

Imperial College Union  
**Dissolution of the Entertainments Committee**  
*A paper by the Deputy President (Finance & Services)*

## **Background**

The Executive Committee set up the Entertainments Committee in April 2010, in a paper titled 'Creation of an ICU Entertainments Committee'. Its task is to assess applications from Clubs, Societies & Projects to host nights in Metric under the 'We Are Metric' scheme. A cross-campus ballot elects its members, including one first-year member in the autumn elections. The overall objective of the committee is to provide student input into the entertainments that are run, gathering opinion from the wide student body.

## **Issues**

In principle, the Entertainments Committee's goals are very good. Student input into the entertainments at the Union is always very welcome, and the committee could have been a good place to bring it. However, the committee does not meet frequently enough to provide timely feedback that can be reacted to. There are more effective ways of gathering feedback from our members and customers than a thrice-yearly meeting of four elected students.

Also, the requirement of CSPs who wish to host a We Are Metric night to submit an application is a bureaucratic indulgence. The system for using Metric should be made as easy as possible, and having an unnecessary extra step is merely an obstacle. Indeed, it can actively confuse the process, with some groups assuming that once their night has been approved, their involvement is over (despite instructions to the contrary).

There will, of course, still be myriad opportunities for people to provide feedback on entertainments (and commercial services in general). Any good venue will react to the opinions and feedback of its customers, and the Union is no exception. In fact, throughout this year I have received much more helpful and detailed feedback through other sources than I have through the Entertainments Committee (such as personal feedback, working groups and Exec itself).

It should be noted that this proposal is not in any way a criticism of the current members of the Entertainments Committee – they have been active and dedicated members of the committee. However, the body itself is not suited to what it was created to do. We will still try to achieve the same things, but in a different and more suitable way.

## **Proposals**

- To repeal the paper 'Creation of an ICU Entertainments Committee' and thereby dissolve the Entertainments Committee.

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