

**Operations Manager Report**  
**A report by Robin Pitt**

**Phase 3 – Beit Masterplan**

Elements of the building masterplan are still undergoing completion. A number of improvements to nightclub were made during the Easter period, including re-enforcement and sound insulation to the stage and rear wall of Metric nightclub, some remedial works to the DJ area not completed during the initial building phase due to the late running of the programme and the need to open in Term 1. The wooden dance floor area had suffered greatly during Terms 1 and 2 and this has now been rectified with a different sealant and treatment of the timber, the contractors and project team are confident that this has solved the problem. Additional works to the cellar area were also carried out during the Easter period to improve hygiene and to address Health & Safety issues in this area.

Major works to the Central Core will be carried out during the summer owing to the scale of preparation and delivery works needed.

An agreement has been reached with College Facilities Management for a refurbishment of the Eastside toilet facilities starting on 2<sup>nd</sup> July, for a period of 6 weeks. The cost for this work is being covered by Facilities Management and brings all of the toilet facilities in the Union Building up to an acceptable standard and can be adequately maintained and supported by the College's maintenance contract team.

Myself and the Deputy President Welfare, along with College's Senior Disability Advisor are conducting an audit of accessibility within the building to ascertain what additional facilities and signposting are needed for the building to be as compliant and accessible as possible, given the nature of its structure and age. Facilities Management will support the outcomes of the audit and works needed should take place over the Summer period.

**Commercial Services**

As mentioned above, trading figures for the period since the last Trustee Board have been disappointing, the late opening of Metric along with how costs are accounted for have had an extremely negative impact on our Entertainments department and in turn on our licensed trade income. Strategies are in place for this term to massively reduce our expenditure in this area to contain these losses for the remainder of the academic year. A reliance on agency staff in the bars has resulted in part to an increase in till shortages and errors, which are unacceptable. A fresh recruitment drive for more permanent non-student staff has been conducted and we hope to reduce if not remove our need for agency cover in the coming weeks. It is anticipated that a key piece of work for the new Commercial Services manager will be to review our staffing provision in the Beit Trading outlets and improve on the position we are currently in.

Retail has consistently improved this year and has once again been the star department within our Commercial portfolio.

**Summer Ball**

The annual Summer Ball preparations are well under way, with the event being held on the 18<sup>th</sup> June. The format and scale of the event have changed since previous years and the Ball will now be held more as a Summer Festival, focused around a day time event rather than a formal dinner and evening entertainment. In addition to a format change to widen the number of attendees, the event this year will be held in conjunction with King's College London Students' Union and Goldsmiths College Students' Union as well as being open to all London students. The opportunity to expand our attendee numbers allows us to continue the Live Music agenda set over the past two years, booking larger and more varied acts as well as offering opportunities for collaboration and a broader social experience for the students at Imperial.

The event will be held across two main arenas, the Queen's Lawn and Prince's Gardens, with the Union Building being used for the after party only, with no outdoor noise.