

**Deputy President (Education) Report- 14 January**

***A report by Natalie Kempston***

**1. Leave**

Since the last council I have taken 12 days leave, and as you read this I am probably sitting on a beach in Thailand. (I've only had 7 working days since last Council- hence the briefness of this report).

**2. Senate- Grade Point Average (GPA) Debate**

The Higher Education Authority is hosting a pilot of GPA in several universities- and Debra Humphris (Vice Provost Education) decided that College Senate should hold a debate on whether we should become a part of this pilot. Union Council last year passed a stance that we were against the introduction of GPA- and so I went to argue against the introduction of GPA. Thanks to all my Reps who came to the last Education and Representation Board and gave me some fantastic arguments to support this motion- all my arguments were really well received and I even got a "hear hear". Dean of the Faculty of Engineering, Prof Jeff Magee, was also against the introduction of GPA, and between us we swung the room so now Imperial will not be a part of this pilot. The senior College staff now realise that there is no desire to move to a GPA-system, so all in all a very successful debate for us! #Councilwin

**3. NSS 2014 Promotion**

It seems like NSS 2013 has just finished- but it's time to go again! NSS 2014 opens for final year UGs on January 20, except for Medicine when the survey will open from January 13. (This is due to final year's being on placement from 20 Jan and being much harder to capture from this date). Promotion plans are similar to last year, with a joint email from myself and Debra going to students highlighting the importance of the survey, participation graphs on the ICU website and plasma screens throughout College (and this year I've managed to get graphs on Blackboard), promotion in Felix, a prize draw for those taking part etc...

**4. Rep Conference- Wednesday 19 February**

Plans for our first Representation Conference are underway with the line up now taking shape. All reps will be invited as well as all the DUGS/DPS- save the date emails have already gone out to all of these parties. Speakers include Lorraine Craig, Debra Humphris, staff from IPSOS MORI (those behind the NSS), and some of my wonderful reps.

**5. Committees attended:**

- Senate
- Appointments and Remuneration Committee
- Physics Staff Student Committee
- Vice-Provost's Advisory Group for Education
- Student Tutor System Project Board- Terminology Review

## **Deputy President (Education) Report- 11 February**

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#### **6. Rep Conference 2014**

We are currently writing the final materials for the conference as well as drumming up publicity as there is only 1 week to go! Speakers confirmed: Alex Bols (Exec Director of the 1994 Group), Graeme Wise (NUS), along with staff and student speakers: Dr Lorraine Craig, Prof Debra Humphris, etc...

For more details, registration etc click: <https://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/rep-conference/rep-conference-2014>

Theme is "What is excellence" and all materials/breakout sessions revolve around this. Will be followed by a drinks reception and it will be amazing so come along if you're interested.

#### **7. NSS 2014 Promotion**

NSS is well under way! Participation graph: <https://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/nss-2013-14/nss-turnout-2014> is updated 3 times a week by me. Other publicity plans: I've been to a few departments to talk to students and handed out pens/sweets etc, emailed all eligible students, participation rates are on blackboard but I am working on getting these to be more prominent so students really notice them.

I have met with FoNS to discuss their plans- including a £5 donation for every student who fills it in to that student's DepSoc! FYI: FoNS withheld student phone numbers this year. Some departments are actively telling their students not to fill it in yet (Life Sciences and Civil Eng) so their response rates will reflect this. Survey is open until the end of April so we have a long way to go...

#### **8. Education and Representation Board**

College's plans for some sort of "Imperial Award" to recognise extracurricular achievements were on the agenda, as Kieron and I are on the working group for this award. College want to recognise students who have certain attributes that come from carrying out certain extracurricular/volunteering activities, so I was asking for Rep input as to what they want to see make up this award. NSS publicity plan was discussed and put together for different departments. Rep Week and Rep Conference plans were also discussed.

#### **9. Rep Week**

The second Rep Week of the 13/14 year will take place 17-21 February. I have noticed that the most effective stall at various fairs always seems to be Nandos, so we are trying to make our stall more "Nandos'esque". We are making a spin the wheel game with prizes (no chicken unfortunately), and this time plan to get reps to go out in their own departments wearing the "love your rep" t-shirts and talking to students/handing out flyers. A timetable of events \*should\* be in Felix this Friday.

#### **10. Masterplanning**

I was asked to put together a Student Panel to advise College in their “Masterplanning” process for South Ken and Imperial West. I did this in September- however they have only asked to convene this panel now! You may have heard that the Chemistry department is first on the list for relocation to the Imperial West site. A Chemistry student specific panel has been put together to discuss logistics and plans of the move, as well as the Chemistry Dep Rep being added to the general student panel.

<https://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/news/chemistrys-possible-transition-imperial-west>

#### **11. Residential Experience Review**

I sat on the first day of the RER panel (4.5 hours!!) with Marissa, as David was on leave. Evidence was presented by Denis Wright (Head of Student Support), Campus Services and the Wardens. See Marissa’s report for more information.

#### **12. New Year’s Fair**

I volunteered at ICU’s very first New Year’s Fair- more manual labour for us!

#### **12. Committees attended:**

- Vice-Provost’s Advisory Group for Education
- Postgraduate Research Quality Committee
- Undergraduate Admissions Committee
- Imperial Horizons Committee Meeting
- Student Enterprise Steering Board
- ICT Student Insight
- FoNS meeting with Faculty Dean and student reps
- CSPB
- Exec