

Imperial College Union  
**Non-Standard Membership Clubs**  
*By Monya Zard, Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)*

Background

Last year within CSB there was considerable debate as to the nature of Departmental Society memberships, which resulted in a policy on memberships being passed on 9<sup>th</sup> May 2011. There was also considerable debate on the nature of memberships for the Vintage Vehicle clubs which resulted in a special structure for funding being determined. We currently have three membership models.

1. Traditional memberships where clubs have a membership target and a minimum membership cost associated with their grant allocation. The minimum membership target is 20 for Clubs & Societies and 5 for Projects.
2. Departmental Society memberships where each course is assigned to a DepSoc and all students are automatically a member of one DepSoc, with the ability to join others (potentially for a fee). Grant is not subject to a minimum membership cost.
3. Vintage Vehicle clubs who have a target membership of 20 and no membership cost, with some subvention to fund basic maintenance for the 3 groups set aside at budgeting.

ICU Notes

1. There are currently two clubs which do not fit into the standard model for memberships. These are the Silwood Exec and Not in Halls Club.
2. Both of these groups perform both a social and welfare function for students studying either at the Silwood Campus or those who do not live in halls of residence in their first year. Although Silwood does fulfil a welfare purpose, the foremost reasons for wishing to change the membership type is the structure of the activities they run where the Management Group acts as a cost centre for all activities.
3. The function fulfilled by both groups is very different to the scope of other societies at Imperial College Union and as such adhere most closely to the Departmental Society model.
4. In the future other clubs with similarly specific needs may be approved and may be considered for non-standard membership, but this is expected to be a rare occurrence.

Matters for Decision

1. To allocate these two clubs to the DepSoc membership type.
2. To decide how future clubs will be allocated from the following choices:
  - a. Allow the DPCS and relevant Management Group Chair to allocate Clubs, Societies & Projects to the most relevant membership type.
  - b. Allow the DPCS to bring cases for non-standard membership types to CSB for decision.
  - c. By another method.