

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

Governance

It has been announced that we will be able to register as a charity from June this year, so the Operations Manager has been working closely with College to consider the implications.

This board will have a number of important items to consider in the next academic year, including whether to incorporate (as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation), with a trading subsidiary (as a wholly-owned Limited Company).

I have submitted a set of proposed constitutional changes to the Board at this meeting. Council will be asked to approve them at its meeting in June, however I am circulating the proposals in advance, to avoid a tracked-changes nightmare later on.

Building

If you visit the ground floor of Beit you will notice that the former nightclub, dBs, has hoardings up. The Phase 3 project has started, with the major structural works commencing at the beginning of April. It was realised that a large steel column would block the view of the stage, so this is being removed. The project scope has changed to remove the need for large chiller units on the roof, freeing up money to remove the column. We were extremely unlikely to get permission to place new plant on the roof in any case.

We ran a competition to select names for the new nightclub and bar, however the bar names submitted were particularly uninspired. The club was named "Metric" in a popular vote run in conjunction with Felix. The bar will be named this term, with students being able to see the 3D renders before voting.

Elections

During the Spring term we held elections for the Student Trustee positions and next year's sabbatical officers. The Faculty Unions also held their elections, so we have filled most of the positions on next year's Executive Committee. The successful candidate for Deputy President (Education) resigned to take a long summer internship, so we have re-opened that position with the Summer term elections. The Graduate Students' Association elections are currently underway.

Ex-officio members of the Executive Committee 2010-2011:

President – **Alex Kendall**

Deputy President (Finance & Services) – **Ravi Pall**

Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) – **Heather Jones**

Deputy President (Welfare) – **Victoria Masding**

Deputy President (Education) – *Vacant: election now open*

CGCU President – **He-in Chong**

RCSU President – **Scott Heath**

ICSMSU President – **David Smith**

GSA Chair – *Vacant: election now open*

In addition, **Kadhim Shubber** was elected as Felix Editor. My thanks go to the returning officer, Daniel Hill, and his deputy, John James, for running such a smooth election. All complaints were resolved by the advertised date for results to be announced.

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The election had record turnout, with 3,392 voters casting their votes, a turnout of 22.8%. We also analysed the results, which showed the following:

Student Type	Turnout #	Turnout %
Undergraduate	2,854	33.1%
Postgraduate Taught	221	7.3%
Postgraduate Research	317	9.8%
Total	3,392	22.8%

Undergraduate turnout is excellent; however we are not doing as well with postgraduates, particularly those on 1-year Masters courses.

Analysing by fee status also shows that home students are much more likely to vote than EU or overseas students. Note that the percentage of EU and overseas students on postgraduate courses is higher than for undergraduate ones, so the two problems are likely to be linked.

Fee Status	Turnout #	Turnout %
EU	436	17.7%
Home	2286	28.0%
Overseas	668	15.8%
Total	3,392	22.8%

Summer elections are underway for other officers. We have included representatives for the entertainments committee, which is a new sub-committee formed under the executive to look after entertainments provision, in particular events run by student groups, in the new Metric nightclub.

Turnout in the Faculty Union elections was as follows:

	Turnout %		
	ICSMSU	CGCU	RCSU
UG	53.6%	42.9%	26.5%
PGT	0.0%	3.6%	1.6%
PGR	0.4%	4.8%	2.4%
Overall	46.5%	27.5%	18.3%

Recruitment/HR

These will be discussed in a verbal update in closed session.

Internal Audit

The College conducted a follow-up internal audit, the final report from which is tabled at the meeting. Apologies for this being submitted so late, however it was only received on Monday morning.

It makes seven recommendations, one major and six "important" ones. Some relate to improvements in the management accounts, which we had already identified and are working on.

There was also a recommendation that quarterly reporting to the Rector and College Secretary be introduced, providing an update of our activities. I propose that we provide them with copies of the President's reports from Council and Trustee Board (which are readily

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available online), along with Management Accounts from the most recent Trustee Board meeting. I am reluctant to generate yet *another* report for this specific purpose.

The final set of recommendations deal with the documentation of financial processes and procedures, including the procurement process.

The report also highlights that a number of recommendations from last time have only been partly implemented. It seems as though these items fell through the net during the major management changes over the summer, combined with the sabbatical handover period.