

Clubs and Societies Board
21st March 2011

Holding a *trade fair* for Clubs, Societies & Projects
A discussion note by the Membership Services Manager

Every year Clubs, Societies & Projects make use of the services of a variety of providers – everything from clothing to equipment, printers to transport providers. These are both internal to the Union, from the College and beyond. Many groups also interact with College departments, and more could do so, for example College Communications.

Newly elected officers sometimes find it challenging to locate suppliers who are sympathetic to the needs of students, or in enough time to properly take advantage of their products or services. It is also important to highlight the array of services available within the College, with the objective of new groups devising previously unconsidered activities – for example activities with the Outreach or Alumni teams.

It is proposed that we hold a trade fair style event, inviting along a variety of suppliers who provide goods or services, or have a genuine interest in the activities of Clubs, Societies & Projects. Such an event could also provide an opportunity for newly elected officers to ask questions and gather information from the Union in one place at the same time.

The proposed list of invitees (though not exhaustive) could be:

- A supplier of t-shirts, hoodies, clothing etc..
- Our coach company
- Imperial College conferences
- Sport Imperial
- Arts Imperial
- ICU shop
- Union conference staff
- Dramsoc
- Printing company
- The College Outreach team
- College Careers Service
- College Alumni Office
- College Communications
- Intellectual property team

For discussion

Is this a good idea?

When would the best time be to hold it?

Are there any other suppliers/providers that should be added to the list?