

2<sup>nd</sup> November 2009

## **Royal College of Science Union report to Council**

*A note by the RCSU President Katyayani Vyas*

### **Events**

We have had two social events so far this term. The Comedy night in the union during fresher's week was packed out and was generally regarded as being a success. Thank you to Malcolm and the RCSU publicity officer (Carlos).

The second was our Autumn Ball (October 19<sup>th</sup>), it was held at Cocoon Restaurant on Regents Street which is a highly impressive venue. The dinner was spectacular and although we made a loss the event was very popular. We set out to create a unique experience for our students and feel that we achieved that.

We have 4 more events coming up this term and are currently in the process of planning them.

### **Fresher's Fair**

Our stall at the fair was very popular, largely due to the highstriker we hired. In addition we felt that our position in front of the union was much more suitable than the previously allocated place in the corner of UDC.

We handed out wristbands, sweets, condoms, publicity for our events, useful deloitte merchandise and, of course, highly informative advice on how to survive as a scientist at Imperial. In addition, we had our Broadsheet editor on hand to gain interest in writing for our publication.

There was board with the names and faces of our dep reps so that we could help familiarise students with the relevant person who would be looking after them directly this year.

We had no shortage of committee members to man the stall and answer questions, all of whom did so with enthusiasm.

### **Clubs and Societies**

We have held three meetings so far for our societies, keeping track of their progress and answering any queries that have arisen. The Vice-president (Jackie) has been integral in ensuring that they are being run efficiently.

All the departmental societies have held successful events this term and have put plans in place for a variety of socials and lectures. We feel that they are successfully building on last year's momentum.

### **Elections**

There were 5 positions vacant after last year's elections, all of these now have candidates standing in the current elections (October 28<sup>th</sup>) and they have already begun carrying out their duties.

Year reps have been elected in most of the departments and are in the process of being elected in others.

### **Welfare**

Our incoming Welfare officer will be holding welfare sessions every week, these will be publicised and will take place in the RCSU office. The buddies system was also implemented at a departmental level with a number of dynamic approaches to the issue.

### **RCSU bookshop**

We have put plans in place to break down the bookshop into relevant departmental bookshops to maximise our ability to sell the books. We made an offer last year to a number of students that we would sell their books and I feel that there was limited success with the system in place at the time.