![imperial college union logo]

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS of the sixth ordinary meeting of the
Council of the Imperial College Union
in the 2011/12 Session
The meeting of the Council was held in the Union Dining Hall on the 13th February 2012 at
6.40pm.

Present:

Council Chair	David Smith
President	Scott Heath
Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Monya Zard
Deputy President (Education)	Jason Parmar
Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Michael Foster
Deputy President (Welfare)	Nicolas Massie
GSA Representative	Robert Tang
ICSMSU President	Suzie Rayner
RCSU Representative	Luke Kanczes
RSMU Chair	Richard Simons
A&E Chair	Chandana Shankar
ACC Chair	Henry Abbot
Media Representative	Matt Colvin
OSC Chair	Wenjun Er
RCC Chair	Dominic Andradi-Brown
CAG Chair	Heather Jones
RAG Chair	Jack Hewitt
Equal Ops Officer	Dolan Miu
CGCU Welfare Officer	Hilary Andrew
GSA Life Science Academic and Welfare Officer	Lisa Hale
GSA Medicine Academic and Welfare Officer	Mai Kadi
RCSU Welfare Officer	Jiajun Tan
ICSMSU Education Rep 4, Biochem & Pharm	Natalie Kempston
RCSU Academic Affairs Officer	Rosalyn Flower
Non Faculty Ordinary Member	Sally Hancock
CGCU Ordinary Member (UG)	Justin Chan
CGCU Ordinary Member (UG)	Toller Hao
CGCU Ordinary Member (PG)	Jithin Gopal
RCSU Ordinary Member (UG)	Guan Yeap
RCSU Ordinary Member (UG)	Ryan Browne
RCSU Ordinary Member (UG)	Maciej Matuszewski
RCSU Ordinary Member (UG)	James Tsim
RCSU Ordinary Member (PG)	Joe Rumer
ICSMSU Ordinary Member (UG)	Shrawan Patel
ICSMSU OM (PG)	Bing Xia

Permanent observers

Governance and Administration Co-ordinator (Clerk to Council)	Rebecca Coxhead

Apologies: C&GCU President Jacky Kwan, SCC Chair Kajann Prathapan, Silwood Park Chair Fran Sconce ICSMSU Rep 12 & GEP Steven Tran CGCU Academic Affairs Officer Susuana Laryea, ICSMSU Education Rep 356 Shiv Vohra GSA Engineering Academic and Welfare Officer Mark Collins CGCU Ordinary Member (UG) Carol Anne Cheah (proxy Alexander Karapetian) CGCU Ordinary Member (PG) Edo Abraham, CGCU Ordinary Member (UG) Sahil Dawar, ICSMSU OM (UG) Ali Hosin

1. CHAIRS BUSINESS

NOTED:

a) The results from the email vote for Council's Decisions on the reduction from 20 to 5 in the number of Seconders, which at the last meeting of Council was deemed to be unconstitutional, were as follows:

FOR   24
AGAINST   13
ABSTAIN   3
Fall (2/3rd majority required)

2. MINUTES – 16th January 2012

RESOLVED:
 1) **To pass the minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.**

3. MATTERS ARISING- none

4. PRESIDENTS REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the President

NOTED:
 a) A major recent development is that the ICU President will receive the papers for College Management Board a week in advance which is a very positive step forward.
 b) MG chairs were asked to forward on the cost of participation for their members to the President.
 c) College have strongly indicated that the Union will be receiving a flat budget in the subvention bid.
 d) The President will circulate the UCU information if required.
 e) Council members were asked if they wished to participate in the Global Poverty Project to contact the President.
 f) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously

RESOLVED:
 1) **To accept the report.**

5. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (CLUBS AND SOCIETIES)

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Clubs and Societies)

NOTED:
 a) Hellenic Society is not being closed down.
 b) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:
 1) **To accept the report.**

6. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (EDUCATION)

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Education)

NOTED:
   a) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:
   1) To accept the report.

7. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (FINANCE & SERVICES)

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Finance & Services)

NOTED:
   a) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:
   1) To accept the report.

8. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (WELFARE) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Welfare)

NOTED:
   a) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:
   1) To accept the report.

9. FELIX REPORT

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the Felix Editor

NOTED:
   a) The Felix Editor has taken concrete steps to ensure that offensive material will not be published again.
      i. The Hangman section has been discontinued and the results of the sex survey have been delayed in being published.
      ii. The article in question offended a lot of people and crossed a particular line of 'taste'.
   b) It was questioned as to what was in the realms of acceptable and how will the Editor judge this. Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:
   1) To accept the report.

10. GSA REPORT

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the GSA President

a) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:
1) **To accept the report.**

11. CGCU REPORT – to be considered at the next meeting of Council due to late submission

12.   ICSMSU REPORT

RECEIVED: T he report was presented by the ICSMSU President

NOTED:
a) The refurbishment of Reynolds is moving ahead.
    i. A first draft of a brief is being complied to take to the Project Board.
b) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:
1) **To accept the report.**

13.   RCSU REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the RCSU President

NOTED:
a) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:
1) **To accept the report.**

14.   RSMU REPORT

NOTED: The report was presented by the RSMU President

a) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:
1) **To accept the report.**

15.   SUMMER BALL PLAN

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the Deputy President (Finance & Services)

NOTED:
a) Students will be included at all levels of decision making.
b) The Summer Ball forum is currently being organised.
c) The format has taken in to account the feedback from the survey held earlier in the year where students stated that they prefer a lower ticket price which will mean lower budgeted outgoings.
    i. Planning on running a break even event or at best, a small profit, but certainly not budgeting for a loss.

d) College have indicated that they will not be offering any funding to the Union for the ball.
e) Any decisions made will be reported to Council.
f) The decision not to serve draft beer has come from wanted to provided swifter service and not being left with unfinished kegs which are unable to be returned.
   i. It was suggested the automatic pint pouring device could be considered.
   ii. Pints are messier due to spillage whereas bottles are cleaner. However it was pointed that the risk of bottles being smashed is higher.
g) It was questioned if the library will be closed this day which the Deputy President (Finance & Services) stated he will investigate this.

ACTION:
1. **The Deputy President (Finance & Services) to investigate if the library will be closed on the day of the Ball.**

h) The Ball budget is currently being reforecast and is being considered by the Trustee Board Finance and Risk committee.

16.   HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the RAG Chair Jack Hewitt

NOTED:
a) It is the opinion of the RAG Chair that Faculty Union President's work hard throughout the year and as such should be considered for HLM along with the Sabbatical Officers.
   i. It was queried why the Management Group Chairs should also be considered as they also 'work hard'.
b) It was reminded that Council can award HLM to any person if agreed unanimously.
   i. The President also reminded Council that Executive Committee can award HLM as per the Constitution.
c) It was queried as to what was the purpose of HLM and the Arts & Ents Chair suggested that the Awards Policy be amended completely.
d) The Fellowship and Fellowship with Distinction also receive HLM as part of the awards criteria.
e) It was suggested that section 'G. Sabbaticals' of the Union Awards policy be amended to consider the ICSMSU President as a sabbatical with a 'little s'.
f) Council moved to a vote on this amendment and the vote is as follows:
   FOR   31
   AGAINST   0
   ABSTAIN   3
   Passes

RESOLVED:
1) **To amend section G of the Union Awards Policy to read as follows:**

   G. Sabbaticals

   21. The Union President, Union Deputy Presidents, Felix Editor and ICSMSU President, as sabbatical officers shall not normally be considered for any of the awards.

   22. The Council shall, after awarding Colours, consider and vote separately on conferring Honorary Life Membership upon each holder of Sabbatical office in the Union that year, as well as the Felix Editor and ICSMSU President, as sabbatical officers.

g) It was pointed that the above change means that the ICSMSU President and Felix Editor are unable to be considered for any other Union awards which may not be optimal.
h) It was suggested that the Silwood President and GSA President also be included to be considered along with Faculty Union Presidents.

       i.   It was pointed that the RSMU should also be included as they are also a constituent Union like Silwood.

    i)   Council moved to a vote on accepting the proposal to consider Faculty Union Presidents for HLM and the vote is as follows:
FOR   5
AGAINST   20
ABSTAIN   10
Falls

17.   LONDON STUDENT MANIFESTO

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the President

NOTED:
a) The reason as to why the President bought the paper to Council is to have its support so that the document can be signed off as Imperial College Union.
b) The document presented is the final draft but typographical errors will be corrected.
c) NUS are paying for the website.
d) It was assured that this is not a thinly veiled move to join the University of London.
e) It was clarified that Prevent is a Government strategy to capture pre radicalisation terrorists.
f) A mayoral husting is trying to be arranged that is specific to students.
g) Council moved to a vote on the paper and the vote is as follows:
FOR   29
AGAINST   2
ABSTAIN   4
Passes

RESOLVED:
1) To endorse the London Student Manifesto (see appendix i)

18.   UNION STANCE ON EXHIBITION ROAD

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the Deputy President (Welfare)

NOTED:
a) It was suggested that the lack of road markings may mean that insurance companies may not pay out.
       i.   It was suggested that it should be investigated on the lack of road markings may have on have and what the legislation is on the shared space.
b) Council moved to a vote on the paper and the vote is as follows:
FOR   30
AGAINST   0
ABSTAIN   4
Passes

RESOLVED:
1) To accept the policy (see appendix ii)

19.   BLENDED LEARNING POLICY

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the Deputy President (Education)

NOTED:
   a) The paper presented was submitted late and as such Council were asked if they wished to consider it now or at the next meeting.
           i. Council decided to consider the paper at this meeting.
   b) It was resolved to remove the second to last point on union believes due to it being an incomplete sentence.

RESOLVED:
   1) **To remove 'OCW will allow students with an active interest'.**

   c) Funding will come from central College with the e-learning strategy group having put in a budget bid.
   d) There will be an 'opt in' policy for lecturers for the open courseware.
   e) Students who want to undertake extra learning and are competent should not be limited by having to attend physical lectures when they have the capability to learn online.
   f) Council moved to a vote on accepting the policy and the vote is as follows:
       FOR   34
       AGAINST   0
       ABSTAIN   1
       Passes

RESOLVED:
   2) **To pass the amended Blended Learning Policy (see appendix iii)**

Meeting closed 7.50pm

Approved as a correct record at a meeting of Union Council on

_____ 2011/12

_____ Chair of the Meeting

London Student Manifesto 2011

Crime

Demand
'We want students to be involved in decisions about policing student activities and events.'

Problem
Recent policing decisions made and the tactics used by the Metropolitan Police have severely damaged the Police's relationship with students.

Solution
The Police should engage with students and their representatives when making the decisions around policing student activities and events. A senior Metropolitan Police official should have responsibility for improving the Police's relationship with London's students.

Demand
'We want an extensive review of the Government's *Prevent* Strategy to be called.'

Problem
The measures in the *Prevent* Strategy to tackle terrorism and extremism in Universities and Colleges are unhelpful, inflammatory and discriminatory.

Solution
A wide-scale review of the *Prevent* strategy should be called, that will radically alter how countering terrorism and extremism in Universities and Colleges is approached with more effective results.

Demand
'We want a city-wide police strategy for crime prevention and student safety.'

Problem
Criminals perceive students as easy targets with student loans and in possession of the latest technology. Students have a wide range of backgrounds and are often subjects of abuse. Many students are also new to London and the UK and are unused to securing their property.

Solution
Creation and implementation of a comprehensive strategy drawn up after consultation with Students' Unions effectively tackling crimes effecting students.

Transport

Demand
'We want 1/3rd discount on pay as you go and all travel cards for students traveling in London.'

Problem
Travel costs can be a huge expense for students. Weekly, monthly, and annual travel cards are not cost effective and do not reflect students' timetables or frequency of journeys.

Solution
Discounting pay as you go travel will fairly alleviate the costs of studying in London for all students.

Demand
'We want improved cycling provision for students.'

Problem
The cycle hire scheme is limited to particular areas in central London. There are few provisions outside Zone 1, especially in South London. There is a lack of cycle racks and the cycle hire scheme in areas with high numbers of students.

Solution
Put cycle hire scheme racks and lanes in densely populated student areas and extend it out further.

Housing and Living

Demand:
'We want the London Assembly to investigate the poor conditions of student housing'

Problem:
A whole list of issues including the lack of consistency in standards, rising costs, the hazards of discrimination, extortion on deposits, and restrictions on who can be a guarantor for international students.

Solution:
An investigation with a view to potentially create a charter between students and landlords.

Demand:
'We want a maintenance allowance that accurately reflects the costs of being a student in London.'

Problem:
The maintenance allowance puts students living in London approximately £500 over the national poverty line. The cost of living in London and away from home in comparison with the rest of the country is high.

Solution:
Lobby Student Finance to review and increase maintenance loans to better reflect living costs.

Employment

Demand:
'We want internship opportunities to be paid.'

Problem:
Employers can get away with not paying interns because the law is not adequately enforced.

Solution:
As a reward for employers who pay internships a fair wage the Mayor should create an accreditation list. An opposing list should be created for those who don't pay interns fairly.

Demand:
'We want public opposition to damaging restrictions imposed on international students' visas.'

Problem:
The Home Office's new rules on international students' visas are too strict and unreasonable. Applications are handled badly by the UK Borders Agency and processed at an inefficient rate. This management is discouraging international students' applications to our institutions and is harming London's competiveness as a centre for higher education. As consumers, international students contribute massively to London's wider economy. Their presence in our Colleges and Universities make them diverse and worldwide communities where friendships and networks can be created in a globalised world.

Solution:
The harsh restrictions should be opposed and publicly denounced as detrimental to London's economy and not in the interests of our competitiveness as part of a globalised economy.

Imperial College Union
A paper for decision on Exhibition Road

This paper provides a means by which to clarify the intended function and use of the redesigned Exhibition Road and to lobby for effective change.

Noting that,

1. Some motorists are not slowing down or taking care as this road has intended, as well as going over the speed limit.
2. The intended use of the 'roundabout' (Prince Consort Road and Exhibition Road) is unclear and has increased the risk to cyclists
3. Some motorists (and some cyclists) don't give way to pedestrians.
4. Stone pedestals of lamp posts are not clearly marked, making them hazardous for a car or bicycle wheel.
5. There is sufficient space for more Sheffield stands in the centre of the street
6. There are 800 metres without assisted crossing, particularly for the elderly or those with disabilities
7. There is uncertainty about the boundaries of the road on the west side, particularly the tactile borders.

This board resolves to lobby Westminster Council to:

1. Clarify the following:
    1. Intended use of the road
    2. Whether it is a shared space
    3. Priorities on roundabout
2. Erect signage at the entrance to the 'shared space' clearly indicating its use
3. Either create a true shared space or build a pedestrian crossing near Imperial College Road using the facilities in place under the road
4. Consider using average speed cameras to enforce the 20mph speed limit
5. Share more information on the use of the road with IC and ICU who are major stakeholders representing a daily footfall of over 15000 per day.

Blended Learning Policy

Purpose: **This paper is to decide if Imperial College Unions supports the expansion of blended learning in the form of video podcasting and OpenCourseWare.**

Background

Video podcasting refers to Imperial College lecture courses being recorded in the form of video and uploaded online internally for Imperial College students only.

Fellow IDEA League university member, "TU Delft" has an excellent video podcasting scheme (http://goo.gl/QdegP) with dual video streams. Both resizable video boxes, one displays the lecture notes and the other displays a video of the lecture (where the camera will zoom in and out depending on the lecture content).
From 2010-11 TU Delfts expenditure was €280,000 for approximately 1700 lecture video recordings.

In February 2012 the e-Learning Strategy Committee approved the recommendation to roll-out the video capturing product called "Panopto" after an extended 4 month pilot study across all faculties (in which time 229 successful recordings were made). The extended pilot feedback was positive with FoE, FoNS and FoM wishing to continue using Panopto, finding it useful for lectures, revision, lab experiments, tutorials and reaching students with disabilities. The feedback also stated that all faculties were pleased to see no noticeable decline in student numbers at recorded lectures.

Panopto is a completely different solution to TU Delfts video podcasting. TU Delft employs a student for every lecture, paying €10 an hour, to capture and edit every lecture course. Panopto is a far cheaper software solution that consists of "Personal recorders" and "Remote recorders". Personal recorders are what several lectures around the college already use, where the lecturer controls and records the lecture themselves. Remote Recorders are where recordings that are scheduled in advance that start/stop automatically.

OpenCourseWare (OCW) refers to a free and openly licensed digital publication of high quality university level education materials (including lecture notes, slides, problems and videos).

TU Delft has made significant investment into OpenCourseWare over the last year as have several more world leadings universities in the United States of America. Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) for example has had its OpenCourseWare programme for over a decade (http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/) and recently announced it plans to award diplomas to "virtual" students. Similarly Stamford excels in OpenCourseWare (http://see.stanford.edu/) with material publically available on YouTube, iTunes U and available for download.

Imperial College e-Learning Strategy Committee are keen to become UK leaders with OpenCourseWare by writing a proposal for management board to roll out an Imperial OCW (although UCL and Bristol are also planning on expanding their own OCW). A sample of what it could look like is available here (including a FoNS Chemistry course):
www3.imperial.ac.uk/OpenCourseWare.

Believes

- Imperial College students will benefit from video podcasting use as an extremely practical revision tool.
- Imperial College students, with an active interest in other disciplines will benefit greatly with the opportunity to broaden their academic range. Students will have the opportunity to become more inter-disciplinary (i.e. students can study additional courses offered by Imperial College), for example, Physics students learning some EEE course or Chemistry students learning Advanced Quantum Mechanics from Physics.

- There is no currently available evidence that correlates video podcasting introduction to a reduction in attendance.
- The general public will benefit from having access to these materials.
- Imperial College will greatly improve their international reputation by providing lecture courses open-source as well as catch up with the world leading American universities in this area.
- OCW can boost the image of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths subjects and inspire prospective and school students into pursuing a career in STEM subjects.
- OCW will allow prospective students to sample Imperial College lecture courses and allow Imperial College to showcase some its best lecturers.

Resolves
1. For Imperial College Union to support Imperial College establishing a video podcasting service for lecture courses.
2. For Imperial College Union to support Imperial College establishing an OpenCourseWare platform.