
  - o. ICSMSU (Postgraduate)
 To:
  - p. GSEPS x 2
  - q. GSLSM x1

*At this point the agenda resumed back to normal order*

## 5. PRESIDENT REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.

## 6. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (CLUBS & SOCIETIES) REPORT

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

NOTED:

- a) The NCC met today and formed Model Soc (remote control vehicles) which is sitting within the RCC.
- b) The Union now has over 300 clubs
- c) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.

## 7. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (EDUCATION & WELFARE) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

NOTED:

- a) It is looking less likely that Zohair will be joining Imperial College this year.
  - i. There is a similar situation with a applicant for Medicine and the International Office are working with the Union to make sure that this situation is monitored.
- b) Council were reminded to promote SHAG week.
- c) Weight for the first year of courses differed across courses.
  - i. The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) asked for student feedback as to how they would like this to be.
- d) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.

## 8. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (FINANCE & SERVICES) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Finance & Services)

### NOTED:

- a) There is a Summer Ball working group on the 24<sup>th</sup> November at 5-6pm in meeting room 7 and the Trading Forum next Tuesday from 5-6pm also in meeting room 7.
  - i. Snacks and drinks will be provided.
- b) In regards to the profit's fro the vending machine in the JCR, the Deputy President (Finance & Services) has meet with College Head of Conferences who is looking in to it but he is not anticipating a positive response.
- c) It was questioned as to what is happening with the posters getting taken down in the JCR and the plasma screens not working all the time.
  - i. The Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) stated that she will investigate this and report back.
- d) In regards to the Heeps server the bigger websites will be moved over first and the administrators' will try to make the whole move as smooth as possible.

### ACTION:

1. **The Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) to investigate as to what is happening with the posters getting taken down in the JCR and the plasma screens not working all the time.**
- e) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

### RESOLVED:

- 1) **To accept the report.**

Meeting closed 7.40pm

Approved as a correct record at a meeting of Union Council

on \_\_\_\_\_ 2008/09

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair of the Meeting