



RCSU End of Year Report

A note by Serena Yuen, RCSU President.

Tri-Union Bar Night with CGCU, RSMU

This was our first joint event of the year, held in Metric alongside CGCU and RSMU. Turnout was a lot higher than expected, with around 100 on the door sales for the event and a total turnout of over 500 throughout the night.

Winter Ball with CGCU

This was our second Ball of the year, held at Loop Bar near Oxford Circus on 8th December 2014, and held jointly with CGCU. There was only one incident that evening regarding the hired photobooth, but the event was largely a success despite the slow ticket sales.

Science Challenge

The Science Challenge is our flagship event of the year, and is our main form of outreach, as the competition is open to school children across the country as well as every Imperial Student. It is a science communication competition, and the judges and questions we try and find each year aim to reflect this. This year, the competition launched on 1st December in SAF, and participants had until the end of February to submit their entries. Tom Welton, the new Dean of the Faculty was invited as guest speaker for the Launch, alongside our Science Challenge Ambassador Lord Robert Winston.

The judges this year were: Professor Sue Gibson, Ruth Whincup (from Imperial Hub), Mun Keat Looi (from the Wellcome Trust) and our video judge Professor Philip Moriarty (from Nottingham University). In all, we received 100 entries from both Imperial and school students which was a slight decrease from last year, which could have been a result of only about 15% of the expected school children attending the Launch in December.

The Final was held on 23rd March at the Inner Temple near Blackfriars, and attended by finalists (and, if they were school children, accompanied by their parents). This year, we welcomed our two Science Challenge sponsors at the Final, with a presentation being given by a researcher at Winton Capital, and a recruiter from Teach First. As usual, cash prizes were presented to winners and runners up, with the two overall winners being given the chance to shadow Lord Winston for a few days over the summer. We have also contacted Professor Virdee from the Physics Department, who has agreed to help arrange for last year's overall winners to visit CERN, after our previous contact was unable to assist.

Treat Yo'self week, held with RSMU

This year we have marketed our welfare week slightly differently in order to make it more fun and approachable. This was jointly organised by our welfare officer Akash Jyoti and the RSMU Welfare Officer Rach Shuttleworth, with help from Andrew Keenan and Chris Kaye.

The week was held from the 16-20 March, and involved candy floss distribution, beer goggles obstacle course, smoothie bikes, free bike repairs from Dr Bike, a yoga session and bouncy castle afternoon.

Council
09 June 2015

RCSA Dinner

This was held on 21st March, hosted by the RCSA in the Rector's residences at 170 Queens Gate. We were informed fairly last minute about the event, and so received very few sign ups initially, leading to the RCSA subsidising student places a few days before the event. There were about 20 students attending, which was a massive increase compared to previous years, and in all, the event was really well received.

Careers and Networking event

This event took place on the 24th March, and we invited all of our current sponsors (of which all but one attended). We also used this opportunity to reach out to other companies who might be interested in targeting students ahead of the recruiting season, and there were 9 firms attending in total. The event was not too well attended, but the feedback we received from recruiters reflected our thoughts that it was largely due to the timing of the event.

Ideally we would have organised this event for November/October time, but due to unforeseen circumstances, we were unable to find an active VPO until after this time.

RCSU Survey 2015

This year we launched our first survey in the spring term, to try and see how people rated our performance. Overall it was found that people had mixed opinions about our balls, and that the Science Challenge was not well advertised or took too much time commitment to take part in.

Broadsheet

This year's Broadsheet has been revamped to include features on the arts and general culture, to give it a bit more distinction from I, Science. There has been one issue each term so far this year, and the last issue of the year is currently being put together.

RCSU Colours

Nominations and voting by the Colours committee has taken place and the winners will be announced at our final bar night of the year on 18th June in the Union Bar.

RCSU Summer By-Elections

These will be taking place at the start of June, with voting from 15-18th June. The RCSU Committee has 5 unelected positions: RAG Champion, Science Challenge Chair, Sports Officer, Web Officer and Publicity Officer. Results will also be announced at our bar night.

RCSU Summer Ball

The last ball of the year will take place on 23rd June at Strawberry Moons in Mayfair and near to Regent's Street. There'll be an £8,000 bar tab and student priced drinks all night.