

Council
14th October 2010

CGCU Summer Activity Report
A note by the City & Guilds College Union President

Summer Sabbatical

As a summer sabbatical I worked from the 2nd of August until end of September. Things I worked on were handbook, events, sponsorship, faculty grant, cleaning the office a bit, and producing awesome CGCU cotton bags for the freshers and other enthusiastic CGCU members.

Faculty Grant

The RSMU (or has it not changed yet from RSM?) president, Ben Moorhouse, and I jointly and peacefully agreed on how to split the faculty grant and attended a meeting with the Principal of the Faculty of Engineering, Professor Stephen Richardson, the Academic and Alumni Relations Manager, Dr. Teresa Sergot, and a member of the Faculty Finance Team, Mr. David Gray. We were awarded £7,500, out of which £1,300 will be for RSMU. For the first time a financial report was submitted on how the faculty grant from the year before was spent, and this was the first time Professor Richardson and Mr. David Gray heard about last year's masquerade ball, so I should have just stayed quiet and never wrote that report. However, they were happy about honesty and now it's more transparent between CGCU and the faculty, so they were very happy to support us.

Events

Some Freshers' events:

Thursday 14th October: Bar Night in Activity Space 1 & 2

We originally only had Activity Space 1, but the Dance Society was amazingly super nice and gave us permission to take Activity Space 2, as well, which they had booked way before we had booked Activity Space 1.

Thursday 21st October: Club Night Archangel

CGCU is joining RAG this year and will be doing a joint ball with RAG and RCSU during RAG week on Tuesday, the 9th of November. CGCU is also holding a joint ball with RCSU on the 4th of December in the Great Hall under the name of "Yuletide Ball".

New AAO and Events Officers

We had a rather urgent re-election before the Freshers came in and the new Academic Affairs Officer (AAO) is Marcus Ulmefors and the Events Officers are Matt Taylor (another Matt Taylor but a different person) and Miles Robertson.

Freshers' Fair

This was quite a huge success, as we were able to get RCSU committee members to have the red CGCU stamp on their hands and arms. CGCU also stole Theta, RCSU's mascot, for about half an hour, so it was really good fun to show the Freshers the importance of the mascots. The CGCU cotton bags were a great success, even though I must admit, it's in the tradition of CGCU to over-order, but this year's cotton bags are rather "classy" with just the emblem, name, and no year, so they can be used again next year. Also, many people have signed up for the CGCU clubs and societies, so hurray!

FTC and ESC

Last year's paper from 16th of November concerning:

Supporting Faculty Union Presidents as Elected Representatives

contained details of how the Faculty Teaching Committee (FTC) in the Faculty of Engineering does not have a student representative. I am wondering if this has ever changed, and I think if the CGCU AAO could get a permanent observer status, it would be a great improvement. Also, the paper included details of how the CGCU President's seat on ESC had been removed. According to the minutes the President and the Deputy President (Education) were mandated to negotiate on behalf of the Faculty Union Presidents for seats on the Engineering and Science Studies Committees to be reinstated. This year, I believe that the AAO and the DPE are good enough representation of the student body.

Constitution

The constitution that was last ratified by the Exec Committee was 2005, so the CGCU Hon Sec, Faizan-ur-Rehman Khan, is working on all the changes since RSM became a constituent union and the events officers are now official positions of the CGCU.

Resignation and new election

I will be stepping down and VPA Kesh Murthy will be delegated as president until the new election takes place, which will be whenever the college union finds it most appropriate. The new election would have to be for VPA and president. The reasons for resignation are that I don't think I can handle media very well, and I think the potential candidates will bring new interest in the CGCU. Also, I would like to work on my academic side and be a good hall senior at Beit. I really appreciate everyone's support and everyone's amazing help and sorry for causing so much trouble including most likely this one, but I think the next candidate will be just as great and I will help her/him as much as I can.