

CITY & GUILDS COLLEGE UNION

Council Report II



“The Aims of the City & Guilds College Union:

- *To further the academic, welfare, sporting, recreational, and social interests of students of the Faculty of Engineering.*
- *To encourage, promote, and support our clubs and societies.*
- *To represent the needs and interests of Engineering Students to College, ICU, and external bodies.”*

CGCU Holbein Award

Kia Popat - President

This term, we are running nominations for the CGCU Holbein Award, to be presented at the CGCA Dinner in February. We will open the form at the start of term, intending to keep it open for two weeks, to allow students adequate time to make nominations.

Our next step with this is to determine which of the nominees to give the award to. This will be decided by the exec committee, and the alumni officer, who will meet on January 22nd for a meeting, in which we will decide this, and pass our decision onto the CGCA who will then present the award.

Sponsorship

Naveesha Kurananyaka – Sponsorship Officer

We have currently contacted different engineering and consultancy companies and will follow up with proposal, once it's made. I am working with the communications chair to make a sponsorship proposal, to ensure professionalism. We are also looking for more companies to contact and send off a proposal when it is ready. As recruitment season has passed, this proposal is mainly around sponsoring specific events.

Alumni Relations

Denise Wong – Alumni Officer

CGCA and OCT granted us with funding for our Annual Welcome Dinner held at the Tower Hotel. It was brought up that the funding request amount is very high and that this amount could not be guaranteed for the next year. It has been decided that shields would be hung up outside of CAGB 200 lecture hall, as a lot of students walk pass that location and it would also be easy for officers to change the shields termly as the wall is not very high. We were invited to the Alumni Reunion Lunch where we shared our current student experience with invited alumni.

Wellbeing

David Zhou – Wellbeing Chair

Future events:

We have reached out to The Alliance of Therapy Dogs to arrange a dog therapy session around the time of March for people to take a break from their coursework and lectures before the end of the term. We are also planning year vs year dodgeball competitions for each department to promote physical wellbeing, as it is an important aspect of mental health.

Wellbeing Issues:

We talked to the departmental and year reps about wellbeing issues related to the December/January exams. The main concerns that were raised were the proximity of exams

and coursework deadline and some departments with January exams couldn't enjoy their breaks at all and had to dedicate that time to revision.

We are planning to send out a CGCU wide questionnaire after the exams to gather more feedbacks from students to see how the format can be improved to better mental health of students.

Regalia

Zaki Amin – Regalia Officer

Committee hoodies already delivered for all previously elected committee members. We will need to order hoodies for newly elected committee members. We also have plans to design and sell a new CGCU-branded sweatshirt, probably in the options black and maroon, as well as listing the current regalia stock on the union website again.

Events

Justin Keung, Inny Yeung, Creeyag Rampersaad – Activities Chair and Activities Subcommittee

Movie Night

Tentatively looking at the 16th January as a date to host a CGCU movie night, as an informal social. We will do a poll on Instagram about what movie people would like to watch, and need to find a place to stream a movie too - this will likely be a lecture hall which we will look into booking.

Karaoke Night

Looking at various venues for the karaoke - will try to do off-campus if costs are low, otherwise CAGB 200/300. Date potentially 17th Feb 2023. When sending out tickets, will ask students for song recommendations.

CGCU Week

The CGCU Week will take place in the week of 27 Feb to 3 Mar (tentative) with the following events:

- Dog therapy session on Monday or Tuesday, as per above.
- Club night at Embargo on Wednesday 1 Mar.
- Faces of Engineering on Thursday 2 Mar. Will look for industry professionals from CGCU and other departmental society sponsors.
- Dinner at the Forage on Friday 3 Mar.

Bubble tea event

25 January, Wednesday afternoon, around 5 PM so people with sports/CSP activities could join (tentative). Looking into bubble tea making workshop at Biju, as UCL bubble tea society has done last year, or at other stores. If not possible, then organise boba crawl instead. Route will most likely involve 1) Truedan at Russell Square, and 2) Milksha at Leicester Square. Set up Eventbrite and Union shop tickets beforehand so we could preorder at the stores to avoid waiting and crowding on the day. To contact 1) Truedan for following up previous call about group discounts, 2) Milksha about group discounts.

Bowling

20 March 2023 (tentative).

Welcome dinner

The Annual Engineering Welcome Dinner took place at the Tower Hotel on 19 November 2022. Around 300 people attended the event, which included a three-course meal, complimentary house red and white wine, and a dance floor after the dinner until midnight.

RCSU x CGCU black-tie dinner

Mid-march (15th or 16th) (tentative). RCSU contacting The Proud Cabaret in Embankment for costs. Expected turnout around 700.

Education

Hugo Stanbury - Education Chair

We have sent an email to the dep reps, to introduce ourselves, and begin working with them. To aid this, we have also started a whatsapp group, allowing for easy communication between all the department reps and ourselves

The Education chair will be meeting with Jason (DPE) on 29/11/2022, in preparation of the coming Faculty Education Committee.

I have reached out to Tianxiao about UROP demystified, a popular event that was ran by the CGCU last year, which we would like to consider doing again.

Clubs & Societies

Kia Popat - CGCU President

Our biggest event in the spring and summer term would be annual budgeting and the elections. Since we now have 4 members in the MG team, we will delegate a few societies each so that each officer can provide more detailed feedback and help to their dedicated societies. We would like to increase our engagement with DepSocs, and will be hosting the CGCA x DepSoc meeting this term on 23rd January.

Before the spring election, we will ask societies to submit a committee structure change request if they would like to make a change in committee roles. All the MG roles are now filled for this academic year.

In terms of society events, we had a number of big events being hosted this term. There are likely to be many hackathons in particular, like last year, including DocSoc's ICHack.

As societies started to host more events after the pandemic, it seems like there is also an increase in interest in creating new societies. We have received multiple enquiry emails during the last few months about creating a new society. Many of these students wanted to know more about the criteria and the application process and expressed that there is only limited guidance provided on the union website. To resolve this, we will familiarise ourselves better to explain the application process and we are hoping to receive more interest throughout the remaining term time.

Communications

Shermaine Ang - Communications Chair

A CGCU sponsorship proposal that has just been made is currently being sent out to various companies for sponsorships. This proposal includes what we can offer to companies (e.g. engagement with students, publicising their career opportunities etc.). The aim of this is to obtain sponsorship for events that we wish to host in the near future.

The Media and Marketing Team has been posting on our social media account (Instagram) to promote various events in Autumn Term, such as the Welcome Dinner and Pub Crawl. Alongside promotion, we also decided to post a Q&A for the Welcome Dinner on our Instagram story, to allow students to have their questions answered a few days before the big event.

In Spring Term, we aim to complete our committee introductions (by mid Feb) and continue creating graphics to publicise the many events that are upcoming.

