Imperial College Union Council Report

Becky Neil, Deputy President (Welfare)

Introduction

Highlights include CWB discussions and halls and union project.

Report on Progress

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

- The liberation review was published during Liberation and Community week. You can find it on the website.
- Had some really good discussions at CWB about how to improve liberation and community zones. The main points are not being alone, having a team and being more embedded in the Union. These will continue and will feed into the strategic plan.

Next steps: Start working on a strategy of how to improve it.

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.
- Looked at getting a button on the event budget pages of eActivities that flags, WP, EDI and Wellbeing activities.

Next steps: Get started!

Goal 3 - Finalise and implement the Student Support Strategy

- The strategy has been to Learning and Teaching committee and is going to Provost Board soon. Hopefully it is close to being approved.
- Work on the mental health strategy has slowed but will be starting again soon.

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, still scoping out options!

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.

- Wardens approved and seemed excited about the proposal for the halls and union project which includes looking at expectations, training offering, eActivities support and raising issues.
- Mums and Dads project plan has been made and key stakeholders have been identified. The
 consultation for this will begin the week of council. The aim is to completely start again with a peer
 support network. Any comments are welcome, please email if you'd like to be consulted!

Next steps: Begin Mums and Dads consultation and start implementing the halls and union plan.

Operational Achievements

Significant operational tasks I have completed are as follows:

- Still working with College to get the comms out about the 2015 bursary cohort.
- Started working on the bursary survey response.

- Been involved in interviews for the advice centre and a wellbeing coordinator, neither were successful. (\(\text{\text{\text{\text{\text{e}}}}\)
- 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.
- Scoping out possibilities for reduced or free sanitary products.

Items for discussion

Liberation and community zones do not work in their current format. The officers have far too much work and are not supported. However, squishing them into a club and society model would not be effective as they have a different purpose. Current suggestions for what this should look like in the future:

- A pool of volunteers, who help out when they want to.
- A network for each of the zones consisting of a few more official members to help organise events/ campaigns.
- Putting LC Officers into current relevant CSP positions e.g. International officer in Culture MG etc.

Any ideas or suggestions are currently welcome before we narrow down what this will look like.

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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