

Imperial College Union Council Report

Alex Chippy Compton, President

Goals

Governance & Democracy review

- The Officer Trustee and Liberation Officer roles have been reviewed and updated (see separate paper) in time for the 2018 Leadership Elections.
- This term's major focus is on Council reform and elections.
- The Governance Review will consult with both candidates and voters after the elections and a set of recommendations will be drawn up to improve our democracy for future years.
- The Governance Steering Group discussed the issue raised in Council last term of election complaints. The Group has added this to the remit of the Review and I will spend some time examining and identifying best practice at other students' unions in the UK.
- It is unlikely that this Governance Review will constitutionalise a formal structure within the Business School however there are ongoing discussions between the Union, GSU and the Business School staff to inform future proposals. We will consult students once some firm ideas and plans have been drawn up.

Support and development of our key volunteers

- CU Forum meetings have now been set for this term. This is an informal meeting of CU Presidents, Officer Trustees and Senior Managers. Each meeting's agenda is shaped by the Senior Managers present to ensure useful discussions.
- The Liberation Review Action Plan has taken longer than planned due to the number of recommendations given in the review. Some individual actions were started last term and are ongoing while this process is finished.

Wellbeing strategy

- We have now had several meetings with Hannah Bannister, the Director of Student Services. We are looking to get agreement and backing from senior college staff before we start on consultation.
- We are hoping to present our plans to Provost's Board later this term and are focussing our efforts on influencing the College's planning rounds for next year's budgets to ensure there is appropriate resource both for wellbeing but also to get the strategy launched.
- The Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity Strategy, Sports 'Be Active' Strategy and Student Recruitment and Outreach Strategy are all running in parallel to the Wellbeing Strategy and complement each other. The Officer Trustee team have ongoing input into all these College strategies.
- In parallel to this, College is about to start consultation to inform their work around setting values for the organisation. Currently Imperial does not have values that apply to both staff and students. The Union is working with College staff on student consultation.
- While not specifically the wellbeing strategy, Fintan and I have challenged College on the race attainment gap and the lack of data. It is on the agenda for a meeting later this term. This ties in with our liberation work.

Operations

Operational tasks of note I have completed recently are as follows:

Provost Search Committee

- As part of the committee I have been involved in the long and short listing for the next Provost.
- The Officer Trustees will be meeting with the candidates for the role and give our feedback to the College as part of the process.

Union Awards Work stream

- Last Council I was mandated to set up a Union Awards Work stream. For those interested on sitting on the work stream, please inform me at Council. For those not at the meeting, I will send a follow up email to ask for interest.
- This work stream will identify possible options for determining an awards panel which we will then bring back to Council for voting.

As always, I am available in person and via email for any questions you may have on my report or the Union's work.

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Appendix A: Governance Review 2017/18

Imperial College Union works to make the student experience at Imperial the best in the United Kingdom. We aim to have the strongest democracy of any Students' Union, in which every student is empowered to shape the world around them.

Democracy is one of our fundamental values. Reviewing our governing documents gives us the opportunity to strengthen our democratic structures. We will extend the reach, engagement and effectiveness of our democracy. This will strengthen our Union and lay the foundations for the best student experience in the UK.

Scope

In this review, we will focus on 7 areas, in two stages. The first stage of the review will look at the Officer Trustee and Liberation Officer roles. The second stage will focus on Postgraduate and Business School representation, our disciplinary process, Union Council reform and elections. We will identify good practice at other institutions and consult with our membership to shape and develop a strong set of governing documents.

Across these areas, we will be reviewing the role of technology, how we measure success and the equality, diversity and inclusion of all our members.

Timeline

Action	Deadline
Publish scope, aims and timeline of review (A4 page summary)	17 th November 2017
Develop and agree consultation strategy (and survey details)	30 th November 2017
Consult stakeholders (phase 1- OT and LO role reviews)	14 th January 2018
Submit preliminary recommendations and OT changes for Leadership Elections 2018	19 th January 2018
Discuss recommendations and Constitution & Bye-Laws at Board of Trustees	1 st February 2018
Consult stakeholders (phase 2- Constitution & Bye-Laws review)	5 th March 2018
Finalise recommendations and Constitution & Bye-Laws at Governance Committee	13 th March 2018
Submit recommendations and Constitution & Bye-Laws to Union Council	20 th March 2018
Submit Constitution & Bye-Laws to Board of Trustees (Away Day)	4 th April 2018
Submit Constitution & Bye-Laws to College Council	18 th May 2018