

Deputy President (Welfare) Report

Report by Charlotte Ivison

Communication with Students

- I started my time in office by doing my Sabb photos and video for the Union website and a short video for College, as well as doing a short segment on the Welfare video and doing a voiceover for the Welcome video
- I also wrote the Welfare and Advice segment of the Freshers' and Postgraduate Handbooks and an introductory staff leaflet for College, as well as updating the Welfare Handbook – I haven't updated the website to reflect this as Nigel and I have been alternating our leave somewhat over the last two months but I'll be doing this over the course of the year
- I've been contributing to the Freshers' Facebook group, started writing my blogs and have also contributed to the Union newsletter and the What's On Calendar, with some news articles in the pipeline
- I've also planned to do a Welfare stand in the JCR every other Tuesday to raise awareness of the welfare services available to students and make us more accessible

The Advice Centre

- The Advice Centre now has a Facebook page. Students can post non-confidential questions to the wall for Nigel or myself to answer, and the page also has the usual contact details for them to email/phone instead

Wardening Review

- I've so far attended two meetings connected with the wardening review, one being a main meeting and one a working group, WG 5. The main meeting served as an introduction overall, and the working group meeting was to outline job descriptions for the wardening roles with HR, which was fairly successful

Life Sciences Restructure

- I attended the two meetings with Life Sciences staff about the proposed restructure, one with the staff potentially affected and one with the Head of Department who was partially behind the changes – AK can tell you more

Equality and Diversity Committee

- This meeting was largely a talking shop but I did get to meet the heads of all the E&D initiatives at Imperial who I can hopefully meet with in the future

Disability Action Committee

- I've organised a Student Consultation Group to feed into the next DAC meeting, which I'm advertising via the Disabilities Officer and which should hopefully raise any student issues
- I also had a good meeting with the Disabilities Officer which may result in us doing a walk around of the Halls with Accommodation staff, fire officers and disabled students to highlight any rooms or architecture which is unsuitable for those with disabilities

Welfare Officers

- For the first time the Welfare Officers have been given their own email addresses which I've inserted into the Welfare Handbook – I'm also looking at getting them a space on the Union website and getting them to write the odd comment piece in felix as currently absolutely no-one knows who they are

Subwarden Interviews

- I have conducted subwarden interviews at Parsons and Falmouth and Keogh Halls

Free STI Testing

- I've met with the Terence Higgins Trust and Brook to discuss free STI testing. THT did free Chlamydia and (for the first time) HIV tests on campus at Fresher's Fair – their stands seemed popular. We've also done a schedule for regular testing throughout the first term with a view to doing it the whole year

Campaign Weeks

- I've planned out the Campaigns calendar for the year, to including repeats of weeks (RAG Week and SHAG Week) as well as new campaign weeks (Drugs Awareness Week, Study Skills Week)
- I'm also planning some Disabilities day events, as well as a shorter Green event in response to a survey we'll conduct after Green week to determine which topic the students want to know about
- I'm also planning to do some Freshers' Day Events, one focused on money management and one on skills needed for occupying a shared house, such as paying bills
- I produced a campaigns Flyer for the Freshers' Fair outlining the schedule for the year, and put the Campaign Weeks in the What's On Calendar
- I also did a sign up sheet for the newly created ICU Campaigns Team, designed to get students involved in campaigns. The response was quite positive and I'll be emailing them soon
- Green Week has been mostly planned and has had good club involvement, as has S.H.A.G. Week

Welfare Training

- I contributed Welfare segments to presentations designed to train Hall Seniors and Postgraduate Representatives on different aspects of the Union

Projects

- Heather and myself are currently in the process of formalising the existence of Projects under RAG and CAG, with old clubs being convinced to accept the transition and new projects being formally made Projects under the New Projects Committee. We're hoping to launch Projects officially during the Student Led Volunteering Fortnight at the end of this month, working with RAG, CAG and the Imperial Volunteer Centre

Welcome Week

- I manned stands at both the International Welcome Day and Fresher's fair, both of which seemed to go well with plenty of questions answered and literature and condoms given out

RAG and CAG

- Both RAG and CAG are looking at greater liaison which is great. RAG has proposed the initiative of electing a RAG rep on each Halls committee, which the wardens seem to like, so hopefully that will come to fruition. CAG has also been asked to host a student led projects conference as we are being recognised as University leaders in this area
- I've worked with RAG to organise this year's Bike Auction, which is happening on Tuesday the 12th October

Additional support

- I've been helping Dep Reps with their Buddy groups and have also been helping E&D clubs promote themselves with publicity