

Response from Richard Simons – Engineering Postgraduate OM

Apologies for my absence from Council, I am currently at a conference in The Netherlands.

I wish to contribute some points to the discussion of the paper proposed by *Fernando et al*:

- Flags were initially devised as a way of distinguishing allegiance on the battlefield and at sea
- Flags therefore identify a person or body as part of a group
- Imperial College Union is a proudly multicultural and multinational community
- Flying the Union Flag 'continuously' signifies an allegiance of The Union to The United Kingdom

I like the idea of a 'Flag Policy' and believe that the flag pole should be repaired, though I am, however, worried that some of our students may feel excluded by this strong symbol of nationalism being posted by a body whose core objective is to support all students from all corners of the world.

Amendments:

Notes:

3) Remove

Beliefs:

No changes

Resolves:

No changes

Appendix:

1) The flag to be flown should be representative of the beliefs and attitudes of The Union, its students, and campaigns/events which it endorses

i) During events endorsed by The Union a representative flag, where possible/feasible, should be flown, e.g. support of World Aids Day, Pride and other such events

ii) CSPs (and individual students) may submit a request to fly a flag appropriate to their cause, at the discretion of the Union President, e.g.

iii) The default flag should be... A skull and cross-bones ☺ until someone thinks of something better

List of flag ideas:

- College Crest on Graduation and Commemoration days
- Union Flag on days of national mourning/celebration
- Other national flags on days like St. Patrick's, St. Georges. Etc...
- Skull and crossbones (Jolly Roger) on September 19th (International talk like a pirate day)