

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

Matters Arising

At the Senate meeting on 12th May, we again raised objections to zero-weighted first years, as mandated by Council previously. Engineering Studies Committee had approved zero-weighting in Bioengineering, and I highlighted that Senate had previously agreed that Biology was to be a pilot, with a review taking place once that was decided.

At the same meeting, the Student Agreement in Medicine was extended to 2nd and 3rd years.

Phase 3

Phase 3 is proceeding; we should have a contractor by the time of this meeting. I have been asked what the plan is for the summer, and when we will close.

Please note that we currently plan to **continue serving drinks all summer**. Our range will be reduced (no ales except in bottles, I'm afraid), but we will continue serving.

The basic plan is this:

- **21st June** – main bars shut. Marquee in the quad remains up after the Summer Ball, drinks available from mobile draught/bottle bars.
- **1st July** – Additional bar opens in the Student Activity Space.

We will have draught lager (Becks, dropping in price to £2), draught cider (probably Blackthorn), Pimms and a selection of bottled drinks.

We realise that this means the main bars will be shut the last week of term, but it looks like that is required to get things done. I'll give a verbal update at the meeting if this changes, for example if we are able to stage the works to keep a bar open. However, one of the main parts is to build a new cellar, which means closing the current ones.

On the more exciting side, the empty shell where dB's used to be is huge. Metric is going to be a great space. If you've seen the plans, the "comfy" area round the back will be very nice too ☺.

Elections

We had some elections. Please see the Returning Officer's Report later in the agenda for more details. The Executive Committee next year will be:

President	Alex Kendall
Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Ravi Pall
Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Heather Jones
Deputy President (Welfare)	Victoria Masding
Deputy President (Education)	Alex Dahinten
CGCU President	He-in Cheong
RCSU President	Scott Heath
ICSMSU President	David Smith
GSA Chair	Deena Blumenkrantz
2 x CSB	<i>Elected in October</i>
2 x RWB	<i>Elected in October</i>

External Relations

Council
7th June 2010

In the weekend preceding the meeting we will have hosted a conference of the IDEA League Student Council (IDEALiStiC). The IDEA league is an association of Imperial, TU Delft, ETH Zurich, RWTH Aachen and (in the last few years) ParisTech. The student council is an association of students' unions from those institutions. The conference location rotates and it was our turn to host – the IDEA League pays for accommodation, so we're only providing friendly faces and tea/coffee.

The IDEA League has a pot of money for student exchanges/activities, and we will have been discussing how to make this available to Departmental Societies (MechSoc took part in the first DepSoc meeting, which we will look to extend).

A group from NTU Singapore also dropped by last week, as they are on a tour of students' unions. They hoped to take away some ideas to make their students' union better.

Service Level Agreements/Constitutional Changes

The constitutional changes and some SLAs are presented at this meeting. Where I haven't got approval of everyone required in the College for an SLA, they are presented for information and comment only – I will continue to negotiate the terms.

Planning Round/Budgeting

As expected, we are looking at a squeeze on our budget. The optimistic case is a freeze in subvention over last year, which is a real terms cut given inflation is over 3% and wages/pension costs are rising.

However, there are also preparations for another 5% cut across the board, which would be most uncomfortable. Fingers crossed that the emergency budget isn't too brutal to education.

Delegation of Powers

I am required to inform Council when the Executive Committee forms a sub-committee and delegates powers to it.

We have formed an Entertainments sub-committee to consider applications by student groups to run nights at Metric. They will be delegated authority to assign nights to student groups, based on an operational policy passed by the Executive Committee.

Papers Please

A rather disturbing amount of my time in the past month has been spent preparing for this meeting and trying to tie up some loose ends. This process will continue into July until the new team take over on the 1st August.

Goodbye!

This is the last Council of the year, which means you don't have to listen to me bleating on for much longer. After a slow start, Council has had some good discussions on matters that affect students, so thank you to those of you who have made a positive contribution this year.

I hope many of you will be able to join me at the President's Dinner on the 23rd July. We have started sending out invitations, with more to follow, so keep an eye on your inbox.