

## **RSMU Start of Term Report for Council**

*RSMU President Ben Warnick*



### **Events**

Over the summer break preparations were made for Freshers' Fortnight and Autumn Term as a whole. Already we have had our introductory talks to ESE and Materials and on Tuesday we ran the first Freshers' event to which there was a brilliant turnout from freshers', older years and postgrads/alumni alike. For Freshers' Fair a flyer was produced outlining the autumn term's events.

Coming up are four more RSM freshers' events: Thursday's bar night, with a tube station theme, a sports day style 'RSM Olympics', a quiz night against ICSM and the annual Freshers' dinner which is being held at the Rembrandt Hotel. As the dinner is being held at an external venue, greater restriction compared to previous years will be in place. This is because we would rather maintain the tradition of Freshers' Dinner and to ensure this, we need to move away from the rowdier dinners of the recent past. A letter regarding expected behaviour to be sent to the hosts before the day of the dinner has been drafted, and approved in a committee meeting.

We are now planning Halloween bar night and Christmas dinner. The latter will be held at the Millennium Gloucester Hotel. A bar night with other constituent unions is also in the pipeline.

As part of our ongoing efforts to make the RSM as inclusive as possible, the RSM is striving to make sure alcohol is not forced upon freshers, and we are also running events such as the Olympics so that freshers understand the RSMU is not a 'drinking club'. We are encouraging our clubs and societies to form teams alongside "family" teams through the buddies system for the Olympics.

### **Clubs and Societies**

The term has just begun and so there has not been much chance for the DepSocs to run events. DLB, GeophysSoc and MatSoc all held a welcome reception for their respective freshers after the introductory talks on Monday. The DLB talks are being arranged and the first one is proposed to be the same evening as the SocOff. There will be a DLB dinner on the 10th of November to celebrate 100 years of the society. The DLB symposium will be held on the 11th of November and shortly followed by the first DLB trip to the Welsh Gold Belt from the 14th to the 16<sup>th</sup> of November. The second trip will be between the 6th of March and the 8<sup>th</sup> with a proposed destination of Keswick.

As far as MatSoc is concerned elections for president will occur as soon as possible. Once a new president is in place event organisation will be easier. Matsoc will try to arrange a talk similar in style to DLB talks before the SocOff and will collaborate with the DLB in running the paintballing trip (Date TBC). This trip will play a part in The Hill Cup; an annual competition between the two deptsocs.

Geophysics Society (GPS) has begun arrangements for a trip to Mount Etna at the end of this academic year. As this is international it will need more regulation than the DLB trips. Possibilities for sponsorship are being looked into to lower the cost for individuals. This trip will occur alongside the more traditional timetable of events including talks, bad films and the bowling trip.

RSM sports teams all had popular stalls at Freshers' Fair and hope to have a great turnout this year from old and new players.

Hockey: Arrange a new kit as sponsorship has been acquired from Schlumberger.

Council  
13 October 2014

Football: Kit sponsored by CGG. Inter-sports events are being organised. The first training session will be on Saturday the 11th.

Rugby: Trying to get RSM vs RSM Old Boys game arranged.

Badminton: A fledgling club which started informally last year and depending on the success may apply to be a new club. The main problem is that there are too few people to justify using Ethos as it is quite costly. Other arrangements are being looked into.

Netball: A longstanding feature at Bottle Match, the Netball club is planning on holding training sessions this year and plan on filing an application to be reinstated as a club in the near future.

Bottle Match: There is an ongoing dialog with Sports Imperial regarding the usage of the new Heston grounds, where all the sports (including the indoor sports like basketball and squash) could be played. Unfortunately there is no hockey astro turf and this may have to be played at Harlington. The catering facilities and bars on the site will eliminate the need for external vendors. As another bonus, it could be possible to hold the players' dinner there before everyone meets at the Union for the presentation. A final decision regarding this matter is still to be made. ICTV have been contacted about potentially filming parts of the event.

Swimming and general fitness sessions are planned to be run informally throughout the year.

Real Ale Society: Has been revived by some students from Chemical Engineering, Tom Beick and Sam Corman. Membership is free, although they still need access to the mailing list. The plan is to try and organise a brewery tour at some point in this academic year.

### **Regalia**

Current supplies still need to be brought out of storage. The regalia officers will work with the website officer to get photos of the available regalia up on the RSM webpage.

### **Academic Liaison and Welfare**

Emma Toms wants to start a drop in slot for students to bring up any academic matters with the Academic Liaison Officer. Similar sessions will be run by the Welfare Officer, Rachel Shuttleworth. Details to when and where will be arranged and posted across the department. Rachel is also looking into working with the CGCU welfare officer for the welfare week.

### **Finances**

Several potential sponsors have been contacted. So far Rio Tinto, CGG and Schlumberger have said that they will sponsor the Pit, Football and Hockey respectively. Negotiations are still ongoing with Glencore, Statoil, First Drill, Fuller's, Young's and BP. Rugby has also independently acquired sponsorship from Neil & Young.