

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
of the sixth ordinary meeting of the
Council
of the Imperial College Union
in the 2012/13 Session

The meeting of the Council was held in the Union Dining Hall on 12 February 2013 at 6.40pm.

Present:

Council Chair	Michael Foster
President	Paul Beaumont
Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Henry Whittaker
Deputy President (Education)	Doug Hunt
Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Stefan Nubert
Deputy President (Welfare)	Becky Lane
ICSMSU President	Shiv Vohra
GSA Chair	Maryam Habibzay
RSM President	Lewis Ryan
RCSU President	James Tsim
Silwood Park Chair	Isabel Fenton
ACC Chair	Jake Woods
A & E Chair	Adam Funnell
CAG Chair	Alihusein Kapasi
OSC Chair	Wasim Khouri
RCC Chair	Joe Rumer
International Officer	Jialin Li
Disabilities Officer	Moeko Maiguma – Wilson
Gender Equalities Officer	Marisa Lewis
CGCU Welfare Officer	Carol-Ann Cheah
RCSU Welfare Officer	Fredrick Barker
ICSMSU Welfare Officer	Steve Tran
GSA Life Sciences Academic and Welfare Officer	Helen Pennington
ICSMSU Education Rep 12 & GEP	Ken Wu
GSA Physical Sciences Academic and Welfare Officer	Ross Webster
CGCU Ordinary Member UG	Thomas Lim
Non Faculty Ordinary Member	Jasper Montana
CGCU Ordinary Member PG	Marianne Kordab
RCSU Ordinary Member	Mariza de Souza
RCSU Ordinary Member UG	Stuart Haylock
RCSU Ordinary Member PG	James Bannock
RCSU Ordinary Member PG	Xiaoran Lai
Permanent observers	
Governance and Administration Co-Manager (Clerk to Council)	Rebecca Coxhead

Observers: Felix Editor Tim Arbabzadah

Apologies: CGCU President Temiloluwa Ladega, UG, CGCU Ordinary Member UG, Joseph Gibbs, RCSU Ordinary Member UG Jason Parmar, ICSMSU Ordinary Member UG Tagore Nakomchai, Interfaith Officer Aemun Reza, RAG Chair David Goldsmith, Media Group Chair Joe Letts, CGCU Ordinary Member

Not present:

BME Officer Bilal Khan, RCSU Academic Affairs Academic Affairs Cecile Borkhataria, Campaigns Officer Chinemelu Ezeh, LGBT Portfolio Officer Elizabeth Campbell, CGCU Academic Affairs Officer Leonardo Paoli, ICSMSU Education rep 4, Biomed and Pharm Matthew Hutchins, GSA Medicine Academic and Welfare Officer Natalie Kempston, GSA Engineering Academic and Welfare Officer Nicholas Ng, GSA Business Academic and Welfare Officer Simon Schillebeeckx, ICSMSU Education Rep 359 Sybghat Rahim, CGCU Ordinary Member PG Tianyun Ye, ICSMSU Ordinary Member UG Shrawan Patel, ICSMSU Ordinary Member PG Maia Kavanagh Williamson Ethics and Environment Officer Laura Johnston CGCU Ordinary Member UG

1. CHAIRS BUSINESS

NOTED:

- a) CGCU UG Ordinary Members Oladipupo Disu, Johannes Hoenigl and Joe Gibbs as well as RCSU UG OM Jason Parmar were removed due to having missed 2 consecutive meetings of Council.
- b) Election for the CGCU PG Om vacancy took place where the candidates were Richard Simons and RON.
 - i. Richard gave a verbal manifesto and questions were invited from the floor.
 - ii. Voting took place by a show of hands of those eligible to vote and Richard Simons was elected as CGCU PG Ordinary Member.

2. MINUTES – 15 January 2013

NOTED:

- a) The Council Chair had made minor amendments to the minutes prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To pass the amended minutes as an accurate record of the meeting.**

3. MATTERS ARISING

NOTED:

- a) The action plan for International fees is contained within the Presidents report.

4. THE TRANSLATION STUDIES UNIT CLOSURE

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by Emmanouela Patiniotaki

NOTED:

- a) It was reiterated that Council are considering the effect on its current members only.
- b) It has been stated that the reason for the closure of the unit is that it does not fit in to the College's strategy however students are unsure which strategy this is.
- c) Support has been received worldwide for the unit to remain open.
- d) There is a lot of cross curricular collaboration which will also be affected if the unit closes including students wishing to enrol in standalone modules.
- e) The students from the unit met with Prof Humphries with their list of concerns on the effect the closure will have on students and access to facilities and they felt that no assurance was given that current students will not be affected.
- f) In regards to the closure of the History of Science course, it was questioned if any similar paper had been presented to Union Council seeking support. It was clarified that this had not.
- g) It was stated that income brought in by the Unit and its reputation is very good.
- h) The petition has received approx. 6000 signatures currently.
- i) It was suggested that decisions are being made without consultation which is very concerning.
 - i. Ultimately students wish to have more consultation and information about the outcome of the potential closure.
- j) Concern was raised over the potential devaluation of the degree however it was pointed that there is no evidence or facts to back this up.
- k) There are many strategies that the college are working towards and it is unsure which the closure of the unit fits in to.
- l) It was stated that there were no direct aims in the paper as to what Union Council have been asked to do apart from sign the petition.

- m) If the unit does close, the modules that will be offered will be reduced and potentially many students may not have enrolled on the course if they knew they were unable to take these modules later in their degree.
- n) The International Officer stated that she had spoken to some TSU graduates who feel that Imperial College TSU graduates are valued in the market.
- o) It was suggested that ultimately students want a clear plan of the potential closure will have on the students both with teaching and facilities and if the closure does go ahead, what is the reasoning behind this.
- p) It was suggested if the Union Council stance is a 'don't close the unit', it may weaken any further consultation.
- q) Council moved to a vote on 2 resolutions, the first to reject the current approach of College to the closure and support the student run campaign against this. The second is to request that College provide reasons and measures to why and if the closure does go ahead.
 - i. The results for resolution 1 is as follows:

FOR	21
AGAINST	5
ABSTAIN	8
Passes	
 - ii. Resolution 2 was passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) **Imperial College Union resolve to reject the current approach of Imperial College London to the closure of TSU and supports the student-run campaign against it.**
- 2) **Imperial College Union request that, regardless of the outcome of the current consultation, Imperial College London provide reasoning for the unit's potential closure and detail on measures that College will put in place to support and re-accommodate students affected by the outcome.**

5. EXTENDING THE WRITING-UP PERIOD FOR PGR STUDENTS

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the GSA Business AWO Simon Schillebeeckx

NOTED:

- a) Senate is taking place in 2 weeks and ideally it would be good if the outcome of this meeting could be considered at this meeting however the likelihood of this is low.
- b) There is no College wide policy on extending the writing up and most students go beyond 3.5 years.
- c) The impact on the College of extending the deadline is negligible and mostly around the logistics of supervision and resources.
- d) It was suggested that PhD students need to change their mentality to try to write up within the allocated time.
- e) It was stated that within the Business School, that 1st year of a PhD is class room based and also a massive demand on students to deliver teaching and that in reality, there is only 1.5 years that research can take place.
- f) Council moved to a vote on passing the paper and it was passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) **To discuss with those directly involved, chiefly Director of the Graduate Schools, Professor Andrew George and Pro Rector (Education), Professor Debra Humphries, the best way of taking this issue forward.**
- 2) **To lobby the College for the writing-up period to be extended to 12 months.**

6. UNPAID INTERNSHIP – WITHDRAWN

7. CODE OF PRACTICE AND SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

RECEIVED: The papers were presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) The documents have been updated to reflect reality and to update the information that has changed since 2008.
- b) The Trustee Board have passed the presented documents at the last meeting.
- c) Council were reminded that the documents were for information only.

8. PRESIDENT REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the President

NOTED:

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

RESOLVED:

- 1) **To accept the report.**

9. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (CLUBS & SOCIETIES) REPORT

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

NOTED:

- a) Thanks were given to the ACC Chair for assisting in moving 'things'.
- b) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) **To accept the report.**

10. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (EDUCATION) REPORT

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.**

11. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (FINANCE & SERVICES) REPORT

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.

12. 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.

13. FELIX REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Felix Editor

NOTED:

- a) People are being encouraged to write in letters by a cash reward being given for best letter of the week.
- b) The Sex and Drugs survey closed today.
- c) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.

14. GSA REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the GSA Life Sciences AWO

NOTED:

- a) The GSA reps were thanked for providing a comprehensive and informative report.
- b) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.

15 – CGCU REPORT – NOT SUBMITTED

16 – ICSMSU REPORT – NOT SUBMITTED

17. RCSU REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the RCSU President

NOTED:

- a) Concern was raised that ChemSoc had spent so little of their grant.
- b) Council moved to a vote on accepting the report and it passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.

18. RSMU REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the RSMU President

NOTED:

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

RESOLVED:

- 1) **To accept the report.**

19 SILWOOD REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was as tabled.

NOTED:

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

RESOLVED:

- 1) **To accept the report.**

20. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

20.1 Imperial College Union Access to Medicines Policy

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by Kush Naker

NOTED:

- a) Council were reminded that this has been discussed at the December meeting of Council and it was referred back to the proposer as Council wanted the paper amended to reflect their comments made.
- b) It was stated that the paper is actually asking for provisions to be put in place as to how industry uses research.
- c) The GALF states that generic production is the best framework to ensure fair access for developing countries.
- d) It was acknowledged that the College relationships with companies would be harmed but the amount of money bought in from Intellectual Property through Imperial Innovations is comparatively small compared to other funding sources.
 - i. The President stated that Imperial Innovations is a private limited company.
- e) The estimate of the exact financial implication this will have on College cannot be substantiated due to many unknowns.
- f) It was suggested the Union can agree to the policy in principle but acknowledge that the presented policy is too restrictive.
- g) Mr Naker stated that he is looking for the Union's support and realises that College may not sign up to the full GALF.
- h) The President expressed concern that the Union should not be working on something that they do not know what the repercussions are to students.
- i) It was agreed that 'Union Believes 2' should have ' amongst other things' inserted and would read as follows:
'That research value should be measured, amongst other things, on the impact it makes on society'.
- j) Council moved to a vote on resolves 1 and the vote is as follows:
FOR 13
AGAINST 8
ABSTAIN 11

Passes

k) Council moved to a vote on resolves 2 and the vote is as follows:

FOR	20
AGAINST	1
ABSTAIN	11

Passes

RESOLVED (see appendix):

- 1) To actively campaign for Imperial College London to sign onto the global access licensing framework as published by the international student-led organisation Universities Allied for Essential Medicines under the guidance of various experts.**
- 2) To support inclusion of neglected diseases topics on all relevant course curriculums, particularly those in the Department of Life Sciences and Faculty of Medicine and to encourage UROP projects on NTDs.**

Meeting closed 8.10pm

Approved as a correct record at a meeting of Union Council

on _____ 2012/13

_____ Chair of the Meeting

Imperial College Union Access to Medicines Policy

Imperial College Union notes

- That 10 million people die every year from treatable diseases and one third of the world's population lack access to essential medicines.ⁱ
- That research funding is spent disproportionately to the global burden of disease the neglected diseases.ⁱⁱ
- Universities are an important source of new medicines, vaccines and drug targets.ⁱⁱⁱ
- Imperial College London develops and patents healthcare-related technologies, which are licensed to members of the pharmaceutical industry for development.^{iv}
- That universities have had important roles in increasing access to essential medicines in the part by implementing global access licensing
- Many universities are now implementing global access licensing policies, including Oxford, Harvard and Yale, and have not seen a negative impact on licensing or profits.^v
- That charitable funders, The Wellcome Trust recommend non-exclusive licensing of intellectual property is often more appropriate to ensure public benefit^{vi}
- Generic pharmaceutical production has been shown to be the most effective way of ensuring access by driving down prices as a result of competition.^{vii}
- Johnson & Johnson have implemented policies, allowing for royalty free generics production of darunavir in low income countries and Sub Saharan Africa as they recognised cost was acting as a barrier to access.^{viii}
- That technology transfer offices (TTOs) are in a privileged position in having exclusive access to the intellectual property of a university.

Imperial College Union believes

- The products of publicly funded research should be made available to all members of societies.
- That research value should be measured, amongst other things, on the impact it makes on society.
- That Imperial College students should be encouraged to learn about and consider a research career in the field of neglected diseases.

Imperial College Union resolves

- To actively campaign for Imperial College London to sign onto the global access licensing framework as published by the international student-led organisation Universities Allied for Essential Medicines under the guidance of various experts.
- To support inclusion of neglected diseases topics on all relevant course curriculums, particularly those in the Department of Life Sciences and Faculty of Medicine and to encourage UROP projects on NTDs.

ⁱ http://whqlibdoc.who.int/hq/2004/WHO_EDM_2004.4.pdf

ⁱⁱ http://www.who.int/phi/CEWG_Report_5_April_2012.pdf, page 24

ⁱⁱⁱ <http://www.onlineuniversities.com/blog/2012/08/100-important-innovations-that-came-from-university-research/>

^{iv} <http://www.imperialinnovations.co.uk/news-centre/news/imperial-innovations-licenses-meningitis-b-vaccine/>

^v <http://www.techtransfer.harvard.edu/about/widelyavailable/Globalaccess/index.php>

^{vi}

http://www.wellcome.ac.uk/stellent/groups/corporatesite/@technology_transfer/documents/web_document/wtd039139.doc

^{vii} <http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/87/7/08-058925/en/>

^{viii} <http://www.jnj.com/connect/news/all/janssen-announces-intent-not-to-enforce-patents-for-darunavir-in-resource-limited-settings>