

# Imperial College Union Council Report

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## Introduction

Highlights from the past few weeks include an extended Christmas holiday, SACAs developments and planning the Academic Rep Network Review.

## Report on Progress

This is not an exhaustive list. Feel free to ask me about my other goals and initiatives. Previous progress can be found in my past reports.

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

You can find the responses on the Union website at <https://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/your-union/your-representatives/responses>

- The departments have now finalised their action plans which are contained in the Annual Monitoring Reports (AMRs) and PTES action plans – and should now be in the hands of the respective academic rep teams.
- The first College NSS/PTES Working Group met on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December to discuss College level actions to be taken to improve the student experience. The meeting was successful and a report outlining best practice to be adopted across College is being produced. The group will meet again in a few months to review progress of implemented actions.

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

The purpose of this review is to map the entire network, and to improve training, support and communication.

- I'm currently producing a plan for the rest of the Academic Rep Network Review including overall timeline, resource allocation and consultation.
- I'm currently developing a communication and file sharing platform based on Microsoft Teams and SharePoint. This is being piloted by a few rep teams and will be reviewed in February.

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

You can find out more about these projects online (links on my profile page on the Union website).

- At the second IMIG I presented a proposal for an additional stream to be added on *Societal Engagement* to get students involved in public outreach and community work. It was discussed in depth and the group decided that an entire stream isn't the best model as societal engagement projects may fit well into the existing streams. Instead, societal engagement modules/projects will be clearly tagged to aid students in choosing.
- On behalf of the Imperial Award Steering Group I have decided to, together with the Student Development Team, consult PGT students on whether they would be interested in the Imperial Award and changes that need to be made to the scheme to cater to their needs and

timeline. We are currently in the middle of consultation (survey and recruiting for focus groups).

#### Goal 4 - Fight for improved feedback for students across Imperial

- Feedback is a recurring theme at every education related meeting that I attend and every time it comes up I push for improvements and suggest changes that can be made. Several departments have included actions to address feedback in their AMRs. That, coupled with student feedback, external pressures, willing staff and the work of my predecessors has led to feedback timeliness and quality, as well as mark scheme quality, being improving across College. Departments are now focussing on the Curriculum Review where they have been mandated to decrease assessment burden (quantity and frequency) to give students more “breathing space” in their curriculum to digest content and reflect and improve based on feedback.

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

- We are considering a few new categories to recognise excellence in the areas of student wellbeing/experience and diversity/inclusion and have finalised the project plan.
- The new categories have been decided with student and staff input and will be announced when nominations open.

### Operational Achievements

Curriculum review paperwork is starting to come through the quality assurance structure (committees which I sit on). Rob and I are keeping a close watch to ensure that the proposed curriculums are significantly improved and have been designed with student input.

I am starting to really focus on moving forward with the Academic Rep Network Review which, together with SACAs, is likely to take up a large portion of my time this term.

### Items for discussion

None this time.

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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