

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
of the fourth ordinary meeting of
the
Council
of the
Imperial College Union
in the 2009-2010 Session

The meeting of the Council was held in the Union Dining Hall on the 14th December 2009 at 6.40pm.

Present:

Council Chair	Mark Chamberlain
President	Ashley Brown
Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Jenny Wilson
Deputy President (Education)	Jonathan Silver
Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Danny Hill
Deputy President (Welfare)	John James
C&GCU President	Kirsty Patterson
ICSMSU President	Anil Chopra
GSA Chair	Ali Mozaffari
ACC Chair	Charles Murdoch
RCC Chair	Andrew Mclellan
SCC Chair	Nicolas Massie
CAG Chair	Joseph Freer
International Officer	Matthew Fitch
ICSMSU Education rep 356	Afsoon Sepahzad
CGCU Ordinary member representative (UG)	Edward O'Hare
CGCU Ordinary member representative (UG)	He-in Cheong
RCSU Ordinary member representative (UG)	Sammy Ho
RCSU Ordinary member representative (UG)	Alan Itakura
RCSU Ordinary member representative (UG)	Charlotte Ivison
RCSU Ordinary member representative (UG)	Hannah Short
ICSMSU Ordinary member representative (UG)	Richard Hewitt
ICSMSU Ordinary member representative (UG)	Alex Walls
GLISM Representative	Grigoris Makris
Governance and Administration Co-ordinator (Clerk to Council)	Rebecca Coxhead

Observers: Alex Guite, David Charles, Jarlath Molloy, Mark Flower, Katharine Hanan

Apologies: A&E Chair Gavin Evans, Media Group Chair Richard Waldie proxy Deputy President (Clubs & Societies), OSC Representative Sherif Salam, RSM President Henry Debens, CGCU Welfare Officer Alice Rowlands proxy International Officer, C&GU Academic Affairs Officer (Taught) Ben Stubbens proxy CGCU President, ICSMSU Education Rep 12 Gayathri Rajasooriar, Engineering Postgraduate representative Shuoying Cao, Physical Science Postgraduate rep Neki Patel, CGCU Ordinary member representative (UG) Rikki Norris

Not present: RCSU President Katya-yani Vyas, RAG Chair Alex Dahinten, ICSMSU Welfare Officer Kathryn Wright, RCSU Welfare Officer Tim Barrett, ICSMSU year 4 & Research Rep Natalie Kernan RCSU Ordinary member representative (UG) Hannah Short, ICU Welfare Campaigns Officer Adam Gill, Silwood Park Chair Catherine Walker, RCSU Academic Affairs Officer David Chreng, Life Science Postgraduate representative Sean Delany, School of Medicine Postgraduate representative Deena Blumenkrantz CGCU Ordinary member representative (UG) Apostolia Matraki, ICSMSU Ordinary member representative (UG) Agneish Dutta

1. CHAIRS BUSINESS

NOTED:

- a) The Equal Opportunities Officer has stepped down and as such there is a vacancy that will be filled with a by election at Council.
- b) The ICSMSU Ordinary Members of Alex Walls and Richard Hewitt had sent apologies to 2 consecutive meetings of Council and as such deemed to have resigned as Ordinary Member of Council under regulation 6, point 32
 - 'Ordinary members of the Council who do not attend two consecutive ordinary meetings (irrespective of apologies) shall be deemed to have resigned and their post vacated.'*
 - i. Council were asked if there were any objections to reinstate these members and there were no objections.

RESOLVED:

- 1) **To reinstate Richard Hewitt and Alex Walls as the ICSMSU Undergraduate Ordinary Members.**

2. MINUTES – 14th November 2009

RESOLVED:

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

3. MATTERS ARISING – none

4.

5. PRESIDENT REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) It was supposed to be known today if approval of the bid for Phase III funding for the building redevelopment was given but this has not occurred.
 - i. College have directed that work is to go ahead regardless of this.
- b) The space occupied by Blackwell's could be used by the Union if we wish to, with an Amazon collection point an example of a possible use
- c) It was suggested that the Environmental Policy be amended to incorporate common sense when travelling especially within the UK.
 - i. It was suggested that video conferencing be utilised.
- d) If the weather is inhospitable for the Winter Ball, the ice rink will be in the Union Concert Hall.
- e) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

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

5. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (CLUBS & SOCIETIES) REPORT

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

NOTED:

- a) A draft document of the revised Clubs and Societies Policy is on the web if any Council member wishes to feed back on this.
- b) The Exploration Board have a pot of money for student lead explorations.
- c) There is an event on Wednesday called 'Feed the 5000' which ties in with Green Week. There will be a free lunch between 12-2pm.
- d) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

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

6. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (EDUCATION) REPORT

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

NOTED:

- a) SOLE finishes on the 20th December.
 - i. First year Medicine is the worst respondents so far but this group have only just be made aware of this existence.
 - ii. ESE has the highest turnout at 90%.
- b) If was questioned if the monetary rewards for completing SOLE to DepSocs are centrally administered or are they decided by the Departments.
 - i. It was suggested that they should be standardised across departments. The Deputy President (Education) is to investigate if this is a possibility.

ACTION:

1. **The Deputy President (Education) to investigate if standardising incentives for completing SOLE across departments is possible.**

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

RESOLVED:

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

7. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (FINANCE & SERVICES) RESUBMITTED REPORT

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

NOTED:

- a) 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) The door entry for the Winter Ball will be £7.50.
- b) The Summer Ball will be more 'Live Band' loaded.
- c) If anyone wishes to be involved in the Phase 3 working group, email the Deputy President (Finance & Services).
- d) Ents branded under Faculty Unions are done so as they are a draw card to students to support their Faculty.
 - i. Lawrence Weetman suggested that some students are put off by Faculty branded Ents.
- e) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

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

9. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (WELFARE) REPORT

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

NOTED:

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

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.

10. BIOLOGY UPDATE

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

NOTED:

- a) It was suggested that the purpose of not counting the first year towards the final grade in Biology is that College ultimately want to increase the number of 2.1's and 1st.
 - i. It is unknown that this will actually be the case.
- b) Concern was raised that Freshers will see this as a 'year off' study and will not get in to good study habits.
 - i. It is imperative that the school teach good study techniques from the outset.
- c) Biology is perceived and an 'easy subject' and the hard work that is put in the first year should be recognised and rewarded.
- d) In regards to other Universities Biology degrees, very few do count the first year in the final grading.
- e) The CGCU President stated that she would like to see the statistics brought to Representation and Welfare Board.
 - i. It was pointed that Council's feedback needs to be given to Senate which is taking place on Wednesday.
- f) The Deputy President (Finance & Services) stated that he felt that Professor Wright's comments were ambiguous and unfounded and he has not taken Council's comments seriously.
- g) Alan Itakura stated that he had asked around his fellow first year biologists and the consensus was that Freshers would take the first year a lot less seriously knowing it did not count towards their final grade.
- h) Overall Council still disagree with the first year of Biology degree not being counted towards the final grade.

11. COURT ADVOCATE

RECEIVED: The proposal was presented by Alex Guite

NOTED:

- a) The main purpose of the Court Advocate is to widen participation of students using Court.
- b) Currently the kinds of cases that the Court adjudicates over are high level and are generally referred by the President or Sabbatical Officers.
 - i. Court would like to see more engagement at Clubs and Societies level.
- c) Court need to be actioned by a Union member; they can't not go out looking for cases.
- d) It was suggested that the advocate should be elected from the full membership of Council and not full membership of the Union. This was agreed by the proposer.

RESOLVED:

- 1) Resolve 3 to read

'The Union Advocate shall be elected by the ICU Council from the Full Membership of Council.'

e) Council moved to a vote on the amended paper and the vote is as follows

FOR	12
AGAINST	1
ABSTAIN	6
Passes	

RESOLVED:

- 2) The post of Union Advocate is established.
- 3) The Union Advocate may not simultaneously be a Union Officer or member of the ICU Executive Committee. The Union Advocate may simultaneously hold any other Union post.
- 4) The Union Advocate shall be elected by the ICU Council from the Full Membership of Council.
- 5) The Union Advocate's job description is:
 - i. Represent the interests of the Full Union Members to the Union Court,
 - ii. Act with independence and impartiality,
 - iii. Refer any Union rule or rules to the Union Court where the rule may be unclear and there is a reasonable prospect of it causing practical difficulties in the future,
 - iv. Refer any matter which may be unconstitutional and there is an interest in the issue being referred to the Union Court,
 - v. Assist members of the Union in clarifying relevant Union Court decisions where necessary,
 - vi. Assist the Court under its standing orders in dealing with individual cases by bringing to its attention any relevant Union rules, previously decided cases and views of Union Officers, and
 - vii. Carry out such duties and responsibilities as may, from time to time, be laid down by the Union Court or the Council.
- 6) This policy does not restrict the right of any member of the Union to petition the Union Court directly as before.
- 7) This policy comes into force once it is also approved by the Union Court.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 S.H.A.G. WEEK REPORT AND CAMPAIGN PLAN

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

NOTED:

- a) The Health Centre has a specialist sexual Health Practitioner.
- b) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.

Meeting closed 7.30pm

Approved as a correct record at a meeting of Union Council

on _____ 2009/10

_____ Chair of the Meeting