

Petition the College to Review (with the aim of Expansion of) Career services

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Union Notes:

1. Imperial College London has always taken pride in the employability of its graduates, The Times and the Sunday Times' Good University Guide 2016 ranked Imperial 2nd in terms of graduate prospects.
2. Whilst Imperial has over 15,000 students, the careers team consists of only 17 staff, with 6 Careers Consultant and 2 Placement and internship Adviser, a deputy director, a director and other supporting staff.
3. As a quick comparison, London School of Economics, which has a student population of just under 9000, has 12 Career Consultants (double that of Imperial), a deputy director, a director, 6 CV consultants and 8 freelance career consultants.
4. While seminars and drop-in sessions are available, only 29 career consultation sessions are available per day (as of 26th of October) .The sessions are available between 10:00-17:00, with no sessions available between 12:00-14:00.
5. Current system requires students to logon to Jobslive at 7am to secure a place for a 20-minute consultation with a career advisor, which fills up really quickly.
6. Students often struggle to secure a place even though they refresh the page at 7:00am.
7. In a short survey conducted in November 2016 (with a sample size of 48 students) : students are generally satisfied with the service that Career services provides (3.6/5).
8. In the same survey, however, students reported difficulties in booking consultation sessions, as suggested above (with an average score of 3.9, with 1 being very easy, and 5 being very hard to book appointments with Career Services).
9. According to the data provided by Career Services, career consultation requests typically spike 3 times the normal range in October and November (around 1200 as of 15/16), as compared to other months, such as January or February (around 400).

Union Believes:

1. The consultation sessions are not arranged so it fits Imperial college students' timetables.
2. Expansion of career services (at least at certain months of the year) is crucial not only for improving employability of students, but also to increase student's satisfaction.
3. The college has the duty to make career consultations accessible to its students.

Union Resolves:

1. To request a response from the college regarding funding and staffing of Career services, and its plans for the future where applicable.
2. To petition the college to promote early planning of career consultation sessions in the college wide community, to alleviate the stress of career services in the months immediately before internship and graduate job deadlines.
3. To petition the college to explore the possibilities of peer-to-peer advice (via paid training of current students), and recruitment of more free-lance consultants.