

Overseas Societies Committee Standing Orders

1. Aims and Objectives

- 1.1. The Committee shall co-ordinate the development and provision of cultural activities within Imperial College Union.
- 1.2. The Committee shall support the international student community in ICU and promote understanding and cultural exchange between all different cultures within Imperial College Union.
- 1.3. The Committee shall liaise with Imperial College's International Office to help enhance the well being of international students.

2. Status

- 2.1. The Committee is a Management Group of the Union.

3. General Meetings

- 3.1. The Committee shall consist of:
 - 3.1.1. The Officers (as listed in section 5.1),
 - 3.1.2. A representative (normally presidents, chairs or equivalent) of its clubs and societies.
- 3.2. The Committee, when formed as a general meeting, shall exercise all the powers of the OSC, and its decisions are binding on sub-committees, clubs and societies.
- 3.3. General meetings and their subcommittees shall follow the Union rules for meetings as stated in the Union Bye-Laws.
- 3.4. General meetings shall be held once per month during term-time, and emergency meetings called on petition of the Chair or 10% of the Committee. The quorum shall be a representative from half of the Clubs of the committee.
- 3.5. Each club and Officer shall have a vote at the meetings. Club votes shall be offered by the president of the club or their nominee.
- 3.6. Meetings shall be advertised, and Agenda circulated, by the Chair or Secretary at least one five (5) clear College days in advance via the committee mailing list. It is the responsibility of club presidents (captains, chairs or equivalent) to inform the Committee secretary of changes to club or society officers, contact details, so the Committee mailing list can be kept up to date.
- 3.7. The Annual General Meeting shall take place before the end of the Spring Term with the required presence of both the Chairs and Treasurers of each club and society.

4. Sub Committees

- 4.1. The Executive Committee shall implement the decisions of general meetings and shall consist of the Officers.
- 4.2. Treasurer's meetings shall be convened on the same day each week during term time for completion of financial procedures and discussion and advice on financial issues. There is no quorum for treasurers meetings. Changes to the day should be communicated in advance via the Committee mailing list.
- 4.3. Treasurer's meetings shall consist of:
 - 4.3.1. The Treasurer, as chair,
 - 4.3.2. The treasurers of each club.

- 4.4. The International Night Committee shall co-ordinate the organisation and implementation of the Imperial College Union International Night Show known as "I-Night". It shall consist of:
 - 4.4.1. International Night Chair, as chair;
 - 4.4.2. The Chair,
 - 4.4.3. The Treasurer,
 - 4.4.4. Any other Union members, as elected by the Committee.

5. 5. Officers

- 5.1. The Officers of the Committee shall be the:
 - 5.1.1. Chair,
 - 5.1.2. Secretary,
 - 5.1.3. Treasurer,
 - 5.1.4. Assistant Treasurer,
 - 5.1.5. International Night Chair,
 - 5.1.6. Events Officer,
 - 5.1.7. Sports Officer
- 5.2. No person shall hold more than one officer post. Officers hand over to their successors on the 1st of August.
- 5.3. Officers shall be ex-officio members of all OSC Clubs and Societies and shall also be allowed to be officers, including President, Treasurer and Secretary.

6. Job descriptions and responsibilities

- 6.1. The Chair shall:
 - 6.1.1. Represent the Committee and chair its main and executive committees.
 - 6.1.2. Be responsible to the Union President through the appropriate Deputy President for the finances, health & safety, adherence to policy and activities of the Board and its clubs and societies.
 - 6.1.3. Be responsible for the efficient organisation and administration of the Committee and the promotion of and advertising the Committee within Imperial College Union.
 - 6.1.4. Advise on the preparation and justification of tour proposals.
 - 6.1.5. Chair the sub-committees in the absence of the respective sub-committee chair.
 - 6.1.6. Represent the committee at any formal or ad hoc Union or College committees or meetings which may be of importance to the OSC.
 - 6.1.7. Negotiate other duties with officers.
- 6.2. The Secretary shall:
 - 6.2.1. Be responsible for the efficient administration of the Committee.
 - 6.2.2. Record and prepare minutes for the main and executive committees of the Committee.
 - 6.2.3. Handle the Committee's mailing list and keep it up to date.
- 6.3. The Treasurer shall:
 - 6.3.1. Be responsible to the Chair for the efficient administration of the finances of the Committee.
 - 6.3.2. Organise weekly Treasurers' meetings.
 - 6.3.3. Assist clubs in preparing IC Trust & Harlington Trust applications.

- 6.3.4. Organise specific budgeting training at the start of Second Term.
- 6.3.5. Deputise for the Chair in their absence.
- 6.4. The Assistant Treasurer shall:
 - 6.4.1. Be responsible for the Committee's finances.
 - 6.4.2. Deputise for the Treasurer in their absence,
 - 6.4.3. Help the Treasurer in assisting societies in IC Trust & Harlington Trust applications and budget preparation.
 - 6.4.4. Seek and liaise with sponsors.
- 6.5. The International Night Chair shall:
 - 6.5.1. Coordinate the organisation and running of the International Night Show which acts as a showcase for OSC clubs.
 - 6.5.2. Chair the International Night committee.
 - 6.5.3. Report to the OSC with the outcome of the International Night including points for improvement
 - 6.5.4. Submit a budget to the Assistant Treasurer for approval of the expenses of International Night.
- 6.6. The Events Officer shall:
 - 6.6.1. Coordinate the organisation and running of the International Festival which acts as a showcase for OSC clubs through food and dance.
 - 6.6.2. Assist the International Night Chair with I-Night organisation.
 - 6.6.3. Organise other events that will help the Committee achieve its aims and objective.
 - 6.6.4. Report to the OSC with the outcome of the International Festival including points for improvement
 - 6.6.5. Submit a budget (for each event) to the Assistant Treasurer for approval of the expenses of the events.
- 6.7. The Sports Officer Shall:
 - 6.7.1. Coordinate the organisation and running of the OSC Football Cup and Basketball Tournament.
 - 6.7.2. Seek help from within the Committee to run these events.
 - 6.7.3. Report to the OSC with the outcome of the events including points for improvement.
 - 6.7.4. Submit a budget to the Assistant Treasurer for approval of the expenses of the events.
- 6.8. The most qualified officer of the committee, at the decision of the chair, shall be responsible for the development and updating of the OSC website.

7. Elections

- 7.1. Elections for Officers of the committee shall be at an Annual General Meeting held before the end of Spring Term.
- 7.2. Elections for the Officer positions must adhere to the Union Minor Election Bye-Laws.
- 7.3. All Members of the Union may stand for any Officer post, and only members of the Committee may vote in the election.
- 7.4. Only a proposer is required to make a nomination valid. Only Members of the Union may be proposers and seconders.
- 7.5. Nominations may only be accepted from the floor if no valid nominations are received for a post.
- 7.6. The procedure and timetable for the election shall be as follows:

- 7.6.1. The election should be advertised for at least five (5) clear College days before nomination papers go up.
- 7.6.2. Nomination papers should be up for at least five (5) clear College days.
- 7.6.3. The election is held at a General Meeting, including hustings for all candidates.
- 7.6.4. The election shall be counted by Single Transferable Vote with Re-Open Nominations standing for each post.
- 7.7. The Returning Officer is normally the Committee Chair, though another may be appointed by the Committee.
- 7.8. Vacant or unfilled posts may be filled at a General Meeting, though the requirements in 7.6 still apply.
- 7.9. Disputes over an election, including elections within the Committee's clubs and societies should be resolved by the Returning Officer where possible, and forwarded to the Union President for final interpretations.

8. Censure and dismissal of officers

- 8.1. A General Meeting of the Committee may censure or dismiss the Officers by special resolution with the following requirements:
 - 8.1.1. The motion shall be proposed by and seconded by another Member of the Union at least one week before the meeting.
 - 8.1.2. The subject of the motion has full right of reply at the meeting.
 - 8.1.3. The motion shall be passed only by a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.
 - 8.1.4. A successful motion may be appealed to the Union Council.
- 8.2. This censure and dismissal procedure exists concurrently with the Union Council's jurisdiction to remove officers and representatives.

9. Creation and closure of clubs, societies and projects

- 9.1. A new club may be created by the New Clubs Committee and allocated to the OSC, in line with the Union 'Clubs and Societies Policy'. Upon allocation to the OSC, a new club should submit a constitution for the approval of the Committee at the next meeting. This shall be done at a General Meeting.
- 9.2. Any Member of the Union may appeal the decision of the New Clubs Committee to allocate a project to a Management Group to the Clubs and Societies Board (CSB), whose decision is final.
- 9.3. A current club or society which has below twenty members, or has not attended two consecutive meetings that academic year may be classed as dormant by the Committee for one, two or three terms, in accordance with the Clubs & Society Policy. If a club remains dormant for the specified period, the Committee or the Union may shut it down.
- 9.4. A club may shut itself down with the consent of the OSC Executive Committee.
- 9.5. The Committee may shut down a club by special resolution with at least a week's notice and concurrence of a two-thirds majority.

10. Overseas Societies Committee Awards

- 10.1. The Committee presents OSC Awards to individuals who have carried out actions of note within the remit of the Committee of its Clubs. These are:

- 10.1.1. OSC Colours: Awarded for efforts above and beyond those expected of a persons' role for individuals who have given significant and repeated outstanding contributions to the student experience within OSC Clubs & Societies throughout the year.
- 10.1.2. OSC Distinguished Service Award: An award of much greater magnitude of recognition of efforts, usually over a number of years, beyond those expected of an individual within OSC Clubs & Societies.
- 10.1.3. OSC Fellowship: Shall only be awarded to those individuals who have served OSC Clubs & Societies or the OSC Exec extensively, and enhanced the student experience in an exceptional manner, over a number of years. It is not anticipated that there will be nominees of sufficient standard for this to be given each year.
- 10.2. There shall be an award each year to an event held by an OSC Society which has enhanced student experience in an exceptional manner namely through provision for its members and promotion of cultural diversity as the "Event of the Year".
- 10.3. Nominations for the Awards aforementioned in 10.1 and 10.2 shall open for at least 10 College Days prior to the Executive Committee making any decisions. Self-nominees will have to be seconded by another Student Officer within the OSC, and a statement detailing his or her contributions to the Society and student life at Imperial. Decisions will be done prior to the June Union Awards Ceremony and their decision is final.
- 10.4. There shall be an award each year to one Society within the OSC which has performed in an exceptional manner to promote cultural diversity and contributed significantly to the Committee's aims and objectives as the "Society of the Year".
- 10.5. The Executive Committee shall independently decide upon Award 10.4 without the need for nominations based on the Society's performance over the year based on alignment to Aims & Objectives, involvement with the OSC, SGI turnover, activity of the society, membership targets, and shall take advice from the Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) and Deputy President (Finance & Services) if needed.
- 10.6. All Awards will normally be presented at the Union Awards Ceremony and published in Felix.

11. Status, interpretation and amendment of these standing orders

- 11.1. These standing orders are bound by the Union's constitution, bye-laws and policy.
- 11.2. The Chair shall make initial interpretations of these standing orders. When no settled position can be made on interpretation, or when it involves a Union rule, it shall be referred to the Union President.
- 11.3. The Committee may propose an amendment to these standing orders by a special resolution, with at least one week's notice of the amendment circulated to all members and concurrence of two-thirds of them. The Clubs & Societies Board of the Union is required to approve amendments, though a decision to approve or reject an amendment may be overturned by the Union Council.