

**Imperial College Union**  
**Minutes of the ninth ordinary Meetings of Union Council**  
**15<sup>th</sup> June 2021 6:00pm –8:00pm**

**Present:**

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>
Union Council Chair	Alex Auyang (AA/Chair)
Union President	Abhijay Sood (AS)
Deputy President (Welfare)	Shervin Sabeghi (SS)
Deputy President (Education)	Michaela Flegrova (MF)
Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Ross Unwin (RU)
Deputy President (Finance and Services)	Sam Lee (SL)
Arts and Entertainment Sector Chair	India Marsden (IM)
CGCU President	Hayley Wong (HW)
Ethics and Environment Officer	Stephanie Yeung (SY)
GSU President	Zixiao Wang (ZW)
GSU PGR Academic & Welfare Officer (Engineering)	Abderrahim Boualam (AdB)
ICSMSU President	Muntaha Naeem (MN)
ICSMSU Welfare Officer	Natania Varshney (NV)
Knowledge Sector Chair	Alexander Nielsen (AN)
Mental Health Officer	Lauren Wheeler (LW)
Recreation Sector Chair	Adam Turner (AT)
RSMSU President	Jasmine Crocker (JC)
RCSU President	Aparna Pillai (AP)
RCSU Vice President (Welfare)	Maria Borc (MB)
Sports Sector Chair	Geoffrey Sheir (GS)
UG FoM Council Rep	Haider Nazerali (HZ)
UG FoNS Council Rep	Michael Kohn (MK)
UG FoNS Council Rep	Susan Rutter (SR)
UG FoE Council Rep	Hilliam Tung (HT)
UG FoE Council Rep	Olasoji Ajayi (OA)
UG FoE Council Rep	James White (JW)
PG FoNS Council Rep	Ansh Bhatnagar (AnB)
PG FoNS Council Rep	Chiara Riedel-Loria (CR-L)
Working Class Officer	Grace Fisher (GF)

**Observers:**

Felix Editor	Calum Drysdale (CD)
Governance Officer	Victoria Agbontaen (VA)
Student	Zain Islam (ZI)
Student	Syed Maududi (SM)
Student	Aya Khsati (AK)
Student	Ayman Ahmed (AAh)
Student	Qasim Ahmed
Student	Hind Arekat (HA)
Representation and Advice Manager	Cat Turhan

**Apologies:**

ICSMSU Academic Chair	Rachel Kwok (RK)
UG FoM Council Rep	Gabrielle Mathews (GM)

**Absent:**

BME Officer	Deborah Adegoke (DA)
Community and Faith Sector Chair	Joshua Ofengbai (JO)
Culture Sector Chair	Tin Hang Un (TU)
CGCU Vice President (Wellbeing)	Matthew Scott (MS)
CGCU Vice President (Education)	Aleksander Ziolkowski (AZ)
Disabilities Officer	Adya Rao (AR)
Gender Equality Officer	Priantha Pretheshan (PP)
GSU Vice President (Representation)	Lintong Li (LL)
Interfaith Officer	Safi Thanya Siamwalla (SaS)
International Officer	Isabelle Zhang (IZ)
LGBT+ Officer	Keir Logan (KL)
Media Chair	Matej Genci (MG)
RCSU Vice President (Education)	Daniyar Ghani (DG)
RSMSU Vice President (Education)	Katie McCann (KM)
PG FoE Council Rep	Zhongyao Jiang (ZJ)
PG Non-Faculty Council Rep	Luckme Thakkar (LT)
PG FoE Council Rep	Ravi Shankar (RS)
PG FoM Council Rep	Ebenezer Donkor (ED)
PG FoM Council Rep	Subarna Chakraborty (SC)
PG Non-Faculty Council Rep	Sabrina Lui (SL)
RSMSU Welfare Officer	Emmeline Poole (EP)
Silwood Park President	Conor Nicoll (CN)
UG FoE Council Rep	Varun Srivastava (VS)

Item	Actions
<p><b>1. Chair's welcome and Chair's business</b>  1.1. Chair welcomed the Council to the fifth 2020-21 Council Meeting.</p>	
<p><b>2. Apologies:</b>  2.1. Apologies from:  Gabrielle Mathews (GM)  Rachel Kwok (RK)</p>	
<p><b>3. Minutes of Previous Meeting</b>  3.1. Chair confirmed with Council if there were any changes required to be made to the minutes.  3.2. No dissensions were put forward.  3.3. Chair confirmed the minutes as accepted as consensus.</p>	
<p><b>4. Action Tracker</b>  4.1. SL noted that he will cover the action points in his report.   4.2. AS an initial meeting has begun around associate memberships in the Union and the group will reconvene for discussion shortly. Ideas have been discussed to handle the issue internally before going to the College.</p>	
<b>Matters for Decision</b>	
<p><b>5. Halls Policy</b>  5.1. SS highlighted that there had previously been a 'halls amenity policy' that was out of date and did not bring clarity around how the amenities levy is spent or administered between the Union and the Halls.   5.2. SS noted that the big changes include streamlining the document and consolidating it into one policy which will help to make it more up to date and palatable for the hall wardens.   5.3. Chair put the paper to members of Council to vote. The results are as follows: 21 Approve.  Paper was therefore passed by Council.</p>	
<p><b>6. Union Awards</b>  6.1. Chair noted that the awards panel was selected from a number of Council members that represent different roles and areas of expertise.   6.2. AS congratulated the candidates for winning various Union Awards and invited all students to join the Union Awards on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2021.   6.3. Chair put the paper to members of Council to vote. The results are as follows: 22 Approve.  Paper was therefore passed by Council.</p>	
<p><b>7. Improving the accessibility of Exam Mark Schemes</b>  7.1. JW explained that in some subjects there were mark schemes that were not of a good standard and therefore could not be read by students and therefore breached the College's accessibility in making resources accessible for everyone.   7.2. MF highlighted that not all departments release mark schemes at all and they are opposed to this for a few reasons. MF added that the resolves are not something that the Union itself can do and should read 'to mandate the DPE to lobby the College to fulfil this'. However, it would be achievable to lobby the College to provide legible materials. JW agreed to this amendment.</p>	

<p>7.3. IM questioned expanding this to lecture notes and other handwritten materials. JW was happy for the paper to be amended to include other feedback and materials.</p> <p>7.4. Chair put the paper to members of Council to vote. The results are as follows: 16 Approve, 3 abstain and 1 reject.</p> <p>7.5. Paper was therefore passed by Council.</p>	
<p><b>8. Union Stance on College Relationships with Lockheed Martin</b></p> <p>8.1. HZ expressed that there have been a number of bombings and attacks in Palestine, with over 250 people being killed and this paper is regarding Imperial's relationship with the arms corporation Lockheed Martin who are one of the largest arms dealers in the world and are known to have produced systems to the RDF which has been used to kill civilians in Palestine.</p> <p>8.2. HZ explained that the College invests over £3million into Lockheed Martin and students believe that this is not consistent with the College's relationship review policy which states they should not invest in things that lead to violation of international convention.</p> <p>8.3. HZ outlined the resolutions in the paper and recommended that the College takes an active approach in condemning human rights violations of which is noted on the paper, including a solidarity statement and signposting students to support and welfare groups etc.</p> <p>8.4. ZW questioned whether Union Council have the remit to discuss geopolitics and human rights issues which may cause conflict between student groups.</p> <p>8.5. MK noted his support for this paper due it's direct link to Imperial and outlined that Lockheed Martin also has relationships with the Saudi government who are responsible for a number of murders in Yemen and questioned why this was not mentioned in the paper and whether there is anything else students can do in case College refuses to respond.</p> <p>8.6. HZ explained that this stance was taken on the paper due to the topicality of it and it was a particularly pressing issue but agreed that arms deals with the Saudi government further highlights Imperial should not be making deals with corporations that abet human rights violations.</p> <p>8.7. AS expressed that a general motion would be ultra vires for the Union but it is consistent with the Huawei motion from last term and it would be morally inconsistent to support one motion and not the other.</p> <p>8.8. AS added that there is an ongoing piece of work on Socially Responsible Investment, and this includes regular transparent reporting on a webpage of holdings in controversial firms that will include firms in this area. There is also a review about to start with the College about its relationship with external companies. AS added that there should be some wording in the notes paper on human rights abuses on the side of the Saudi government. HZ agreed to the amendment.</p> <p>8.9. Chair put the paper to members of Council to vote. The results are as follows: 16 Approve and 4 abstain. Paper was therefore passed by Council.</p>	

<b>Matters for Report/Discussion</b>	
<p><b>9. RSMU Report</b></p> <p><b>9.1.</b> JC noted that the third term is quite for the RSMU due to both departments having field work and various field trips. Therefore, none of the committee are around to provide events or support campaigns.</p> <p><b>9.2.</b> JC added that the RSM has a new ESE welfare staff member as well as a few events including the Spring Dinner. However, the annual varsity bottle match did not take place and may happen twice next year.</p> <p><b>9.3.</b> Relationships with the RSMA are great and they are now collaborating orders for regalia together. Finances are in good shape but JC have requested less funds for next year.</p> <p><b>9.4.</b> Chair put the report to members of Council to vote. The results are as follows: 19 approve and 1 abstain. Paper was approved by Council.</p>	
<p><b>10. CGCU Report</b></p> <p><b>10.1.</b> HW noted that the IEA is going well and there should be a conference happening shortly. The diversity event was hold online with a lot of panellists joining with a good turn out.</p> <p><b>10.2.</b> HW highlighted the black tie dinner that was held with the RCSU as well as being in the middle of doing the yearly colours awards and alumni mentoring scheme.</p> <p><b>10.3.</b> Chair put the report to members of Council to vote. The results are as follows: 20 approve. Paper was approved by Council.</p>	
<p><b>11. RSCU Report</b></p> <p><b>11.1.</b> AP noted that RSCU had recently organised an in person event which was sold out and the first big in-person event of the year.</p> <p><b>11.2.</b> AP noted that there had been a lot of negative feedback in FoNS regarding exams so this has been chased up to ensure the feedback reaches the department.</p> <p><b>11.3.</b> AP added that she is looking forward to continuing next year and is happy with the progress that the RSCU has made this year.</p> <p><b>11.4.</b> Chair put the report to members of Council to vote. The results are as follows: 18 approve. Paper was approved by Council.</p>	
<p><b>12. GSU Report</b></p> <p><b>12.1.</b> Chair noted that the GSU Report was received today and the Felix report was also not received by the Chair or the Governance Officer. Chair proposed to not accept the GSU report that was submitted and cover it in the next meeting.</p> <p><b>12.2.</b> SS questioned whether we should vote on there not being a report for there to be some accountability.</p> <p><b>12.3.</b> MF highlighted that Council has received votes from all volunteers, including CU Presidents who have exams going on so</p>	

<p>expressed disappointment in not receiving reports from the GSU President or Felix Editor.</p> <p><b>12.4.</b> AS noted that the GSU Report is extremely brief, and it is reasonable for Council to expect more about the activities on the committee as a whole.</p> <p><b>12.5.</b> MK added that we should vote on papers and reject those that are not submitted on time or not up to scratch.</p> <p><b>12.6.</b> ZW apologised for the late submission of his report and stated it would not happen again in the future.</p> <p><b>12.7.</b> AS added that individuals are frustrated is because there are members who are in remunerated roles that are not completing required pieces of work.</p> <p><b>12.8.</b> Chair proposed Council voting on whether to vote on the reports that have not been circulated.</p> <p><b>12.9.</b> Chair put this to members of Council to vote. The results are as follows: 10 approved (vote), 5 abstain (unsure) and 5 reject (no voting). Therefore, Council agreed to vote on the reports that were not received. Y</p> <p><b>12.10.</b> Chair put the report (lack of) to members of Council to vote. The results are as follows: 1 approve, 3 abstain, 17 reject. Report was therefore rejected by Council.</p>	
<p><b>13. Felix Report</b></p> <p><b>13.1.</b> <i>As above.</i></p> <p><b>13.2.</b> Chair put the report (lack of) to members of Council to vote. The results are as follows: 0 approve, 2 abstain and 18 reject. Paper was therefore rejected by Council.</p>	
<p><b>14. DPE Report</b></p> <p><b>14.1.</b> MF informed Council that the digital education recording policy passed which is good news for students who had no lectures recorded in the past.</p> <p><b>14.2.</b> MF had been informed with discussions with College about teaching next year about whether teaching will be remote or in-person next year as many students would like to be on campus.</p> <p><b>14.3.</b> MF thanked all the volunteers who assisted her in shortlisting the volunteers for the SCA's. RCS refurbishment is underway and should be ready for next year.</p> <p><b>14.4.</b> MF added that the Representation Coordinator is being recruited for and they should be in post by the start of the next academic year.</p> <p><b>14.5.</b> Chair put the report to members of Council to vote: 20 approve. 1 abstain. Paper was therefore accepted by Council.</p>	

**15. DPW Report**

- 15.1.** SS noted that the Union is in the process of developing the rep training to take place in Summer and Autumn for the elected year Reps.
- 15.2.** SS added that he had been working on the Rep newsletter, Rep of the month and recognition events which will all be taken over by the Rep Coordinator once she joins.
- 15.3.** Key project work is around the disciplinary processes and the differing policies for clubs, venues, staff etc.
- 15.4.** SS noted he is involved in the History group who analyse and make recommendations on the College's history. It has come to a conclusion with a report being taking to the President's Board which include a renaming of Beit Hall and other items.
- 15.5.** Chair put the report to members of Council to vote:  
18 approve.  
Paper was therefore accepted by Council.

**16. DPCS Report**

- 16.1.** RU noted that we have moved into step three of the government guidance since the last DPCS report and CSP's have been doing more activities.
- 16.2.** RU added that the Union has managed to secure £55,000 worth of funding for clubs and societies going on tour this Summer and during term one. In addition, Harlington Trust fund applications are advances and responses will be provided by the end of the academic year.
- 16.3.** RU highlighted that the space survey is out at the moment to every elected officer which forms part of the building and space review at the moment which forms part of the building and space review of the Union spaces including garages and CU Offices etc.
- 16.4.** RU noted that volunteer training week is happening this week with another opportunity for this to happen in September. RU thanked Rachel Sunderland for her hard work as she is leaving come July but there will be a new member of staff in that role come September.
- 16.5.** SR asked whether new guidance can be provided for next year for risk assessments. RU noted that from a College perspective, they need to know when activities are taking place and that those are risk assessed.
- 16.6.** HW asked for clarification on the current thinking of the 'women in' societies in NAC. RU noted that there are number of 'women in' societies that already exist and more that want to be created. There is concern from CSPB that enabling all women in societies are just replicating the DepSoc structure again and this needs to be reviewed.
- 16.7.** AT asked whether there will be student volunteers involved in the recruitment process for the Student Opportunities and Development Manager. RU said the recruitment process has not been defined but there is likely to be a student panel.
- 16.8.** Chair put the report to members of Council to vote.  
23 approve  
Paper was therefore accepted by Council.

<p><b>17. DPFS Report</b></p> <p><b>17.1.</b> SL highlighted that the College has committed to investing £5million into developing spaces over the next 5 years from the President's fund.</p> <p><b>17.2.</b> SL is considering a sustainability application which will look at green spaces for students on campus which will start at South Kensington and go out to White City and other campuses.</p> <p><b>17.3.</b> UCH Redevelopment started on Monday and a launch event will take place in October as part of Welcome planning.</p> <p><b>17.4.</b> IM questioned whether there is an update on the fryers in the Union being down to only one as it inhibits quite a few people from eating in the Union. SL notes that it has not been fixed as College are not sending people to complete the works but it was raised at a building user group and hopes for faster response times.</p> <p><b>17.5.</b> MK confirmed that there has been no action in regards to the allergens paper that came to SSB. SL said that there are issues that are trying to be resolved and there is a difficulty with the team in getting this work done.</p> <p><b>17.6.</b> Chair put the report to members of Council to vote:  12 approve, 5 abstain Paper was therefore accepted by Council.</p>	<p>SL to update Council on the allergen's information on the app.</p>
<p><b>18. President Report</b></p> <p><b>18.1.</b> AS highlighted that he had been a part of the President's fund and students can make bids and if people have idea's they should reach out to Sam Lee or India Marsden for next year.</p> <p><b>18.2.</b> AS added that the Union has put in a financial bid to the College for a 35% increase and there has not yet been any confirmation of the increase, but we await a positive response.</p> <p><b>18.3.</b> AS there have been discussions with GSU committee members about improving engagement with PG students in the Union to offer better services and improve Union representation.</p> <p><b>18.4.</b> AS added that SRI is getting to a conclusion where the following the policy agreed last year, a report is being brought as to how the College should implement this policy.</p> <p><b>18.5.</b> AS flagged that there is a lack of student services at White City and the College is intended to add student services into the BioEng building. The Union has tried to ensure that relevant students on the ground are involved in this.</p> <p><b>18.6.</b> Chair put the report to members of Council to vote: 16 approve. Paper was therefore accepted by Council.</p>	
<p><b>Any Other Business.</b> None</p>	