



MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
of the third ordinary meeting of the
Education and Representation Board
of the Imperial College Union
in the 2013/2014 Session

The meeting of the Education and Representation Board was held in the Union Building on the 22nd May 2014 at 6.06pm in Meeting Room 1, Imperial College Union.

Present:

Deputy President (Education) - Chair	Natalie Kempston
CGCU Academic Affairs Officer	James Murphy
President	David Goldsmith
Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Kieron Creagh
Deputy President (Welfare)	Marissa Lewis
GSA AWO – Engineering	Hassan Ahmadzadeh
Chemical Engineering UG Departmental Representative	Rachel Hounslow
Bioengineering UG Departmental Representative	Matthew Murchie
Representation Coordinator - Minute taker	Zoe Richardson

Apologies:

GSA AWO – Physical Sciences	Max Boleininger
ICSMSU President	Steve Tran
Earth Science & Engineering UG Departmental Representative	George Fisher
Materials UG Departmental Representative	Carole Ng
ICSMSU AO – Years 1, 2 & GE	Anju George
Mechanical Engineering UG Departmental Representative	Dmitri Ivanov
Departmental Representative Civil Engineering	Aparna Mathur
Education & Welfare Manager	Andrew Keenan
Student Advisor	Nigel Cooke
Biochemistry UG Departmental Representative	Elana Bryan
Earth Science & Engineering UG Departmental Representative	Lewis Ryan
Chemistry UG Departmental Representative	Catherine Lu
Mathematics UG Departmental Representative	Deepika Pyla
Membership Services Manager	Philip Power

1. CHAIR'S BUSINESS

- a) Attendees were welcomed to the meeting.
- b) Academic Representatives are encouraged to nominate fellow Representatives or their team for the three Representative-specific Union Awards.

ACTION: Representatives are requested to nominate their deserving fellow Representatives for both Union colours and for Union Awards.

- c) Students were asked to sit on panels to determine which students are awarded Union Colours and Union Awards. Panels will be held 2nd – 6th June.

ACTION: Any students interested in sitting on a Union Award panel to contact NK.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – 6TH FEBRUARY 2014

- a) The minutes of the last meeting will be reviewed at a later date as copies are not available and have not been circulated.

3. MATTERS ARISING

- a) There were no matters arising.

4. HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING POLICY

- a) Union Council seeks to shortly pass a policy regarding the future of Higher Education funding for Undergraduate students. The majority of students won't pay back their student loan therefore changes are needed to the system. A paper describing the current options was distributed to attendees.
- b) Model One as described in the paper would allow students to attend university for free but would most likely result in a reduction in university places. It was also raised that this may result in an increase in the fees International students pay.
- c) It was suggested that whilst the funding of university fees is important, a more pressing issue is the impact maintenance loans have on student's ability to access Higher Education.
- d) A concern raised regarding Model Two was that people are unable to pay fees upfront, however after a certain period of time the tax on earnings ceases.
- e) Under Model One there were concerns that the value of an Imperial degree would be negatively affected, and therefore money to subsidise studies would need to be found elsewhere. This system is untested and no concrete plan is in place to explain how degrees would be funded without students paying fees.
- f) There is potential under Model One that university education would become elitist and reduce social mobility. As fewer universities places would exist these would go to those with the highest grades – arguably more accessible to the richest in society through private tutoring.
- g) It was raised that under Model One government priorities would dictate which subjects were funded, which may not echo the priorities of students.

- h) Student discussed whether non-graduate taxpayers should be forced to subsidise the experience of those who do attend university. No consensus was reached.

ACTION: Interested parties should contact Natalie Kempston to discuss their views further.

5. Staff Student Audit

- a) Currently an audit is done by Sabbatical students and staff members. This is seen as of limited value as few staff read it yet its production is labour intensive.
- b) It was suggested that given the criteria it would be easy for Representatives to log these when they upload staff-student committee papers onto e-Activities.

6. PRINTERS

- a) Kieron Creagh – ICT would like to hear student feedback regarding printers.
- b) Within Chemical Engineering these are very good. Bioengineering and Mechanical Engineering both reported issues.
- c) Printers in the library are often out of order or are running low on toner. The current tap-in system does not always work and swipe card access can be unpredictable. Printers are often out of paper.
- d) It was also raised that certain printers cost more than others for no clear reason – most notably depending on the building. Students are not always aware that they will be charged more using one printer over another.
- e) The majority of students update their accounts online – only a handful used the coin machine.
- f) Concerns were also raised that double sided printing costs more than printing two pages yet saves paper.
- g) Students would also like clearer communication which printers are colours and which are black and white, for example stickers on machines.

ACTION – Kieron to pass on concerns and feedback to ICT.

7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- a) Students are reminded that the Representative Thank You drinks will held shortly. Invites should have been sent to their Imperial e-mail accounts.

Meeting closed 18:50

Approved as a correct record at a meeting of the Education and Representation Board
on _____ 2013/14

_____ Chair of the Meeting