

Council  
10 December 2013

Imperial College Union

## **Deputy President (Welfare) Report**

A report by Marissa Lewis

### **Immigration Bill**

I've been working closely with David and College on coordinating the Union's response to the Immigration Bill. After the paper declaring the Union's stance went through Council, I went and presented it again at the Vice Provost Advisory Group (Education). From this meeting, it was decided that I should meet with Denis Wright (Director of Student Support) and Sharon Bolton (Head of the International Office). This took place last week and they are happy to back up the Union's stance. The paper has also been forwarded to UKCISA (UK Council for International Student Affairs) through Sharon Bolton and the International Officer of the NUS. Professor Debra Humphries (Vice Provost (Education)) then went on to include the text of this paper in her report to the Provost Board. I'd once again like to thank all members of the working group who helped me write the paper – hopefully how far this paper has gone shows how valuable it was.

On the more student-facing side, I met with NUS International Officer Daniel Stevens along with David and our International Officer to discuss how to move forward with the campaign. It was decided that we would be better off focusing on lobbying the House of Lords as it had moved so quickly through the Commons and was unlikely to be challenged at this late stage. After this, I helped develop the content for the online campaign page ([imperialcollegeunion.org/immigrationbill](http://imperialcollegeunion.org/immigrationbill)) where students can help contribute to an open letter the Union will be writing to the six Lords we identified to be associated with Imperial College. I also wrote the front page article in Felix this week on the same topic.

David and I were also able to meet with Lord Robert Winston and Lady Eliza Manningham-Buller to discuss the Bill in person.

### **SHAG Week**

SHAG week proved very popular. As a reminder, the events we had were Imperial's version of 'It Gets Better', Pee in a Pot testing for Sports Night, a free Sexual Health Clinic and a screening of 'Philadelphia'. We also had a stall in Sherfield with SHAG-themed games like Unlucky Dip and Guess the number of condoms in the jar. To give an idea of popularity, we ran out of pee-in-a-pot tests for men after the first 2 hours of Sports night and unfortunately had to turn people away. The STI clinic was similarly over-subscribed, with around three times as many people showing up as we had appointments.

### **SES**

The Student Experience Survey is now live and available for all students to fill in, except those expected to complete the National Student Survey this year. It will be promoted through until January alongside SOLE until it is closed.

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### **Training**

I developed and delivered part of the Postgraduate Academic Rep training.

I went to Silwood and delivered training to their committee on welfare issues and campaigning.

I also attended a two day course entitled 'Mental Health First Aid' through the College's Learning and Development Centre – the purpose of it is to train people to recognise signs of mental illness and help others who may be experiencing symptoms or who are in crisis.

### **Interviews**

I have been part of the interview panel for the following positions:

- Senior Student Counsellor
- Appointed Student Trustees