

Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) Report

A report by Jenny Wilson

Room Bookings

The new system has made a big difference internally, and has eased the processing no end. Clubs have voiced mixed reactions however, and it's clear that it is still not perfect. I still get a lot of clubs (particularly ICSM) wanting exceptions to be made for them thinking they are special. I've done some research to see what other Unions do, but I think that we are quite far ahead in our methods.

The other side of this is that much of my time has been used telling clubs off for leaving rooms in an unacceptable state. This has been particularly tough on the Huxley Building and EEE. EEE is very close to not letting clubs use their rooms and have requested that we now do spot checks on the clubs that we know have their rooms booked. I think this is a poor use of my time, and wish that clubs could be more courteous, though many thanks go to those clubs who do use rooms properly and respectfully and end up getting penalties that they don't deserve.

Storage

This has taken up a lot of my time as there have been numerous requests from clubs wanting storage who haven't had it in the past. The problem with being in central London is that we don't have any room to expand. Therefore I've been trying to get those who currently have storage to justify the space they are using by compiling lists that we haven't previously had of all known people on key lists, and emailing them with deadlines to tidy and label their things. The way some cupboards are currently being kept has meant that they are not a safe place for the things in them, nor for those trying to access them. The week beginning 15th Feb will see me going through and purging the rooms of all the rubbish and things not meant to be there.

Budgetting

This was open for clubs to submit from 11th Jan- 8th Feb. Overall this stage ran relatively smoothly, and many thanks go to the hard work of CSC/FU chairs and treasurers who guided clubs through the process – I know it's particularly intense for them as they field a lot of the questions and provide constructive criticism. The system is currently open to CSC/FU's to make initial cuts to clubs. There are still some teething problems about the functionalities of the pages but these are being dealt with as they are raised – they are mainly additional features that are suggested.

New Club Queries

Since last Council, NCC met on Tuesday 2nd Feb, at which the following new clubs were set up: SCC Collecting, SCC Philosophy and OSC Israeli.

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New Club applications have slowed down since last term but do maintain a constant flow. CSC's have been reminded to perform their regular dormancy reviews so that we can have an accurate picture of those clubs that are active, dying or dead. This has also been reflected in changes to the C&S Policy.

Clubs and Societies Board

The Spring Tours meeting of CSB met on 25th Jan. This was particularly interesting because there were 25 applications. In one of the first meetings this year we had asked clubs to let their CSC/FU chairs know if and when they were planning to go on tour so that we could split the tour pot accordingly. No where near 25 groups said that they would be going on tour in Spring in the numbers that they are, and so 20% of the tour pot was allocated to this term. This is a shame because it meant that the funds were spread very thinly. I'd also like to congratulate Cypriot society for submitting one of the best OSC tour applications I've seen, because it is often hard for them without going to the country.

Another thing that was discussed was what changes CSB would like to make to the Tours Policy, also known as the Environmental Policy's Appendix D. This discussion is continuing and any suggestions or thoughts are welcomed as there is a strong sentiment that it is currently not best suited to serving those who use it.

Exploration Committee

I was pleased to sit on the Exploration Committee on 3rd Feb which was great, and I'm sad to say is the last one of this academic year. Unfortunately there weren't many successful applications, which was a result of groups misinterpreting the remit of the committee. To raise awareness of what is in their remit and what they are keen to support I have worked with the RCSU rep to the committee, Joe Rumer and we have submitted an article to Felix and Broadsheet. Its never too early to start planning the sort of thing they are looking for, so even though the next meeting is in December, the committee can help with advice and expertise at any time of the year. My thanks go to Joe for going above and beyond his role.

BUCS & Sport Imperial

I've been involved with the BUCS London Division Healthy Campus Initiative along with Bill Thompson, Director of Sport at City University. We've put together a survey for Universities to gauge the current participation in Healthy Campus initiatives, which has been adopted by central BUCS and is being circulated on the 17th Feb. It will result in a presentation to London Division and possibly the Summer BUCS Conference. The data may also go to HEFCE as they have become interested in campus wellbeing.

Great successes from meetings with Sport Imperial: there will be a fridge installed at the Mountain Hut within the next 2 months, in time for Summer.

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Club Queries

As multitudinous and varied as ever and fill up the rest of my days.