

DPW report to Union Council

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Updates:

- The Safety and Security Review survey is now closed (many thanks to those of you who filled it out!) I am now in the process of reviewing the results.
- I had a meeting with the Director of Estates on the benefits of having a first year undergraduate guarantee for Imperial accommodation, as the College is looking at expanding the undergraduate population with the new Business School offering, and therefore needs to lobby stakeholders to subsidise the building of more student housing. I did some research on sector-wide stats around student housing and received some statements from the liberation officers on how having the guarantee especially benefits students from marginalised backgrounds.
- I met with Calyste (LGBTQ+ Officer) to talk through a list of issues that LGBTQ+ students are currently facing, and decided on which topics to bring forward to the Stonewall Action Committee as a recommendation to include in their action plan. The list of topics we came up with streamlining support for students who are undergoing medical transition both on and off campus, improving the messaging around Report and Support to make it more all students, having discussions around LGBTQ+ awareness that are inclusive of international cultures, and making rainbow lanyards available to all students. I have already raised these issues in the EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) forum.
- Presented the [paper](#) on expanding the powers of halls committees to the Deputy Director of Student Services. The main bit of feedback I received is that further consultation multiple halls committees is needed before they would be willing to take forward any actions from it. I am happy to look into doing a review of student accommodation and including this consultation in it in my next term, if Union Council agrees to it. Be on the lookout for a project plan around this at the next Council meeting.
- I got invited to a focus group by the OfS (Office for Students) on their [Statement of Expectations](#) to Prevent and Address Harassment and Sexual Misconduct! They reached out to me because of the Sexual Misconduct Survey we published earlier this year.

Community and Welfare Board

- The fifth and final ordinary meeting of the CWB (Community & Welfare Board) was held on 24/03/2022.
- The first item on the agenda was a presentation by Daniel, Deputy President (Education), on the ongoing feedback board trial that is taking place as part of the Representation Network Review. He received some feedback from the board on how to make it more inclusive and effective for welfare queries.
- The second item on the agenda was a draft of a guideline document on Communicating About Ethnicity within the College. The aim of this document will be to give guidance on best practice around how to be inclusive in the language used to refer to ethnicity in written and verbal communication. The guidelines are currently in their second draft and will be rolled out for further consultation among members of the College community in the coming months. CWB gave several points of good feedback, which I will report back to the working group in the College.
- The third item on the agenda was a guided Mentimeter discussion on Club, Society and Project (CSP) culture. The aim of this item was to host a focus-group style consultation on what the main strengths and weaknesses are when it comes to culture within our CSPs, and what the major contributing factors are. With India's help, I will use this to help inform further consultation with other student groups, including CSP leaders. (See the appendix for more details on the timeline for this project).

- I sent around a request for an email vote for the [paper](#) on expanding financial provisions for disabled students, but was one vote away from reaching quoracy. Nevertheless, I will continue to take it forward with the COLlege at the next Scholarships and Studentships Steering Committee meeting.

Upcoming:

- Will write a project initiation document for a review of student housing.
- Will meet with more student stakeholders to talk about CSP culture.
- Will ~~prank Lloyd with a whoopee cushion~~ plan another bonding activity for the OTs.
- Will write a report on the Safety and Security survey.
- Will write the well being section of the Representation Network Review report.
- Will attend an OfS focus group consultation together with other sabbatical officers on their Statement of Expectations (see above).

Objectives:

Objective 1: Post-Pandemic Reintegration of the Imperial Community - [Complete/Business as Usual]

After surveying 95 students at South Kensington, White City and Charing Cross, we have identified 4 topics for well being campaigns that will be run by the Advice Centre: Housing, Imposter Syndrome, Money Issues and Exam Stress. We planned out these campaigns in an annual calendar and will have a look at preparing and pushing out some supportive communications around self care during exams up to the end of Term 3.

Objective 2: CSP Culture Review - [In progress]

I have presented my project initiation document to CWB (Community & Welfare Board) and had an exploratory conversation with the members that were present. I collated their views on Mentimeter. I will support India with doing a similar consultation with CSPB.

Objective 3: Improving Safeguarding and Disciplinary Procedures - [In progress]

Had another meeting on student disciplinary procedures with the College's working group. Lloyd and I came up with a list of arguments in favour of having two separate procedures for non-academic misconduct: peer-to-peer and individual misconduct. This will help ensure that peer-to-peer cases have an optional mediation route, as well as separate criteria for assessing risk and implementation of safeguarding measures. I also met with the Director of Student Services to organise a task group to discuss support around student discipline. Finally, I will meet with a caseworker from Warwick on Friday, May 27 and enquire about their own disciplinary procedures review, as well as what administrative and support structures they currently have in place around it.

Objective 4: Review of Student Representation - [In progress]

The feedback board trial is now live for the Representation Network Review in the Materials, Physics and Chemistry departments. Drafting of the rep survey report is also in progress.

Objective 5: Developing the Union's EDI Strategy - [In progress]

We finally have the EDI (Equality, Diversity and Inclusion) data from Registry! 15 million rows' worth of Excel spreadsheet data was condensed down to 600,000 interaction points dating back to 2020. Everything from elections, to shop purchases, to CSP (Clubs, Societies and Projects) memberships are included. Tom Flynn (the staff lead for the project) is setting up a meeting with Koreo on the week of May 30 to discuss next steps.