



MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS  
of the first ordinary meeting of the  
**Education and Representation Board**  
of the Imperial College Union  
in the 2012/13 Session

The meeting of the Education and Representation Board was held in the Union Building on the 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013 at 6.00pm in meeting rooms 3 of the East basement, Imperial College

**Present:**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Name</b>
Deputy President (Education)	Doug Hunt– Chair
President	Paul Beaumont
Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Henry Whittaker
Deputy President (Welfare)	Becky Lane
Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Stefan Nubert
CGCU President	Temi Ladega
CGCU AAO	Leonardo Paoli
GSA AWO – Life Sciences	Helen Pennington
GSA AWO – Physical Sciences	Ross Webster
ICSMSU AO – Years 1, 2 & GE	Ken Wu
RCSU AAO	Cecile Borkhataria
RSM President	Lewis Ryan
Silwood Education Officer	Catherine Kerr
Chemical Engineering Undergraduate Dep Rep	Will Brown
Chemical Engineering Undergraduate Dep Rep	Theodor Bergstrom
EIE Undergraduate Dep Rep	Richard Bennett
ESE Undergraduate Dep Rep	Simon Stephenson
Biochemistry Undergraduate Dep Rep	Zahra Aboukhalil
Biology Undergraduate Dep Rep	Aaron D’Souza
Chemistry Undergraduate Dep Rep	Chris Roberts
Mathematics Undergraduate Dep Rep	Freddie Barker
Physics Undergraduate Dep Rep	Jonathan London
International Welfare Officer	Jialin Li
Education & Welfare Manager	Andrew Keenan
Representation Coordinator	Zoe Richardson
Membership Services Manager	Phil Power

**Apologies:**

ICSMSU President – Shiv Vohra, GSA AWO – Business School Simon Schillebeeckx, RSM Academic Liason Officer – Paddy Goodarzi, Silwood President Isabel Fenton, Aeronautics Undergraduate Dep Rep – Alessandro Marani, Civil Engineering Undergraduate Dep Rep – Michele Swalens.

**Not Present:** GSA AWO – Engineering Nicholas Ng, GSA AWO – Medicine, Natalie Kempston, ICSMSU AO – Years 4, Biomed & Pharm – Matt Hutchins, ICSMSU AO – Years 3, 5& 6 Sybghat Rahim, RCSU PRES – James Tsim, Aeronautics UG Dep Rep – Sam Lishak, Bioengineering UG Dep Rep Ha Chow, EEE UG Dep Rep – Yiango Mavrosocantanti, ESE UG Dep Rep – Ezra Feilden-Irving, Mech Eng UG Dep Rep Teddy Szemberg O’Connor, Mech Eng UG Dep Rep – Julius Heyne, Student Advisor Nigel Cooke

## 1. CHAIR'S BUSINESS

NOTED:

- a) The Pro Rector Education is hosting an Education Strategy consultation event which the Board were encouraged to attend.

## 2. EDUCATION AND REPRESENTATION BOARD'S OPINION ON IMPERIAL COLLEGE LONDON'S EDUCATIONAL STRATEGY

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

NOTED:

- a) In regards to E-learning provision, the majority of College use Blackboard and it was felt that the updated version of this is adequate.
  - i. ESE is a good example of a bespoke VLE system.
  - ii. It is recognised that there is not going to be a solution that will ideal for the whole College as the needs and requirements differ across departments.
- b) In regards to Outreach, it is a requirement of Office for Fair Access (OFFA) that the College must provide opportunities for those who may not typically be able to afford the fees to study.
  - i. It was questioned if there is a need to go above and beyond what is required of the access agreement.
  - ii. Outreach generally takes place in London and it was questioned if it could be undertaken further afield.
  - iii. It was suggested that a programme of 'sending students back to school' could be good. This is where the students go back to their old schools to promote Imperial and the opportunities that exist to them. This could be a Union initiative.
- c) It has been suggested that core modules which are taught across faculties.
  - i. This will pool resources and if the classes have mixed departments, then that will encourage interactions.
  - ii. This will remove autonomy from departments.
  - iii. Questioned if electives from other departments would be allowed.
  - iv. Students may be well rounded but less specialised.
  - v. Biology and Biochemistry share modules.
  - vi. Opportunity for a broader educational experience.
  - vii. Suggested to put out a survey to seek student opinion on this.
  - viii. Some of the 'standard' teaching is tailored to the specific subject.
  - ix. Concern with the perception on the graduate which will be a specialist verses well rounded and how the job market would receive this graduate.
- d) In to regards to the community of Postgraduate Students, it is recognised that it is difficult for this community to interact outside of their research groups.
  - i. Silwood, by its very location, is removed from the majority of the Postgraduate community.
  - ii. The role of the GSA is important to encourage interaction between Postgraduate's at a social level.
  - iii. It is recognised that the Union does not do Postgraduate engagement well during Welcome Week.
- e) In regards to tutorials, students want contact time with academics and access to feedback on exams to see where they can improve.
  - i. The student Survey shows that students want better and more constructive feedback.
  - ii. In regards to UROPS/IROPS, it was suggested that a webpage with the funding options would be good.
- f) International Students look at the rankings of a university when making the decision to where to study.

### **3. ICT PROPOSED QUESTIONS**

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) In regards to the question, 'how do students want to receive information from ICT about ICT services (E-mail, text message, RSS feed, twitter, other social media, website, push notification through app etc. etc.)?' it was suggested that students should be able to customise these options.
- b) Those present prioritised the following ICT services, to receive information on:
  - i. Wireless connections on campus
  - ii. Wired connections in hall
  - iii. Accessing E-mails on a mobile device
  - iv. Accessing files on a mobile device
  - v. VPN
- c) Any further feedback should be emailed to the President

### **4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **4.1 EXTENDING WRITING UP FOR PHD STUDENTS**

NOTED:

- a) It was agreed that this paper should be taken to Council for consultation

**Meeting closed 7.10pm**

Approved as a correct record at a meeting of the Education and Representation Board

on \_\_\_\_\_ 2012/13

\_\_\_\_\_ Chair of the Meeting