

Deputy President (Education) Report

A report by Jason Parmar

Rectors Away Day

For the first time (that we know of) 5 students were invited to the Rectors Away Day. This years focus was "The Student Experience". The Rectors Away Day is where all the Heads of Departments and all senior members of college meet and discuss the plans for the academic year. I was privileged enough to give a 10 minute talk on "The Student View" of Teaching at Imperial College which can be found here: <http://prezi.com/twzsbpxg8/the-student-view-my-first-prezi/>.

National Student Survey (NSS) Response

Initial feedback from staff, academics and even other students' unions has been excellent. Responses I got Heads of Department include "well done, I sent it to everyone in my department and told them they have to read it", another not believing only three of us put it together and, my personal favourite, from a HoD "[congratulations] for an excellent publication; readable and extremely well researched and presented. It certainly stimulated the minds at the recent Rector's Away Day..."

Although it has the full support of senior staff, myself and the President will be working hard to make sure it successfully disseminates down through the departments.

My blog with the NSS Response can be found here:

<http://www.union.ic.ac.uk/blogs/2011/10/20/nss-response/> and infographics can be found here: <http://www.union.ic.ac.uk/nssreport>

You can also read an article on our success on page 2 of this week's Felix, or online:

<http://felixonline.co.uk/news/1606/union-first-to-provide-response-to-nss/>

E-Learning

On the e-Learning Strategy Committee (eLSC), we discussed following up on the Panopto Pilot. This is a rival system to the more expensive Echo 360 currently in the Business School to automatically record and upload video of every lecture in college. Another, more comprehensive pilot will be run over the next few months in chosen departments. VLE Review, pilots are to be conducted over the coming months and a choice between the new Blackboard 9.0 or Desire2Learn. I may gather a team of student testers for working groups soon.

More to follow after next eLSC.

Representation

This is the first year the Union has effectively coordinated the year rep elections and, although there were a few hiccups it has been, on the whole, very successful.

Handbooks for PG and UG Representation have been completed for 2011-12.

Council
31st October 2011

UG Rep Training was 27th October, a large success (I think). Although 80 reps RSVP Attending, we had a massive 132 reps turn up. On my blog, one of my “Goals and Objectives” was to train 70% of reps by November, now it’ll be to fill 90% of rep positions.

PG Rep Training is 1st and 9th November. Both in Physics Lecture Theatre 2. Presentations will be from me, Andrew Keenan (Rep Coordinator), Scott Heath, Nic Massie and Caroline Hargreaves (Graduate School Transferable Skills).

Poster Boards are still in my office, although some have been collected. The pictures of all reps and senior tutors have been collected, I’m just waiting for them to be designed and printed.

NoteBox

NoteBox will be launched in the next 4 weeks – a campaign to gather student made notes in every department and course module by e-mailing them to notebox@imperial.ac.uk with £450 in Union Shop vouchers being to be distributed to “top contributors”, secured from the e-Learning Strategy Committee. Draft website also created.

Graduation

Although not graduating myself, Scott selected me to lead the procession into the Royal Albert Hall.