

Deputy President (Welfare) Report to Council

Christopher Kaye, Deputy President (Welfare)

'Dri' event

Following my manifesto pledge for a mingle-style event at which all students, regardless of their age, are welcome, I have worked closely with the Commercial Services Team to arrange an alcohol-free club night at the Union. This event kicks off today (13th) downstairs after Council – please come along!

Outreach to women in science

I have been in contact with relevant parties, such as Women in SET and an interested and experienced Postgraduate student who has come to Imperial from another institution which will bring a different perspective to help me to further my pledge to improve female participation in science subjects.

Meeting College staff

I have met many senior College staff – too many to name in fact, however they have been all enthusiastic and helpful and I look forward to working closely with them over the year.

Meeting representatives from Royal Veterinary College Students' Union (RVCSU)

I arranged meetings between the sabbatical team and opposite numbers from RVCSU with the aim of promoting joint events this year. Work is ongoing between the President, Deputy President (Finance & Services) and the RVCSU to run a joint event hopefully in November which I encourage you to attend.

Meeting Management of the Health Centre

Towards the end of September, I met the management of the Health Centre to discuss the service provided to students. I raised concerns relating to printing charges and service times and will be ensuring that this doesn't slip off the radar this year as I fell very passionate about service provided to the students by Health Centre.

College's Website re-design

In early September, I participated in College's Website Redesign Project Board. I sought and collated student views on the proposed footer on the website, and relayed the responses to the board. However as this was during the summer break, I was only able to gain a small number of participants but which I ensured represented a broad cross section of the student population.

Subwarden Interviews

Council
13 October 2014

In my role as Deputy President (Welfare), I get invited to sit on the panels that interview sub wardens for the Halls of Residences. I have sat on two such panels so far and I anticipate sitting on more throughout the year.

Facebook

In keeping with my aim to increase engagement with our members, I have taken an active role in administering the Freshers' Group on 'Facebook' (a popular social media website) and answering questions the incoming freshers have. I have also reduced the level of spamming from last year by comparing applications to join against students on the College database – a painstaking process!

Open days/Welcome talks

I attended College's first Saturday Open Day, where I manned the Union's stall, and also gave a Campus tour during my lunch break. I was impressed with the number of attendees and am confident that a Saturday Open Day will continue.

I manned the Union stall during an event for our Associate Members from FIE.

I spoke at the 'Not In Halls' welcome talks. There was a large amount of Postgraduate attendees compared to Undergraduate attendees which I found interesting and I enjoyed socialising with them after the talks.

I attended both Mingle nights, including 'Lite Mingle', as well as h-bar. These were a great success but we still have some learning points to put in to practice with the 'Lite Mingle'. I see the importance of providing this as an alternative but not sure if we have got it quite right just yet. I would like to thank the Sabbatical and Commercial Services team for their hard work and dedication – in particular the Deputy President (Finance & Services) who was exemplary in the welfare services he provided on both nights.

Welfare and Sporting activity

I am working with the Deputy President Clubs & Societies, Sport Imperial, and relevant members of College staff on producing guidelines surrounding what sport equipment is acceptable to be stored in halls of residence.

As College acquired Heston Sports Ground early in to my tenure, I visited Heston sports ground in August with the other Officer Trustees. I know that some students felt passionately that they were not well informed of this major change and I echo their sentiment that consultation is a cornerstone of student life when it affects their student experience.

Constituent Unions/Liberation Officers

Having met many of the Constituent Union Presidents, I am pleased with their provision of inclusive events for their Freshers – events such as the RCSU Tea Party and RSMU Sports Day.

Felix

You may have read my article in the first edition of Felix. It was full of wellbeing tips and I hope that it will give the information that some need at this stressful time of the year. I will be a regular

Council
13 October 2014

contributor in my role as I feel that welfare and wellbeing information cannot be spoken about too much!

Tunnels

One of my ambitions during my many years at Imperial has been to explore the tunnels that exist under College. I am pleased to say that I was able to secure a guided tour for the Sabbatical team during summer.

NSS

I am currently analysing part of the data received from the NSS 2013/14 survey and this will help for the Union's response to the National Student Survey.

College Strategy

I have agreed to help College draft their 2015-20 Strategy and will report back my experience on this.

Leave

I have taken 3 ½ days of leave to date.