

**Imperial College Union  
Board of Trustees / 09 December 2020**

**Officer Trustee Update**

Author(s): Abhijay Sood (President)  
Sam Lee (DP Finance & Services)  
Michaela Flegrova (DP Education)  
Shervin Sabeghi (DP Welfare)  
Ross Unwin (DP Clubs & Societies)

Purpose: To note the work of the Officer Trustees.

*For more detail and to see some of the business currently being discussed within ICU, you can find papers from our last Council meeting [here](#).*

**1. Sam Lee (DP Finance & Services)**

Key pieces of work I've been involved in since October include:

- i. UCH Redevelopment project – I have been having meetings with student stakeholders and College staff to make sure the project is focused on students and the needs of key CSPs
- ii. Reviewing the terms of reference and beginning to hold meetings of the Services and Sustainability Board, the Union Council subcommittee which I chair.
- iii. Beginning work on reviewing my role, in particular setting out a timeline for handing over some of my operational responsibilities onto the Student Opportunities and Development team.
- iv. Working on implementing a table service app for 568, to improve our ability to safely serve students once the bar reopens.
- v. Work on Health and Safety policies with Tom Newman and Kay Counter.

**2. Ross Unwin (DP Clubs & Societies)**

Key pieces of work I've been involved in since October include:

- i. Support for CSPs
  - a. Developing a 3-year plan to improve support for CSPs with Tom Newman
  - b. Working to realise an upfront (~25%) reduction in grant on a principled basis, minimising the adverse effect on student clubs
  - c. Recurring operational work, dealing with individual queries and a streamlined risk assessment process
  - d. Responding to COVID guidance and communicating changes CSP committees.
- ii. Working with students to develop a framework for martial arts, individual, and recreational sport under the Imperial Athletes framework.
- iii. Student & club disciplinaries – there are several ongoing cases and have had to implement the COVID strike policy approved by CSPB. Verbal and written warnings are being sent to clubs in a timely matter. There have been a number of appeals to also handle.
- iv. Helping set objectives for the Student Opportunities and Development team.
- v. Supporting efforts to retain the cycle lane on High Street Kensington.

### **3. Michaela Flegrova (DP Education)**

Key pieces of work I've been involved in since October include:

- i. Education meetings – representing student interests and views at ESOG, Guild and so on.
- ii. NSS Response – met with the key staff members who are in a position to work with us on each of our 5 key recommendations.
- iii. Digital Education Recording Policy – running a survey to gather student views on mandating lecture recordings, which has had a significant and positive response. I also brought a paper to Union Council supporting key parts of the policy, which passed on 1<sup>st</sup> December.
- iv. SSC guidelines – made some minor changes to a document issuing guidance for departmental staff student committees, which will require further work in advance of the next academic year.
- v. Rep Support and Training – great attendance from PGT reps at our first Academic Representation Forum (part of what might have been ERB in the past). Holding regular catchups with Faculty Reps and Research AWOs
- vi. Started work on a review of our PG rep network(s).

### **4. Shervin Sabeghi (DP Welfare)**

Key pieces of work I've been involved in since October include:

- i. College COVID meetings, primarily geared towards preparing for the Christmas period.
- ii. Comms – I've taken a leading role on the Union's newsletters over recent weeks.
- iii. Ran a 'How's it going' survey to get some basic data about teaching, wellbeing and halls matters in term 1.
- iv. Released training to new academic and wellbeing reps with defined online modular content for the first time, in collaboration with Michaela and our rep coordinator. We are hoping we can use the online module format to develop training throughout the year, so reps can engage as much as they want.
- v. Was on the selection panel for a new Head of the Disability Advisory Service at the College following the retirement of the previous Head in February. Maureen O'Brien has already begun her induction and I'll be picking up projects again that had to be paused in the absence of a Head.
- vi. Liberation & Community Network Development – working on systems to help students sign up to join these more easily as well as training for the new network officers.

### **5. Abhijay Sood (President)**

Key pieces of work I've been involved in since October include:

- i. Participation in planning meetings on education and the wider student experience in College, as well as supporting Michaela with some of the work on NSS.
- ii. Supporting student representation in other areas, including the ICSMSU President with proposed lab changes in the SAF building and the international officer in lobbying efforts for limited fee reductions.
- iii. Progress on the implementation of the Socially Responsible Investment Policy, which was formed essentially at my instigation last year. Working with academics across a range of views, we are looking at ways to enforce metrics and engage to try and change the behaviour of firms in the Oil and Gas sector, while also considering consultation with the community on how to go about this and when to walk away.
- iv. Concrete progress on support for refugees and asylum seekers looking to study at Imperial, with Registry now collaborating with us on a proposal for implementing this. I am now part of

a new committee in the College on scholarships and bursaries, where this proposal will be tabled.

- v. Some work relating to College Council, including presenting the Union's annual report at the most recent meeting.