

Council Report
Lucinda Sandon-Allum - Union President

Operations

Welcome Week

Helped with the #HelloICU crew training, hall senior training and the club officer welcome as part of orientation week (w/c 28th Sept). Throughout both weeks I took part in que-walking in the Student Hub, also making numerous 'Welcome Talks' to new students for International Orientation, Not in Halls, International Welcome, all department/faculty undergraduates and postgraduates as well as travelling to Silwood to welcome the PG students.

Events and Visits

I was involved in the official opening of Woodward Halls, by unveiling a plaque with the Mayor of Ealing. The general consensus, having spoken to students living in the halls, is that despite the travel time the rooms and facilities available are highly praised.

Graduation took place last week, with over 2,000 students graduating. I opened all three ceremonies, and mingled with many of the new alumni afterwards.

Last Wednesday, the President of China visited Imperial. Students were substantially involved, with 10 undergraduate and postgraduate students being selected to speak with the President and other distinguished guests about their time at Imperial. It was great to see College engage the students predominantly for this visit.

Objectives

Housing - *"Tackle the issue of finding quality, affordable housing in London"*

Working with Jennie and Citizens UK on a housing campaign for the Mayoral Election. Jennie attended borough meeting with other students to pitch Imperial student's biggest housing worries, with affordability being a key factor. On 23rd Nov I will be attending a meeting to ratify 3 asks for London's top housing priorities and make a plan with Citizens UK for London.

I've had several responses back from Universities using Move'm - a landlord accreditation website.

CSPs - *"Deliver new income streams for our Clubs, Societies & Projects"*

I've met with several organisations including RSM, Enactus and in the coming couple of weeks BioSoc who are having trouble obtaining and securing sponsorship. We have talked through several options and improved applications through layout and content.

Feedback - *"Produce a simple online platform for students to give their feedback on potential changes that affect them"*

I've been having lots of correspondence with a company called OOHLALA who have created apps for the Unions of many Universities over Australia and North America. They create completely personalised and branded apps which work as 'lite' versions of the Union's Website, including surveys (for our feedback), calendars, maps of campus and buildings, CSP information etc. They pitched to us with a demo product last week and I am currently collating a list of questions and asks to send to the company. They are pitching to us with a full product next week. The long term aim is for us to create an app ourselves, however due to the influx of external companies vying for our students and the need for a platform like this, it will help us to get students to download and use an official app for the Union.

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I've also been speaking with Operational Excellence about putting this feedback platform on our website, similar to the Transport For London consultation section. This will allow students to access decisions the Union are planning to make, via our front page with an opportunity to submit their comments.

Women in STEM and Gender Equality - *“Work with the College and external organisations to encourage more women to engage in education and research in STEM”*

I was asked to speak at the 'Greenlight For Girls' event, organised in conjunction with 'Women in Physics'. This was a great success and an opportunity for Imperial to showcase the opportunities there are for women in STEM to school girls aged between 12 and 16 years.

I sit on the Gender and Institutional Culture Steering Group with Jennie. This is a study looking at gender equality at Imperial. I took one of the researchers on a tour of the campus during freshers fair. On the back of this, several sports teams are being asked to take part in a focus group to express their opinions on gender equality and sport at Imperial.

I helped organise and promote the HeForShe Get Free UK Tour at Imperial. The grassroots engagement on campus was fantastic, with the help of Jennie and passionate gender equality student volunteers Jonathan Masters, Jodie Denmark, Jonathan Sutton and Jess Wade. HeForShe praised Imperial as being the best organised and most successful bus engagement of the tour. This was followed by a panel discussion which I sat on alongside Elizabeth Nyamayaro, James Stirling, Martin Lupton and Jack Bertram. The panel discussion was thought-provoking and successful, with students engaging with the Q&A. However, the turnout wasn't as high as expected, which could have been due to the timing within Welcome Week.

I attended a meeting two weeks ago with the Business School, with the aims of promoting and supporting women in business for current students and alumni. The discussion resulted in restarting the Tandem Society, which I will be assisting with alongside a group of MBA and MSc students. We are hoping this group will engage men and women across the College regarding gender parity in business.

Community - *“Work to create more of a sense of community within the student body”*

Continuing to organise and work on the Royal Mixer with Royal College of Music, Royal College of Arts and Royal Veterinary College. The date of the event has been confirmed as Saturday 21st November.