



Imperial College Union Board of Trustees

Wednesday 20th February 2019

AGENDA ITEM NO.	25
TITLE	Council Chair Report
AUTHOR	Alex Chippy Compton
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	A brief overview of Council work and discussions
PURPOSE	To inform Board
DECISION/ACTION REQUIRED	None

Board of Trustees Council Chair Report

Changes to Council

This year, changes have been made to the running of Council to improve its efficiency and increase engagement. Below is an update on the further changes we have made since the last Board meeting.

- **Recording:** we currently audio recording meetings. This allows for better minute taking and also provides our members with another way to engage with the discussions. The limiting factor is now equipment. We currently use a Dictaphone but ideally we would like to utilise speech to text technology. I am hoping that this will be taken to the budgeting round with a view to investing in the needed equipment. We are now looking at video streaming in order to allow students not based in London to engage. Students currently complete 4 hour round trips to attend the meeting however we are hoping to trial a new method for the March meeting. This is an important project in line with our strategic goal of being for all students as currently Council is not fully inclusive for all students at Imperial.
- **Communication:** Council continues to feature on the Union's social media channels and in the newsletter. This is already an improvement on last year and we're working to make this promotion more regular and less time intensive.
- **Guidance for the Chair:** I will be working with Governance Committee to create guidance for the Council Chair at the moment to improve meetings and discussion items.
- **Officer Trustee Accountability:** This is an issue that has been raised previously. Currently the report format at Council is not proving an effective mechanism for accountability. Hopefully this will be reviewed in the Council Working Group, mandated at the February meeting.

Council Discussions

We are working on ensuring that there is a method by which papers passed at Council are passed to the relevant staff members so our staff are aware of any policies that may affect their work.

A full list of the papers are uploaded online [here](#).

If you have any questions on Council outside of Board meetings, please contact me on chair@ic.ac.uk.