

Imperial College Union  
President's Report  
*A note by Ashley Brown*

### **Governance**

The process of charity registration is currently stalled, as the Charity Commission has still not opened registration. Work is ongoing, but the registration date looks increasingly likely to be pushed back further, and questions remain over whether they will have sufficient resources to do it at all.

### **Building**

By the time of this meeting the final part of Phase 2 of the building work, commissioning the new activity spaces on the first floor, should have been completed.

A lot progress has been made on Phase 3 since the previous meeting. On 17<sup>th</sup> November the College agreed that the project could go ahead, subject to a revision in the proposed financing. The revised proposal, along with a business plan, is on the agenda for this meeting.

Project meetings have already started, as the timescale is quite tight. We are currently looking to start work in June, with the venue open for freshers' week. Consultation with students is ongoing, and we have arranged meetings with bar staff and technical users of the refurbished spaces.

We hope to have some concept drawings by the time of the meeting.

### **Vandalism**

We had a number of cases of vandalism at the start of term, but this has stopped after appeals both in Felix and to sports clubs via the ACC chair. We are awaiting the replacement of two doors.

### **Higher Education Funding & Student Finance Review**

The HE funding review, chaired by Lord Browne, launched its first call for evidence at the end of last term, at a round-table discussion at London South Bank University. I was invited, along with a number of other students' union presidents.

We covered topics ranging from the impact of fees on university choices to views on the proposed "food labelling" system for university quality. Although it was a very brief session, we were told that there would be many other opportunities to provide evidence to the review, something we'll be making use of.

### **Budgeting**

We have a number of budgeting-related activities starting this month, in preparation for our final submission to College around late March/April. Given the current economic climate and the government's cuts to Higher Education funding, we will be considering the budget very carefully.

The Executive Committee will also be considering our current allocation model to student-led activities at the next meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> January.