

Council  
13<sup>th</sup> February 2012

Imperial College Union  
**Deputy President (Finance & Services) Council Report**  
*A note by the DPFS – Michael Foster*

**Commercial Services Manager**

The new Commercial Services Manager has started, and is settling into his role. He has many good ideas for the direction of Commercial Services, and will be a key part of the team at Imperial College Union.

**Budgeting**

The system for clubs to submit their budgets has now closed, and Management Groups are currently going through them and making changes. This phase will finish on Monday 20 February, with RWB, CSB and Exec budgeting meetings on 23 February, 27 February and 1 March, respectively.

**Entertainments Strategy Working Group**

The Working Group met for the first time on Tuesday. It was a very productive meeting, with input from Council members and Senior Stewards. A summary of the discussion will be distributed to members of the working group, with another meeting to be planned for next month. The group will eventually report to the Executive Committee, but I will also work with the Commercial Services Manager in the meantime to address some of the issues raised.

**Music Policy**

I have had feedback from various sources commenting on the type of music played in our venues, especially Metric. In order to better understand students' opinions on music in Metric, I will be gathering more detailed feedback and information, including a possible survey to gauge opinion on a wide scale.

**Online Finances**

Three new sizeable updates to eActivities are almost ready to be released. Firstly, Designated Members Funds, a system for Clubs, Societies & Projects to set aside funds for specific large-expenditure items, is awaiting release. This will separate a club's long-term savings from their general SGI.

Secondly, the submission of online shop products will soon be moved onto eActivities. This will eliminate the need for them to be approved, meaning they are up on the club shop page as soon as they are created. Some other minor changes are being made to avoid some of the common errors that occur with shop products.

Finally, there is a large drive to streamline the payment of supplier invoices, along with providing more information to CSPs as payment is being processed. CSPs will be able to submit invoices through eActivities, and will be able to see what the payment status of the invoice is (with more detail than is currently available, including payment date).

**Elections**

This year's spring elections will include elections for Faculty Union and GSA positions, as well as the usual Sabbatical Officers and Student Trustees. Nominations open on Monday 13 February. Interested parties should talk to current post-holders for more information on their positions. I am acting as Returning Officer for the election.

**Summer Ball**

Preparations for the 2012 Summer Ball are under way. There is a full paper on the initial plans coming to Council, so I will spare the detail in this report.