

DPCS report to Union Council

India Marsden

Updates:

- **Big Events and Urgent Finances** A significant amount of mine and the team's time has been spent authorising urgent purchase orders and liaising with the finance team to get things paid as soon as possible. A lot of risk assessments and room bookings are also being asked to be pushed through. This causes challenges in the team so it is important people try to submit them on time!
- **Budgeting App** The Budgeting app has decided to be difficult just as MG1 starts. This has created a lot of extra work both for me and Sam and for the MG and CUs taking part in budgeting. Therefore the deadline was extended by one week. MG2 will be starting soon and we will not be using the app, rather a spreadsheet with all the requisite information.
- **Visit to Silwood** On the 23rd Feb, Sam, Lloyd, some of the Activities team and some of the Representation team went on a field trip to Silwood. It was very educational and great to see the facilities they have there. We also met the chickens which was extremely important - I have included photos at the end of my paper.
- **Imperial Athletes Paper** No details to update here but just to note that there is continuing work going on with reformulating the Imperial Athletes model to make it more student lead and enabling rather than hindering. If you or anyone you know has specific thoughts on how the model does or doesn't work for a specific group, they are welcome to email me so I can consider that.
- **Varsity** We have been working with the Move Imperial team, the Sports Sector and ICSM Exec on getting varsity up and running. Planning has been going fairly well and it looks to be shaping up to be a good event!
- **Elections** I have been gently supporting elections from afar. I ran a 'I can stand session' to help empower women to run and have also been meeting with people who have questions about specific positions I have experience in. If you have questions about anything DPCS, Management Group Committee or general CSP committee I am happy to help. The Activities team will also be running a writing manifesto writing drop ins as well as one on effective campaigning.
- **Web Policy** Sam and I have begun work on updating the web policy around CSP websites and the Union's use of servers. It is *extremely* out of date, having been written in 2010. We are currently reaching out to groups to have them give their opinions on how they use these things, in order to design the best service and policy for them.
- **Tankards** In collaboration with Dr James and several other helping hands, we did a bit of tankard purge a few weeks ago. I'm sure Lloyd can tell you more.
- **Interviews** I have sat on two interview panels since last council meeting, one for the final member of the activities team and one for a new IT support role. Thankfully these have taken less time than the many panels I had last term, and the Activities one was very successful (as I write this we have not completed the IT support process!)
- **PhD** In the last month I have very excitingly received two PhD offers! Depending on which one I choose you may or may not see me around next year...

Upcoming:

- More budgeting, always budgeting

- Campaigning and Voting in elections! A fun time of the year.
- More work on IA!!
- India over commits herself to CSP Activity (DPCS could never...) by taking part in two Musical Theatre shows in three weeks. If you need her she will basically be living at the Union.

Clubs, Societies and Projects Board (CSPB) Update:

- The last CSPB was held on the 17th February.
- We discussed the structures in place for 'Women in' group and how they should work.
- We also talked briefly on Mums and Dads and I was actioned to talk to DPE further about this.
- An exemption for Felix was added to CSP policy to allow them to have a committee member that was elected by the entire student body rather than just the membership of the society.
- The issues with the budgeting app were discussed and the spreadsheet solution was proposed and accepted, along with the deadline extension.
- A few election reminders were given, namely that to vote on a CSP election you need to be a member of the group in question by the 4th March.

Objective Updates:

Objective 1: Training for CSP Committees - [Not yet fully started/done a bit]

With elections coming up, as mentioned in the general updates we have reviewed and added to the support we provide for people running in the elections. Once the elections are over, we will be looking fully at what training they need to have a running start in their positions, covering all types of roles from MG chairs to CSP committees, as well as considering what training the person taking over my position might need!

Objective 2: CSP Systems and Processes - [Complete/Reviewing]

Obviously the review of the budgeting process did not quite work out as planned as we are now doing a hybrid version between CSPs submitting on the app, and reviewing being done via spreadsheet, which isn't as terrible as it might sound. Other processes seem to be doing okay, and we are increasing the drop in provision, staffing allowing, to allow students to access the help they need. In terms of this objective I consider the level at which the team is functioning now good enough in comparison to how it was prior to when I started to consider this objective complete. However, Connor and the team are keen to make this an ongoing piece of work as they continue to improve the efficiency of the processes and how they work.

Objective 3: Imperial Athletes - [In Progress]

Over the last month, I have been writing internal papers about our approach to changing this model and considering all the areas it might have impacts on. I hope to be able to update council with more concrete information about the plans soon. The sports chair and ICSM Clubs and Societies chair have both been asked for informal feedback.

Objective 4: Communication (Response Times) - [Complete/Reviewing]

We will still be considering a ticketing system, or some kind of management system, but for now the aim will be to manage the inboxes with the resources we have.

Objective 5: Student Representation around Spaces - [Not yet started]

This objective still needs to be started - however, a brief planning discussion has occurred, and we anticipate scoping and planning of the project will happen throughout this term, with election of appropriate students to representative positions for the next academic year.

Silwood Chicken Photos



