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20 May 2014

Imperial College Union  
**Council Report**  
*By Deputy President (Clubs & Societies), Yas Edwards*

### **Annual Budgeting**

Annual budgeting is now complete after the Clubs, Societies & Projects Board met on May 6<sup>th</sup>. Kieron and I wrote a paper detailing recommendations for the appeals that were received from the Clubs, Societies & Projects after they were informed of their budgeting allocation for next academic year. This process tidied up the budgets of many groups and highlighted some who had been negatively affected by the new process, although overall it seemed to work well. Feedback will be received and led by a staff member to ensure honest opinions are heard so we can make recommendations to next year's DPCS and DPFS to improve the process and build on the changes we have made this year.

### **New Clubs Committee**

The New Clubs Committee met on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> to consider 8 applications for new ideas for groups at Imperial College Union. Decisions are yet to be finalised as the full committee was not in attendance and we still have some outstanding applications to consider in the next few weeks. We will also be holding a meeting to consider the activities of new groups who have been in the new club incubator this year, with the aim to have them passed as full clubs if they are eligible before the end of term.

### **Tours**

We considered 26 Summer Tour applications at CSPB and accepted 25 of them as valid tours. The groups are currently writing budgets for these and we will then divide out the money we have from the IC Trust. In addition to the money from the division at the start of the year, we have been able to recall unspent money from previous tour periods which increases the total we have to give out in this period.

### **Outreach**

I sent out emails to students based at the campuses of Silwood, St Mary's and Hammersmith containing information about what is going on at their campuses. This is part of our outreach strategy to improve the services we provide to students outside of South Kensington. Our Stress Less campaign has been or will be at many of our outlying campuses with staff and sabbatical officers attending as well.

We also met with College staff from the Student Hub to talk about ways we can work together to deliver Union and College services to students who cannot get to South Kensington easily and aim to have a joined up approach in doing this to provide a wide range of services in any visits to non-South Kensington campuses.

### **BUCS and Sport Imperial**

I attended a full day on a BUCS disciplinary panel, as one of two student representatives, considering a number of appeals, misconduct and sanction hearings. It gave me the rare opportunity to influence

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how the regulations of BUCS are interpreted and enforced and gave me a greater insight into the membership organisation which I can feed into the handover with my successor.

I was also involved with the event One Big Thing which is an event run by Sport Imperial as part of a BUCS initiative to increase participation and physical activity during the Summer exam season. It was run only at Imperial last year and has been rolled out to all institutions to take part in this year. I assisted in advertising the event to boost attendee numbers which was around 2.5X higher than last year's event.

### **Union Redevelopments**

The start date for the Union Concert Hall was pushed back and is now July 8<sup>th</sup> but the plan is still to have everything completed over Summer for the first day of term so that student activities and student shows are not interrupted. There has been some more work looking into the structure of the room including the ceiling and floor to ensure that it will be suitable for the activities that take place there.

The West Basement redevelopment and now underway and is on schedule. Demolition work is complete and they are starting to build the new walls. An issue with access to storage has been resolved and we will be looking at improving storage solutions as we go. The central services Manager and a student representative is due to have a meeting with the company that will do the cabling and equipment install in the near future.

### **Union Awards**

I have been part of the group working on the Union Awards focussing on some changes we wanted to make this year to recognise and show appreciation to more of our volunteers. The area I focussed on was coming up with some new awards that mean more Clubs, Societies and Projects and the volunteers who run them can get recognised for doing great things throughout the year. The new awards are: Event of the Year, Campaign of the Year, Innovation & Enterprise, Contribution to College Life, Volunteer of the Year and Project of the Year. Nominations opened on May 12<sup>th</sup>. This is meant to be a pilot year to build on the changes and improve in the future how we recognise our student members who contribute greatly to what we do.

### **Arts Imperial**

I attended the Arts Imperial Board meeting which are held once a term. We were updated on the Blythe Centre and termly concerts in South Kensington and on the Hammersmith campus which attempts to bring performance arts to an outlying campus.

## **Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) - Council Report – 29 April 2014**

### **Budgeting**

Budgeting is on-going after three meetings with the next CSPB occurring on the 6<sup>th</sup> of May. The deadline for appeals has passed and we have received forty seven from clubs, societies and projects who wish to receive more money next academic year. Following this process we will be collecting

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feedback to build on the new process in the future and I will also be looking at how the development fund will work and be administered next academic year.

### **Tours**

The Summer tour applications close on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> at Midnight. They will be reviewed at CSPB and successful applications will receive some funds towards the transport costs of their tour. Money has already gone out to those successful in getting winter and spring tour funding and I am currently collating submitted tour reports and requesting those not yet submitted. All tour reports from student groups who were successful in their applications and went on a tour, form a full report that will be submitted to the IC trust next academic year to apply for more money for tours.

### **NCC and NPC**

Below a summary of the new club, society and project applications I have received so far this year and the outcomes after new club committee and new project committee meetings. We have 11 to look at now the term has restarted and the committee and applicants are back at Imperial. I have been meeting with students who have CSPs in the New Club Incubator (NCI) and the new clubs and new projects committees will be reviewing their activities and progress before the end of the academic year so those which can become full clubs do so before next year and receive the benefits of being a club at the start of first term.

<b>Outcome</b>	<b>Number of Applications</b>
Yes	3
No	12
NCI	14
Due	11
No attendance	4
	<b>44</b>

### **Sports Strategy**

I have been continuing my work on the Union's first ever sports strategy, focussing mainly on participation but encompassing a wide variety of topics relating to student sport and physical activity. The strategy will soon be in a format where I can begin to gain feedback and opinions from relevant student groups and College, and anyone else who would be interested in this. I will also be bringing the final version it to Council later this year.

### **Storage**

I have been working on a couple of storage areas to try to maximise the use student groups get from the space we have available. The locks on the store room at the back of the Union Dining Hall have now been fixed after a lengthy waiting time for College, and is currently being tidied and reorganised by the users to free up some additional space. There are some plans to changes some of the storage arrangements shared by musical theatre society and some other groups on third floor and I will also begin to have the Union gym storage space sorted and tidied by the users now term has restarted. In

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In addition to this, I am collecting information on users of the washing machines in the west basement to understand the use they have.

### **Imperial Hub Advisory Board**

I attended the first Imperial Hub Advisory Board which was chaired by one of our appointed trustees. Its purpose is to drive the strategic direction of Imperial Hub and improve relations between the charity and the Union without duplicating what is on offer at Imperial College either by the Union centrally or by existing student groups. The first meeting went well, with plans to invite some other board members with specialist knowledge in areas Imperial Hub works in.

### **Sabb Role Review**

We have all been involved in an entire sabbatical role review. Discussions have been going well and I have been focussing on the current DPCS and DPFS role with Kieron and various members of Union staff. There is some overlap in the two roles with regards to responsibilities and jobs and we are looking to see where the roles will and should be going in the next few years. This will eventually be brought to council and will seek the opinions of others including past and future sabbatical officers before then to get a balanced view of the sabbatical roles at Imperial College Union.