

Imperial College Union
President's Report
A Note by the President

Strategic Plan

We are now entering the final phases in the formation of the new Strategic Plan. The Ideas Day we held got a lot of information from students on what they want to see the Union doing in specific areas which arose during the survey. Examples include personal development, an alternative careers service and lobbying College. We are now in the stage of combining all the feedback from students with the vision and values generated by the Sabbs and Union management. The final plan will be completed and published towards the end of July or early August.

Charity Registration

The Finance Manager and I met with Jon Hancock from College in early July to discuss the steps needed to complete registration. The College lawyers have produced a step by step list of things we need to do. We have started completing this list and registration should be complete by the end of July, with some work lasting until September. The Trustees will play an active role in the completion of the form and you will be notified about relevant sections soon. A separate company will be created for the Commercial Services side of the Union but much of the structure is already in place.

Staff Appraisal System

After the last Trustee Board I met up with Janet Rogan and Simon Maddison and we went through what we want to see in an in-house staff appraisal system. These have been written up into a document which will be used from now on, from target setting in August. I believe this is a positive step towards helping staff develop and finding talent in all areas, but also to keep track of where holes may be appearing and targets not being met.

Financial Procedures Document

After a long delay, comments on the draft Financial Procedures document were submitted back to Counterculture, who were writing it for us. We had indicated quite large gaps and lots of unnecessary information that was included in the draft and we are meeting with them on 11 July so that the final document can be completed and published. The production of this document was one of the Deloitte recommendations and we will submit it to College and use it in training from now on.

General Manager

After 7 years, Robin is leaving the Union as Operations Manager and moving on. I have been liaising with College HR and an advert for the position has been out since 29 June. The job description has remained the same apart from a name change to General Manager to reflect normal practice at other Students Unions. I am forming an interview panel and interviews will take place after shortlisting on 25 and 26 July.

Union Awards

On 16 June we held the Union Awards ceremony in the UDH. Over 80 students were awarded for their outstanding contributions to the student experience over the last year and the majority were able to come to the ceremony. We also awarded the Club & Society of the year award and the Undergraduate and Postgraduate representative team of the year awards. All in all it was a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Planning Round 2011

We have completed all our side of submissions to the 2011 Planning Round and we are still waiting to hear our subvention amount for next year. I will update the trustees as soon as I have the information.

Online Claims

The DPFS and several members of staff have been finalising the last few stages getting claim forms online. This is one of a number of projects that will make running Clubs & Societies a lot easier from a student perspective and a lot faster. These should be operational within the next few weeks if not the next month.

Thank You

As this is my last Trustee Board I would like to thank everyone who has put such a good effort in this year. Through the advice you have given, inside and outside of board meetings, and the effort you have made to get to know the Union and contribute in other ways such as the Trustees Drinks night, you have made the place better. I hope this is a trend we can see continuing well into the future.