

Freshers' Fair Report
A report from the Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)

The Freshers' Fair took place on Tuesday 6th October, but the planning process started at the beginning of August. It began with collating any requests and asking for any permission to use the spaces. After this came making plans and getting them approved by the Fire Office and Security, and my thanks go to them for their helpful input. I believe this translated to a good relationship with them on the day, and to my knowledge no major issues arose. This year we also co-ordinated with the College's Estates department, who were very helpful in taking care of the behind the scenes details as well as being very informative.

Due to forecasted inclement weather, on Monday 5th October, we made the decision to revert to the Wet Weather Plan, for which I am grateful to the majority of clubs who were understanding and took this in their stride to ensure that despite the weather, the atmosphere of the day was not dampened. The Wet Weather Plan mainly differed by moving those clubs on the Queen's Lawn and Upper Dalby court to the Business School Foyer, Beit Quad and the Union Building. I believe that the change was well advertised, but the main glitch being the capacity of the Union website which broke in the process, but was satisfactorily resolved at the time. Nevertheless, appropriate steps were taken so that everyone affected was aware of the change.

I have to extend very warm thanks to all those who helped make Freshers' Fair happen on the day as it is not possible to approach this scale of event by yourself. I'm grateful to those clubs and groups who took the time to practice their performances and performed on the stage during the day, and to Tosin Ajayi and Jonny Beale who saved my bacon and volunteered to compare and stage manage respectively, as well as the amazing, and ever enthusiastic Dramsoc Tech Team who did the tech for the day and evening. In particular my thanks go to all of the CSC/FU execs as well as the Sabbaticals who met in Beit Quad at 7am that morning without a grumble, and their understanding over the delayed breakfast! Additionally, to those who willingly signed up to man the Union Stalls in Beit Quad as it was particularly taxing given the change of plans. Thanks also go to Security, the Fire Office and IC LINKS for ensuring the Health & Safety on the day. Most off all, I'd like to thank Alex McKee and Phil Power, without whom I have no doubt that the day would not have been as successful as their experience and attention to detail is beyond compare.

Freshers' Fair Afterparty

On the advice of my predecessor, Lily Topham, this event went ahead for its second year. It consisted of a line up of Club performances including: Musical Theatre Society, String Ensemble, Dance Company, Capoeira, Dance Club, Music Technology, Jazz & Rock, Indian Society, Jacob & the Hill Billies, The Techtonics, MACE. My thanks to all of these groups who took the time to practice and perform on the evening after a busy day for the benefit of their peers. My thanks go to Malcom and the Ents and Stewarding teams who helped the night run smoothly, and Tosin Ajayi again for continuing his great work compering, into the evening. There was a great turnout and I think it was an apt and well received celebration of the day, and all that clubs & societies do. I also decided to give out awards to clubs in each area who had put together particularly innovative stalls. They were as follows: PASS, Geophysics, Ultimate Frisbee, EWB, Polish and Snow Sports, with the overall winner being Balloon Twisting. My congratulations to all of them for their efforts.