

# President Report to Union Council

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## Updates:

- Initiated discussions around implementation of recommendations of PG Engagement Review. First stage of implementation has been creating new elected roles, writing role descriptions etc.
- Continued to lobby for return to in-person teaching as quickly and fully as possible. Monitoring for where Departments may be dragging their heels so that this can be escalated within the College.
- Written Job Descriptions and Person Specifications for PG Experience Research roles (3-month contracts funded by Research England funding).
- First meeting of the College's Disciplinary Procedures Review Working Group.
- First two meetings of the Union's Democratic Structures Review Working Group.
- Initial planning for utilisation of £100k of funding which has been secured for refurbishment of h-bar.
- Working with DPCS to review procedures for Harlington Fund applications.

## Upcoming:

- Analysis of results of survey of Council members and other volunteers in relation to the Democratic Structures Review.
- Attending College Council Away Day to discuss Estates Strategy.
- Implementation of additional support for Constituent Unions.
- Continued engagement with College Disciplinary Process Review.

## Governance and Identity Board Updates:

- Governance and Identity Board will have met once since last Council. This meeting will take place after distribution of this report, and so Council may expect a verbal update.

## Objectives:

**Objective 1: Reviewing our Offer to Postgraduates - [Complete]**

**Objective 2: Reviewing our Democratic Structures - [In progress]**

**Current progress:** The Democratic Structures Review Working Group (DSRWG) has now met twice, once to scope out the remit of the review, and once to decide a set of survey questions to be sent to Council and subcommittee/CU committee members. An updated project plan is attached to this report as an appendix.

### **Objective 3: Understanding Community Development - [Integrated into Business as Usual]**

**Current progress:** It was originally intended that this was a single integrated project motivated by the need to support community-building post-pandemic. Through reflection on last term, it has become clear that this is not the case. The overall sense of community has returned to roughly pre-pandemic levels without the need for additional support. There remains, however, a longer-term question of supporting development of inclusive community in areas where it has been historically weaker. We view this as being both advanced via other projects (e.g. Postgraduate engagement review, Democratic structures review, CSP culture review) and also a key part of business-as-usual. We will continue to monitor 'sense of community' through data sources such as the Student Experience Survey, but I will not be providing continuing updates on this Objective which is now closed.

### **Objective 4: Supporting Constituent Unions - [In progress]**

**Current progress:** This is a key agenda item for the most recent meeting of the Governance and Identity Board and Council should expect a verbal update.

### **Objective 5: Developing a coherent lobbying agenda for Campus Services and Estates - [In progress]**

**Current progress:** Continuing to engage regularly with senior stakeholders in Estates. Current discussions revolve around re-allocation of office space on the South Kensington campus into teaching and learning spaces, as well as new developments at White City.