



Imperial College Union Board of Trustees

Date: 24.10.2018

AGENDA ITEM NO.	
TITLE	Deputy President (Education) Board Report
AUTHOR	Alejandro Luy
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	Report on progress as DPE over the period since last Board
PURPOSE	Update board on work
DECISION/ACTION REQUIRED	None

Imperial College Union Council Report

Alejandro Luy, Deputy President (Education)

Introduction

We're over 2 months into our term and as a team we've already made fantastic progress with our manifesto points, as well as other projects that we've picked up. Highlights from my area include the NSS and PTES responses both being completed in **record time** (sound familiar?) and a strong start to the Academic Representation Network Review, which will improve the consistency and quality of both our Undergraduate and Postgraduate networks.

Report on Progress

Goal 1 - Produce NSS and PTES Responses in record time and use them to drive for change

The NSS and PTES responses, written by the DPE and Education and Welfare team at the Union, are documents outlining recommended actions which departments, faculties and College as a whole can implement to improve the experience of their students. You can find them on the Union website at <https://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/your-union/your-representatives/responses>. Please note the board paper *NSS and PTES Responses for Board* for an executive summary.

Progress so far:

- We produced the two responses both in **record time**!
- I've presented the responses at the College's Learning and Teaching Committee and several Faculty level committees and am disseminating the responses to departments.
- I'm starting to meet with departmental staff to help them produce bespoke action plans to address areas of the student experience where they need to improve.
- I'm equipping the Academic Reps with these responses and the NSS data for their departments so that together we can keep the pressure on throughout the year, ensuring that departments stick to their action plans. These documents will be on their USB's.

Next steps: I will be meeting with senior College staff in a working group formed by the Vice-Provost (Education) to discuss College-level actions.

Goal 2 - Conduct a Review of the UG and PG Academic Representation Network

The Academic Representation Network has grown organically over several years without a formal, comprehensive review. The UG network is running relatively smoothly and only requires adjustments to training and communication/documentation methods. The PG network is quite fragmented by comparison, with the majority of reps being elected offline. The purpose of this review is to map the entire network, and to improve training, support and communication.

Progress so far:

- We've met with nearly all departments at Imperial College to discuss the current status of both UG and PG student representation and to identify areas for improvement.
- We've brought over 60 rep roles which were previously elected "offline" - "online" to make the election of those roles more inclusive and democratic.
- As part of the GSU revamp project, I'm working with Ute (GSU President) and Rob (ICU President) to find out how we can improve the PG Academic Representation Network.

- The academic rep training has been nearly completely rewritten and it's now more structured and interactive and compliments the additional resources we will give on the Rep USB's. Feedback from the first session on 15/10/18 indicates that the training was well received.

Next steps: Deliver the new training to our academic representatives followed by work with the reps to map the network.

Goal 3 - Spearhead student involvement in student-facing projects such as StudentShapers, Imperial Award and I-Explore

Student-facing projects require particular attention as they will directly impact the educational experience of our membership. You can find out more about these projects online.

Progress so far:

- I've been working closely with the StudentShapers, Imperial Award and I-Explore team steering groups to help shape the schemes.

Next steps: Bring ideas and feedback to the I-Explore Module Innovation Group which will meet regularly starting on the 25th of October to shape and develop the scheme.

Goal 4 - Fight for improved feedback for students across Imperial

Feedback at Imperial has improved significantly in recent years but still has a long way to go before the quality and timeliness of feedback is sufficient to allow all students to reflect and improve.

Progress so far:

- I'm currently working with staff from various departments on the feasibility of making some exam scripts available for students to see and use to help them improve their technique.
- Following the Feedback Audit conducted by last year's DPE, I'm pushing departments who score below average in the *Assessment and Feedback* section of the NSS to implement feedback monitoring systems.

Next steps: Continue advocating for better feedback through appropriate committees and work to embed standards and best practice across College.

Goal 5 - Achieve over 2000 nominations in this year's Student Academic Choice Awards

Watch this space

Operational Achievements

First Education and Representation Board meeting on 11/10/18

- The first ERB was relatively well attended and we had excellent discussions on a range of topics from NSS data to the overlap of our representation networks. The meeting produced several positive actions. Minutes and agenda can be found online.