



Clubs and Societies Board Report

24th Jan 2011 CSB Meeting

OSC Chair – Ahmad Alsaadi

1/17/2011

The **Overseas Societies Committee**, comprising of the Chair, Treasurer – Chia Lim , Secretary – Sho Tsujimura, Sports Officer – Romain Chauvet, Assistant Treasurer – Bolanle Osibodu and the I-Night Co-Chairs – Christina Kontoghiorghie & Raisah Aziz provide support to over 40 international societies at Imperial College Union. In addition to managing the efficient finance and administration of the overseas societies, its aims and objectives also lie around promoting the exchange of different cultures at Imperial through events that include the established OSC Football World Cup and International Night.

2010-2011 Vision: Thanks to Raisah, at *fire and stones*, an OSC social set out the agenda for what has been a marvellous journey for an executive committee. With aims to provide more sporting events and rejuvenate OSC, the committee thus far not only accomplished its executive duties but showed pro-activeness to bring new things into the scene.

1. Early Encounters

- a. OSC societies had the issue of not having used their grant effectively last year, and to better position them financially, near 40 financial pages were analysed to ensure transfers were made with correct SGI/Grant transaction codes.
- b. 3 societies were handed over in debt.
- c. Little OSC Exec funds to play with.

2. OSC Sports

- a. OSC Football World Cup 2010
 - i. With the recently introduced *OSC Football World Cup* trophy to compete for and the chance to write history, what more can ignite passion and cross cultural integration of OSC? Thanks to filling the newly announced OSC Sports Officer position, Romain Chauvet and the committee did a fantastic job providing the overseas societies the hotly contested tournament. At one of the best sports centres around, the tournament saw the French Society beat the defending Champions Iraqi Society on penalties to have their name engraved on the trophy which is currently on display in Ethos.
- b. OSC Basketball World Cup 2010
 - i. Romain didn't stop at the Football, but continued to make use of the successful collaboration with Sport Imperial of last year.
 - ii. Thanks to Sport Imperial, and the Sports Development Officer Anthony Hennelly whose support has been invaluable to OSC, a Basketball World Cup was organised for the first time attracting 16 societies to compete.
 - iii. African Caribbean Society (ACS) who has been waiting for this tournament for some time beat the Chinese Students & Scholars Association (CSSA) in the final. Well done to both teams for the exceptional performance.

3. OSC Football World Cup Live Draw and Social

- a. Thank to Sho and Romain for organising this for the first time. It was a special moment for the committee and societies, particularly the Japanese and German.

4. International Night

- a. On track for the 11th of February 2011
- b. Christina Kontoghiorghe, the brain behind this year's I-Night has been doing a brilliant job along with the committee.
- c. We anticipate a showcase full of culture from 15 acts.
- d. This year, there is a guest judges panel which includes the OSC Senior Treasurer Professor David Stuckey, a celebrity belly dancer Fleur Estelle, ICU President Alex Kendal and ICSMU President David Smith.

5. OSC Website

- a. The OSC website has not been updated for nearly two years. It has been rejuvenated with a new interface and is in the process of being finalised.
- b. There is potential to expand its events calendar to include all OSC societies' events.

6. Ordinary General Meetings (OGMs)

- a. Three meetings held thus far and considering the number of OSC societies, attendance has been on average near 70%.
- b. DPCS involvement
 - i. The Deputy President of Clubs and Societies was invited and attended an OSC meeting to ensure the OSC Societies knew about the possibility of extending College Day and investigate possible complications this may generate.
- c. International Officer involvement
 - i. The International Officer also attended an OSC meeting to increase awareness about welfare related matters such as the Visa reform.

7. Activity

- a. OSC has 38 active societies.
- b. Only 13% with frozen budgets by the end of the autumn term.

8. Financial operation

- a. Thanks to the OSC Treasurer Chia Lim, finance operation has been very efficient. Considering the sheer number of OSC Societies, claim forms and cheques have been processed on time.
- b. The OSC Assistant Treasurer Bo Osibodu also done well in tracking the finances of events.

9. Societies out of debt

- a. Following the DPCS' & DPFS' emails to the clubs and societies in debt, OSC Exec followed up on those related to it.
- b. The union seems to be understanding of the Iranian society's debt.
- c. Chinese Society was helped to restore £1508 from Sport Imperial for sport booking errors. They also gained £300 in sponsorship.
- d. Arabic are officially out of debt, in fact with surplus thanks to their new President Ahmed Ismail who did a great job in gaining sponsorships.

10. Contingency Claims

- a. No claims thus far.

11. Grant

- a. After one term only, 27% of grant allocated to OSC has been used with some of the bigger events yet to be held.
- b. All grants are expected to be used by the end of the year.

12. Membership

- a. Considering that international students are not obliged to join a society, OSC memberships have nonetheless been exceptional in some cases this year with some societies exceeding their membership target by more than 200%.
- b. With only one term in, OSC has already gained 90% of its previous year membership count.

13. Tours

- a. Palestinian Society went on tour during the 2010 summer.

14. Few Past OSC Societies Events:

- a. **Singapore:**
 - i. Nottingham Games: A combined sporting event with Singapore Societies from other UK Universities, held at Nottingham University's campus. Over 80 representatives from the society flew the Imperial flag high finishing Runner's Up to Warwick University Singapore Society, missing out narrowly on top spot.
 - ii. Ongoing Sports throughout the term organised by ICSS including football, floorball, tennis, netball and touch rugby. Held almost every fortnight if time and venue permits.
- b. **Scandinavian:**
 - i. Mini open day: Organised annually for students from the sixth form of the Swedish school of London to promote higher education in the UK generally and at Imperial College especially. The day includes tours, presentations. A non-profit event.
- c. **Pakistan:**
 - i. **Shaam:** A huge event which was held in Wembley stadium.
- d. **Japanese:**
 - ii. **Boat Party:** Co-organised with UCL Japanese society. Was very successfully with a near £2000 profit.
 - iii. **Japanese Lessons:** On going for free!

15. Few Upcoming OSC Societies Events

a. Singapore:

- i. **(in)sanity, the Production - Major Event 2011:** This will be the finale event where the Production Team assembled will put together a night of drama, dance and music to entertain the crowd. The script, dances and music arrangements are all 100% original, dabbed with a tinge of Singaporean flavour. Gained Overseas Singaporean Unit Sponsorship (1000 pounds) for this event.

b. Indian:

i. **East Meets West (The show):**

This is a multicultural show, which displays various acts including Western dancing (e.g. Hip-Hop, Salsa etc.), Indian dancing (e.g. Bollywood), as well as singing and other performances from other societies. It's a charity event, so all the profit will be donated to three different charities that we have decided as a committee. It's a great family event that allows everyone to enjoy the different forms of dancing and singing as well as witness the talent that imperial students have. (30th January 2011 at the IndigO2, O2).

c. Thai:

- i. **Samaggi Game:** The Thai society's annual sports day. The event is coordinated by an external organisation called the Samaggi Group. The aim is to strengthen the unity of Thai students all over the United Kingdom. This year's Samaggi Game is to be held at Bath University on the 26th of March.

d. ACS:

- i. **AfroGala:** Drama and cultural performances

e. Malaysian:

- i. **Malaysian Night:** Drama and cultural performances

f. Sri-Lankan:

- i. **Sapphire Ball:** A huge event with a budget of more than £40,000

16. Positive Downside

- a. Misunderstanding nearly led a society to agree to forfeit grant when they wanted to lower membership to zero and attract more members. Working with OSC, they raised 14 members whilst keeping their grant well done to them.