

DEPUTY PRESIDENT (CLUBS & SOCIETIES) – BEN HOWITT

I'd like to formally thank all of those who've contributed to what has been an educational and life-changing year. I would not have been able to achieve any of what I set out to do without the support, advice and encouragement from CSPB, Club committee members, students and colleagues in the Union and College.

Thanks for all the free biscuits.

Operations

- A review of the CSP Budgeting process aiming to reduce volunteer time is underway.
- I am working to continue the development of effective online support for clubs and societies in the form of training and tools.
- Administrative processes between myself and the Activities Team are now in a strong state. There is work to be done in defining these before the end of my term.

Upcoming work:

- Tour budgets
- Review of this year's processes, work plans and relationships for handover
- Last Harlington Round
- Last Activities Development Fund meeting
- Last New Activities Committee meeting
- Work with Arts Imperial to define needs for transport between sites.

FATSO – My Annual Objectives

Work on my annual objectives has had some setbacks owing to capacity issues

Work remaining:

- Completion of Sports Strategy Adoption and launch
- Launch of pilot groups for CSP 5-year planning
- Impact and next steps profile for each objective

Completed	Impact to be assessed	Handed over	Work ongoing	Queued	Dropped
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Objective	Actions since last meeting	Status
<i>Future – “Ensuring you carry the skills you learn into your future”</i>		
Taking the lessons from Imperial Plus and creating a development program that supports students regardless of their Union role.	Continuing engagement in the ‘Our People’ Strand of the strategy has fed into objectives around better support for student staff and students engaged in social enterprise.	
Pushing the Union to celebrate club & student success throughout the year.	Impact Reports have now contained messaging around club successes on two occasions.	
Building links with Imperial’s existing Social Enterprise & Community Action groups.	ICSM Connect organised a volunteering dinner to bring together students engaged in social change and charity work. The organising committee are involved in taking their success into the Community Action Group and making it more effective.	
<i>Activity – “Improving the resources available to support you in your role”</i>		
Rewriting key policies and adding accessible procedures	The budgeting process has now completed with repeated reference to the process defined in the early stages of this year. A number of key processes are being moved online. This has been generally well received. A wider-scale review of expiring policies is underway, with a number of CSP-critical policy under scrutiny. I am working on a review of club constitutions to make them more useful living documents.	
Overhauling the support we give to new societies, and those facing difficulties.	A mentoring scheme has been trialled with new clubs, with varied success. Staff support to new initiatives has increased with new staff in Student Development.	

	Solutions in this area require more capacity within the Union to meet with student groups, which is being created through work on the processes around new initiatives. There is work planned to develop 5-year plans with a pilot group of societies for next year.	
Compiling a guide to raising money from Sponsorship, Trusts, and the public	I am working with the Union President to develop the existing support in time for a Sponsorship event taking place in summer term.	
<i>Training – “Making CSP Training more relevant and helpful”</i>		
Continue to improve the training that’s delivered to new club officers.	NCO inductions are now in their second year, having been worked on by Student Development at length.	
Develop practical and targeted sessions aimed at different committee roles	I have continued to work with the student activities team to develop targeted sessions, with final work taking place during June/July to assess areas for future development.	
Assist management groups to develop their own sessions and support.	A management group away day was in the planning stages, with one of the training sessions including “how to deliver a session”. A ‘lessons learnt’ document will be compiled for future years.	
<i>Sports Review – “Creating a new Sport Strategy for Imperial that includes all”</i>		
Engages existing Sport and Physical Activity (S&PA) volunteers and participants.	Consultation on the Sports Strategy has included club committee members, and early stages involved significant feedback from participants. There remain some challenges around student buy-in to the strategy.	
Prioritises excellence in minority representation, not just mediocrity.	Involvement from the DP (Welfare) and LGBT+ Officer has helped to bring a focus on removing barriers in physical activity. Feedback from CSPB has suggested that the name of the sports review may be a barrier in and of itself, and I am pushing for a recognition of the wider lifestyle and wellbeing element that will resonate with larger sections of the student body.	
Offers support to leadership positions as well as excellent players	Objectives in the Sports and Union Strategy include wider opportunities for personal and professional support, and better support to club chairs to carry out their roles.	
<i>Outreach – “Making Club, Society & Project activities part of our local community”</i>		
Supporting clubs that already do outreach in the community.	With the addition of new staff in Student Development, staff have been able to make contact with a number of clubs and student groups involved in outreach and support them to achieve their goals.	
Feeding into outreach programs at Woodward and White City.	I have continued to engage with the Societal Engagement Group within College.	
Piloting an “Adopt-a-Charity” scheme for Clubs, Societies & Projects.	RAG’s support for this activity is well-established, and there have been a number of successes including Medics’ RAG.	