

Imperial College Union
Deputy President (Welfare) Report
A note by Nicolas Massie

Handover

Charlotte, my predecessor, provided me with a handover document 11,379 words long. I am tremendously grateful to her for that though I have not yet managed to read it in its entirety. I tend to dip into it encyclopaedia-style whenever I receive an email from a person I've never heard of. They're usually in there. I'm lucky enough to keep Charlotte around as she'll be one of the welfare officers (disabilities) this year.

Campaigns - Logistics

The new way of doing campaigns is here. The documentation should be on the website (isn't at the time of writing). How it works:

- Student/Club/Society/Project applies to have a campaign, a little like a CSP
 - Fill in details, like a CSP
- Goes to committee
- Presto

Campaigns - Training

At the time of writing I have finished the campaign training presentation but the e-learning and campaigns booklets still remain to be done. By the time you read this everything should be finished as I will have had my first group meeting with the welfare officers, where they'll get the campaigns training which will then, with their input, be turned into e-learning.

Welfare Officers - Training

At the time of writing this I have met and supported 40% of my welfare officers (the majority were out the country over the summer). This was the first step of their training. The training presentation and booklet are done but the e-learning has not been done. Again, I'll have delivered the presentation when I meet them as a group on the 6th and then turn it into e-learning. I'm also in talks with counselling and the Equality Diversity Unit to create some bespoke college training.

Buddy Scheme

Worked with Jason on this. Thanks to Paul Beaumont for programming. Rolled it out a little later than intended due to hiccoughs in production. Had intended for it to be done for when Freshers 'firmed' Imperial. It'll be ready for that next year. Matches freshers and 'buddies'/'parents' according to match.com questions. Thanks to AAOs for helping coordinate the rollout. RCSU participated fully. CGCU partly (some departments had already started their buddy systems). Medicine did not.

Non-halls freshers

Had an event for freshers who are not in halls. Scavenger hunt, pub quiz, photo competition, prize giving. About seventy came along and enjoyed it. We'll have another event soon. We're deciding what form this should take and trying to get funding from Dean of Students, Teaching and Learning.

Learning points:

- Don't expect 568 to serve food
- Print things the day before
- Don't expect USB sticks to retain data.

Helpfinder

Project that Charlotte started. I spent about fifteen hours setting up questions/scenarios. They're all on there. We had to get them ready rather hastily as the College Communications deadline only got to us a few days before I was due off on holidays. Check it out. Download the app. It's called 'Imperial' in the Android and apple app stores.

Welfare Survey

Data from last year has been requested by several departments. Others have criticised it on many fronts. This year we'll hold it on SOLE. Have compiled new set of questions; can cut several by bigbrotherish nature of SOLE. Will present refined set of questions to Quality Assurance Advisory Committee (QAAC) and see what they say. This is the culmination of a great deal of work and should provide data on unreported depression and harassment. I'm also working with a lecturer and warden who specialises in data collection and survey creation. The resulting information will be used to support the call for increased welfare funding by college and to compare our population with populations across the UK.

Casework

I'm putting data on all personal appeals to the DPW by students on file (anonymised) such that trends can be noted and used in the rebuild of the advice centre website, making the top concerns prominent.

Volunteering

I'm working with the DPCS and President to find a solution to our Volunteering needs. At the moment Student Hubs looks promising. We've also been in touch with Vinspired.

Leave

I took 14 days leave from 30 August to 16 September.