



Royal College of Science Union – Report
A note by RCSU President – James Badman

Freshers' Fair

Our Freshers' Fair was successful, with many people enjoying our virtual Wheel of Fortune. Prizes on that included USB sticks, pint glasses, shot glasses, pin badges, thermos mugs and tickets to our Autumn ball. We also distributed pens, highlighters, beer mats and welcome handbooks. Generally the day went smoothly, though the popularity of the Wheel of Fortune meant that we ran low on stock towards the end of the day.

RCSU Pub Crawl

Based on feedback from last year's pub crawl, this year's route took members to South Kensington Station and up to Roxy from Leicester Square. Turnout was much larger than expected, with around 200 participants. T-shirts and sharpies were provided for the evening, and the night went down well with freshers and final years alike.

RCSU Bookshop

Our bookshop this year was held in the JCR during the lunchtime of 9th October. The majority of books sold within the first hour, with many core text books being snapped up instantly. As usual, the owners of the books received 100% of the selling price.

Autumn Ball

This year the Ball was held at Loop Bar on 12th October. Despite a large publicity drive, uptake was slow this year, leading to questions about the sustainability of club nights in the future. Tickets were sold on the door, and we were only about 30 people short of our target in the end, but we will be considering alternatives for our large winter event. There was a photographer, photobooth and music provided by music tech and BASHER for the evening. The feedback from those attending was generally very positive, especially about the photobooth that we arranged for the night.

RCSU Tea Party

This year, our tea party took place on the lunchtime of 13th October. This event was completely free for members and offered an opportunity for people to catch up over tea and scones. The event proved moderately popular and we will be looking to continue it in future years.

RCSU Buddies' Bar Night

The Bar night was held on the evening of 15th October, with free drinks tokens given to those that turned up as a family to encourage them to turn up as a unit. The event itself was somewhat disappointing, with a poor turnout for the majority of the evening (although it picked up at the end). This is most likely due to a lack of publicity and also the event clashing with one of our DepSocs, despite us giving plenty of warning.

RCSU Freshers' Handbook

This year our Broadsheet Editor Abhinav Varma designed the Handbook, with entries written by various key members of the Committee. Due to the Union's decision to not send

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out handbooks this year, we were left to distribute them on our own, but departments were fortunately very helpful and hard copies were delivered to most freshers, with the remainder given out at Freshers Fair.

Upcoming Events

Preparations are currently underway for a raft of events for the remainder of this term. We are currently planning a large Careers Networking event as well as events with individual companies. The Science Challenge Launch will be held at the start of December, and we are also planning a large Winter event (the nature of which is tbc). Finally, we are hoping to team up with the CGCU and RSMU to bring back the Tri-Union Bar Night on 19th November.

Finances

We started this year in a strong position financially, and currently still have a large SGI. Through the efforts of this year's and last year's exec committees, we have succeeded in raising over £8.5k in sponsorship, an increase from last year. We will be looking to end the year on roughly the same as what we started on to give our successors some leeway, and have created a rough budget for the coming year.

RCSU DepSocs

We have met with our Clubs and Activities committee twice since being elected to help guide them and provide them with support where needed. I and Jasper (Treasurer) have also been available to answer queries over email at any point. Generally their Welcome Week events went well and there were no major hiccups, although there have been one or two scheduling clashes. Most Societies have managed to attain sponsorship and are sitting well financially, and the RCSU has set aside a pot of money this year to provide further support for non-alcohol events. One society is of some concern as it is currently missing a President and a Secretary, but we are hoping to fill these positions soon in a bye-election.

I would finally like to thank this year's RCSU committee for all their help throughout our fortnight of freshers events, as well as last year's exec committee for their help with sponsorship and support.