

Imperial College Union Council Report

Becky Neil, Deputy President (Welfare)

Introduction

Highlights include securing some money for the 2015 bursary cohort, Under Pressure and the Liberation project.

Report on Progress

Goal 1 - Reform our Liberation offering to build stronger communities that are listened to.

- In the process of producing a list of key staff stakeholders across College who would benefit from involvement with Liberation and Community officers (LCO).
- At the time of writing the Liberation launch event is almost completely confirmed and promotion for the event will begin shortly. The aim is to promote the officers and have a panel discussion about diversity. By council the event will have happened, so can update there!
- Board were interested in the paper about the liberation project but needed a little more information and some work done first to properly get behind the project. We will be starting to look at building better platforms and a longer-term strategy to make this happen.
- I've mapped some potential options for platforms but still need to look at further options.

Next steps: Have the launch event and start work on the strategy, starting with consultation.

Goal 2 - Audit the Outreach activities run by ICU and Clubs & Socs to understand our Widening Participation Activities.

- This project will be underway soon and aims to look at the scope of activities that we do.

Next steps: Finalise the action plan and get started.

Goal 3 - Finalise and implement the Student Support Strategy

- The strategy has been delayed by College so still needs to go to the Learning and Teaching Committee, then the Provost Board.
- I've written a blog post about the strategy, the consultation and what it all means. I'll be promoting this a little more soon, so that more students can understand it.
- The mental health strategy section of the project is being scoped by College teams. It is looking to include a research piece, centralised improvements and other aspects as well.

Next steps: Promote the feedback response. Continue to be a part of all discussions around the strategy.

Goal 4 - Produce a Wellbeing map outlining all wellbeing services across Imperial.

- This project has slowed down at the moment, but all pages are made and a system to use needs to be decided.

Next steps: Decide on the best method to use to produce it, and then make it.

Goal 5 Review the welfare-related work carried out by various volunteers across the organisation.

- Halls and Union relationship consultation has almost finished. I'm in the process of writing an informal expectation sheet for halls and the Union and a timeline of when to expect activities etc to occur.

- Mums and Dads project plan has been made and key stakeholders have been identified. Staff time has been given to this, so just ready to start consultation.

Next steps: Complete halls and union project by January and begin Mums and Dads consultation.

Operational Achievements

Significant operational tasks I have completed are as follows:

- Worked with College to secure a 250K funding pot for the 2015 bursary cohort, based on students missing out on extra-curricular opportunities. There are limitations on what the money can be used for. All students should receive an email explanation and the affected students will receive details of how they can get some money.
- Under Pressure happened in December and was very successful. The evaluation has been done and we are looking at how to improve it for the second term version.
- Been involved in interviews for the counselling service, so the expansion is happening just slowly.
- Counselling service Felix piece is still being fact-checked but should be ready soon.
- Helped direct students through the campaigns procedure that is still being set up by systems.

Items for discussion

No items for discussion.

Closing Comments

Please get in touch with any issues, ideas, problems and solutions. Your input is really important to me. 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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