

Council Report

Ben Howitt – Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)

Administration

- My apologies to the Council for my absence at the last two meetings and the lack of tabled papers.
- I have been off work for 4 days since the last Council meeting I attended owing to illness.

Operations

- In the wake of the start of term, the number of student queries in my inbox appears to have lessened somewhat, freeing more of my time to see to project work.
- I have overseen the election of Management Group Chairs for the SCC and OSC – my thanks to Sina and Umar for their understanding, eagerness and patience while this was sorted.
- The CAG Chair position remains unelected owing to a lack of candidates at the meeting in early November. There has been interest in the position, and the plan is to run a formal election in the new year. CAG groups are currently overseen by myself and the DPFS, and will be represented by the DPFS at budgeting meetings.
- I have sat on an interview panel for a new Student Activities Administrator. An offer has been made and accepted, and Slavina will start in her new role and leave the Reception at the beginning of 2016.
- I have been engaged with Varsity 2016, and the headline sport will be announced on 10 December (100 days before the event).
- I have continued to engage with an Operational Excellence Work Stream related to academic and exam timetabling, which will be generating a set of recommendations in the new year.
- I attended a meeting, of the Exploration Board, which meets twice a year to discuss various expeditions that students undertake during summer breaks. We agreed to fund three expeditions, and offer support and advice to a further proposal from the Faculty of Medicine.
- A number of Harlington awards were made at the end of October. The next round of applications will be discussed by the committee during the remainder of this week.
- The Activities Development Committee (ADC) and New Activities Committee (NAC) will be meeting physically for the first time in the next two weeks.
- Tour applications have been reviewed by CSPB and, after an appeals process, budgets were opened for submission. A list of lessons learnt from the process is to be completed before the end of term to inform the next round of applications.

FATSO (my objectives)

- Individual club reports have been completed by just under 240 CSPs. The data from this will be used to drive clubs' needs as they relate to FATSO in general, when reviewed by CSPB and the Student Activities Team.

Future – “Ensuring you carry the skills you learn into your future”

Nothing to report.

Activity – “Improving the resources available to support you in your role”

- I have been working extensively with CSPB to develop a budgeting policy, which was passed on 24 November. The training session has been planned, and advertising for sessions beginning at the end of this week will be communicated to club chairs by the meeting or tomorrow.
- I have continued to engage with the Student Activities Team regarding the scope and approach to future training sessions, as well as the impact of what was delivered last term.
- We have trialled a new approach to room bookings for the Spring Term, which seems to have eased the process somewhat for the staff team involved. It is our hope that this will create fairer allocations and more timely responses going forward.
- Club printing will be undergoing a review to assess spend levels and the issues with the process in the next few weeks.
- Policies and Workstreams under review
 - Tours Policy
 - NAC Standing Orders
 - Management Group Structure

Training – “Making CSP Training more relevant and helpful”

- Feedback and thoughts on the training sessions delivered by the Student Activities Team will be reviewed by myself and the Student Activities team by the end of term.
- The lessons learnt from New Club Officer training will be used to inform a more holistic approach to club training in general.

Sports Review – “Creating a new Sport Strategy for Imperial that includes all”

- A piece of market research has been commissioned and run in conjunction with Youthsight to determine the general attitudes, behaviours and needs of the student population. The research will be fed back later this week, and action plans developed during the new year.
- There was an intention to run focus groups with students already engaged in Sport at Imperial to investigate the value of the current provision. Unfortunately, due to some time pressures this wasn't able to run this term. I am hoping to leverage these groups in the development of action plans around the data gathered.

Outreach – “Making Club, Society & Project activities part of our local community”

- I have been involved on the Committee for societal engagement, a program aiming to broaden and unify the College's approach to outreach and societal engagement.