

FELIX EDITOR

COUNCIL REPORT

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Contents

The Year in Summary	3-5
Intro	3
Phoenix	4
Changes	4
Medianas	5
More Socials	5
Goals Fulfilled	5-7
Rebuild the Felix Community	5
Drive Social Media Engagement	5
Website	6

The Year in Summary

► The end of Spring heralds the start of Summer

The Summer Term is known for being a desert as far as Felix is concerned - this is a problem faced by many CSPs, as end-of-year exams and coursework have always taken precedence over society activities.



However, I planned ahead for this eventuality, by working with Section Editors and coordinating either excess pages to hold back until needed, ensuring that one editor knows they will be in charge, or agreeing that their section will go on hiatus for a few weeks. I have also followed up with Section Editors as they come out of exams, and so far, we have not lost any. We have fairly consistently been producing 16 page issues this term, with one week at 24 pages. Whilst this leaves room for improvement, it is notably better than the 8 pages or complete absence of a paper that have been seen in previous years.

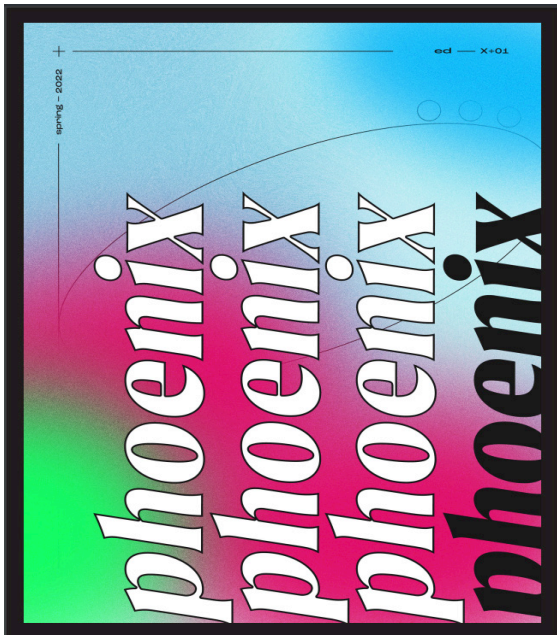
Differences in exam timetables have led to less experienced editors taking over as Lead Editor for their

section for brief periods of time. This, I think, has led many to be more well-rounded individuals with a deeper understanding of the paper and how it operates.

I have been working on establishing a team of dedicated illustrators throughout this year, and they have been instrumental in making some of the sections more eye-catching and interesting. This team is set to continue into the next academic year.

The paper now has a dedicated copyeditor, which has greatly resolved our copyediting woes. Some pieces that have been published over the last term have been below the normal standard - this is to be expected as writers are often spending less time on writing, due to exams taking precedence, and the same goes for Section Editors who would normally carry out roles such as fact checking.

► Phoenix



PHOENIX

The first issue of Phoenix, since its revival this year, was published at the start of February.

It was 40 pages long, and is still in distribution alongside Felix. It features alumni contributions and a variety of works by Imperial students.

Phoenix is currently published using a mix of Felix's print budget and a small ADF grant.

► Changes

AGM

An AGM was held at the end of March - committee members (other than Treasurer) were selected and pizza was consumed.

DISTRIBUTION

We have been able to employ someone to distribute the paper for us, and they have reported that we have indeed been able to reduce wastage, so we will be continuing with our reduced 1000 copies per week. We have also been able to confirm that instituting changes based on our analysis on pickups has been correct thus far, and requires much fewer tweaks than at the start of the year.

IT AND OFFICE EQUIPMENT

We have a fridge, kettle, biscuits and tea/coffee. Also a plant. Felix's Macs will be incorporated into the standard cycle of Union IT equipment, meaning they will be replaced automatically on the 4/5 year cycle that the Union operates on in terms of IT.

► Medianas

Medianas, the huge server located in the West Basement's main corridor, crashed again some months ago. The air conditioning has been repaired, so I am now pleased to report that the server room is no longer loud nor hot.

Felix has also been able to replace four faulty hard drives.

The server will be moved under the remit of the Union IT team, rather than the Media group chair..

► More Socials

We actually have a Social Secretary now and he has been great at organising events so far. We recently had the annual Felix dinner, which was a great success, and we will have had end of

year drinks and pizza in Hyde Park by the time this meeting of Council comes about. We plan to keep such events as a regular occurrence in the coming years.

Goals fulfilled

► Rebuild the Felix Community

Sections have grown, and Section Editor positions have now been mostly filled. As interests of the Imperial community change with time, so do sections and their popularity. Some sections have made a comeback, and other sections have faded away to the occasional contribution. Despite this, we have had majority of sections publishing consistently throughout the year, with a consistent number of pages. As a STEM-only university, we continue to have sections such as

Science and Environment lead in the number of pages each week, followed closely by Arts and Music.

Various sections have had an almost seamless handover when aided by Section Editors and more experienced members of Felix. Some previous Section Editors have "left" the paper, only to return as more frequent contributors.

► Drive social media engagement

Social media performance this year has been lacking at some points. We have recently elected a new Publicity officer who is adept at the role and will continue in her role all through next year.

becomes the main (and in some cases only) way to reach many students, we see this as key in the future development of the paper.

As social media more and more

Website

We are back to weekly uploads to the website after an unfortunate hiatus, caused by unforeseen circumstances for one of our volunteers who used to cover the web uploads.

Web articles have the potential to attract far more engagement than the printed version, with some popular

articles getting almost 10,000 views within a single week.

Our Webmaster is incredibly gifted at altering and improving the site, and usability has drastically improved as we notice errors and tidy things up.