

Tuesday 9 October

Board of Trustees Report

A note from Alex Chippy Compton- Union Council Chair

The Union Council Chair is also a student trustee on the Union Board of Trustees. Board papers and minutes can be found online and I will provide a report each Council meeting. I sit on the Board of Trustees and two subcommittees- Governance Committee and People, Appointments & Remuneration Committee. My reports aim to summarise Board business for Council members.

Board Away Day

In September, Board came together for an 'away day'. Usually Board only meets for a few hours every two months so this offered a chance to review where we are in the current Strategy, where we thought priorities might lie in the next 18 months and even consider some of the priorities for the next strategy.

We have not yet had a Board meeting (the away day is not a formal meeting) and so there are not many Board updates so far this year.

People, Appointments & Remuneration Committee

We have had one PARC meeting this academic year. This committee has a particular focus on staff development and retention. As a result of this, the main piece of work at the moment is the People Strategy. This is a document focussing on support available for Union staff. This support ranges from wellbeing to career development and progression. The aim of this work is to embed a culture that attracts and retains the best staff.

Towards the end of last academic year, we recruited for two appointed student trustees. The interview panel comprised of:

- Alex Chippy Compton (Union President)
- Fintan O'Connor (Deputy President Welfare)
- Jill Finney (Chair of Board of Trustees)
- Paul Beaumont (Alumni Trustee)
- Jarlath O'Hara (Managing Director)

Two candidates were selected however their appointment was not ratified due to Council not reaching quoracy at the end of last year. The paper for their ratification will be brought to Council on 23 October when Representatives to Council have been elected.

Governance Committee

We have also had a Governance Committee this academic year. A big focus of this committee is elections. The committee will review evaluations of the Autumn Elections and will monitor the work for the Leadership Elections 2019. Last year's committee decided to pull forward the organisation of

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the Leadership Elections in order to give staff more time to plan and deliver a crucial set of elections for the Union. The Committee discussed the metrics it would like to see in the election evaluation- currently these include candidate diversity and candidate satisfaction as well as more 'standard' metrics, such as voter turnout. The Student Development team also submitted a proposal to review training and information to make it more accessible- particularly the available information for Full Time Officer roles.

In my role as Council Chair, I also provide updates on Council to Board. I am always happy to answer questions regarding the Union's Board of Trustees or any of my work as Council Chair. You can email me on chair@ic.ac.uk.