

Imperial College Union
Deputy President (Finance & Services) Council Report
A note by the DPFS – Stefan Nubert

New Drinks and Prices

Following on from feedback and suggestion from myself, the Commercial Services Manager (Matthew Bowman) has been exploring (at the time of writing) the option of introducing a selected range of 'house spirits' (gin, whisky and vodka) to introduce a new lower cost range of drinks on Wednesday and Friday evenings.

The option of introducing special drinks promotions is also being explored.

We Are Metric

Further applications for We Are Metric nights have been received (two) bringing the total to five (two approved so far with two to be reviewed). This is still notably down on this time last year when a total of 15 were received.

Discussion is taking place between myself, the DPCS and Commercial Services Manager on how We Are Metric nights can be improved for the benefit of clubs and societies. The possibility of allowing events on a Friday is being discussed.

Casual Staff Recruitment

A second casual staff recruitment session will take place during November.

Changes to Wednesday and Friday Nights

Following on from my previous report on Wednesday nights, we have had two regular nights with the new price and charge time in place. These have varied between quiet and busy. We will be reviewing these changes at the end of October/early November.

The price for Friday nights has been lowered to £2.50 to be more in line with Wednesday nights. This was based on a decision between myself, Matthew Bowman and Joseph Cooper (Managing Director) as we are currently not offering anything different on a Friday when compared to a Wednesday – with the exception of being open for one hour later.

Welcome Week

The remainder of Welcome Week events proved to be a great success.

I again want to thank all the staff involved throughout the preparation and running of Welcome Week and especially the front-line staff who worked so hard during both the preparation and actual Welcome Week.

Audit Response

An issue was raised in relation to cashing up processes at ICU by the internal audit. A response has been put in place to address this issue.

Links to FIE: Foundation for International Education

Paul Beaumont and Becky Lane (DPW) have initiated communication with various other institutions around Imperial College. Rachel Alcock (Student Life Coordinate for FIE) has confirmed the date for the next welcome reception in January, which we will be hosting in Metric.

Club Finances

A number of clubs have been overspent significantly in their SGI at the start of the year. Myself or other members of staff have contacted these various clubs. These issues have all either been resolved or are in the process of being dealt with

Capital Expenditure Plans (CEP)

The CEP system was put in place around five years ago to allow clubs to save towards large capital purchases of equipment. Due to previous mismanagement and lack of communication the CEP for the ICSM Boat Club matured last year but was unspent. This year's committee has been in contact about exhausting their CEP this year. The problem faced by ICU was the other two remaining CEPs mature this financial year and the potential total expenditure for all three CEP at the same time was simply not financially viable for ICU.

Discussion between the other two CEP holders (maturing this year), myself and Phil Power (Membership Services Manager) and Malcolm Martin (Head of Finance) has resulted in one CEP holder agreeing to postpone placing any expenditure against their CEP until the next financial year. This will allow the ICSM Boat Club and other CEP holder to place capital purchases against the CEP. A plan has been put in place and the final details are being put into place.

Events Coordinator Selection Process

During the past few weeks a shortlisting process has taken place between Matthew Bowman and myself in regards to both internal and external applications for the full time events coordinator position at ICU. A number of candidates were interviewed by myself, Matthew Bowman and Jondene Cottrill (Retail Manager). A consensus was reached and at the time of writing an offer has been made to the successful candidate.