

<u>Role</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Initials</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Officer Trustee - Union President	Hayley Wong	HW	Present
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Education)	Jason Zheng	JZ	Present
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Welfare)	Nathalie Podder	NP	Present
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Dylan Hughes	DH	Apologies
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Niamh McAuley	NM	Present
Council Chair	Yuki Yuan	YY	Present
Constituent Union President - ICSMSU	Christian Oldfield	CO	Present
Constituent Union President - CGCU	Kia Popat	KP	Present
Constituent Union President - RSM	Josephine Onerhime	JO	Present
Constituent Union President - RCSU	Trinity Stenhouse	TS	Present
Constituent Union President - Silwood	Danica Duan	DDu	Present
Management Group Chair - Arts	Celine Driessen	CD	Present
Management Group Chair - Community	Vacancy	N/A	N/A
Management Group Chair - Culture	Vacancy	N/A	N/A
Management Group Chair - Knowledge	Vacancy	N/A	N/A
Management Group Chair - Recreation	Stephanie Yeung	SY	Apologies
Management Group Chair - Sport	Christian Cooper	CC	Present
LCO - Black & Minority Ethnic Officer	Seat Lost under Byelaw A.3	N/A	N/A
LCO - LGBT+ Officer	Devni Peramunugamage	DP	Present
LCO - Disabilities	Jasmine Chan	JC	Apologies
LCO - Mental Health	Aglaia Freccero	AF	Present
LCO - Gender Equality Officer	Nancy Yang	NY	Absent
LCO - Ethics & Environmental Officer	Riqi Zhang	RZ	Present
LCO - Interfaith Officer	Pratik Ramkumar	PR	Present
LCO - International Officer	Lintong Li	LL	Absent
LCO - Working Class Officer	Jordan Elliott	JE	Present
Welfare Officer of CU - CGCU	David Zhou	DZ	Absent
Welfare Officer of CU - RCSU	Anthea MacIntosh-LaRocque	AML	Present
Welfare Officer of CU - ICSMSU	Seat Lost under Byelaw A.3	N/A	N/A
Welfare Officer of CU - RSM	Shirley Xu	SX	Apologies
Academic Officer of CU - CGCU	Hugo Stanbury	HB	Proxy*
Academic Officer of CU - RCSU	Runtian Wu	RW	Apologies
Academic Officer of CU - ICSMSU	Rayyan (Safeer) Islam	RI	Present
Academic Officer of CU - RSM	Shoupan Li	ShLi	Absent
Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Engineering)	Kuan-Cheng Chen	KCC	Absent
Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Medicine)	Aryan Niknam Maleki	ANM	Apologies
Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Science)	Guo Xinyi	GX	Absent
Postgraduate Taught Academic & Welfare Officer (Business)	Théophile Leseq	TL	Present
Postgraduate Taught Academic & Welfare Officer (Engineering)	Swapnil Kumar	SK	Absent
The PGR Representation Chair	Chengning Yao	CY	Absent
The PGT Representation Chair	Shangyi Liu	SLiu	Present
Council Representative (UG Science)	Ding Ding	DDi	Apologies
Council Representative (UG Science)	Stefano Fiocca	SF	Present
Council Representative (UG Engineering)	Vacancy	N/A	N/A

Council Representative (UG Engineering)	Rea Tresa	RT	Present
Council Representative (UG Engineering)	Shaheer Chaudry	SCh	Absent
Council Representative (UG Medicine)	Sasha Lisitsyna	SaL	Present
Council Representative (UG Medicine)	Hao Ze Yang	HY	Absent
Council Representative (PG Science)	Mahmood Mubarak	MM	Present
Council Representative (PG Science)	Tianyu Wen	TW	Absent
Council Representative (UG Engineering)	Yueyang Yu	YueY	Absent
Council Representative (PG Business)	Yilu Shi	YS	Apologies
Council Representative (PG Business)	Akshaya Anil	AAn	Absent
Council Representative (PG Medicine)	Eric Auyang	EA	Present
Council Representative (PG Medicine)	Songyang Li	SL	Apologies
Council Representative (PG Engineering)	Yanda Tao	YT	Present
Council Representative (PG Engineering)	Xinyi Huang	XH	Apologies

In attendance

Ameena Hasssan (AH) – Felix Editor

Alex Auyang (AA) – Silwood Union Treasurer

Clem Jones (CJ) – ICU Governance & Democracy Coordinator

Annette Ma (AM) – ICU Governance & Representation Assistant

* Alex Owusu – Proxy for HS

1. Welcome

YY welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Quorum Check

YY confirmed that quoracy had been achieved for the meeting.

Identification of Confidential Business

NP's paper under Item 6 was noted as confidential. HW also noted she had a Confidential Item for discussion under AOB.

2. Apologies

Noted as above.

3. Minutes/Action Tracker

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 December 2022

Approved by consensus as an accurate record of proceedings.

Action Tracker

Student Housing Work

NP noted the timeline for the review – currently in phase one, will conclude in February, and should have an update on where we are by the next Union Council meeting.

Co-design with students at the White City and Hammersmith campuses a set of Standing Orders for a new Constituent Campus Union covering those campuses by August 2023.

HW noted this action had not yet been started.

4. ICSMSU Report

CO presented the report as its author.

CO noted some highlights from the report:

- An education conference was held with the student union president and education officer, and a school representative of a sister school in Singapore.
- ICSMSU is working towards an alumni association, with plans of a new website and yearbook discounts for association members.
- ICSMSU brought back weekly emails to the whole cohort to increase communication to students, and trends are looking good with 1,000 extra people on the email list after auditing.
- A New Student Experience Fund has been created from sponsorships for long-term projects, where students can apply for extra funding.
- Sports and Arts CSPs at St Mary's Hospital Association has gained £3,000 funding through events. ICSMSU is working on improving Student-Staff Liaison Groups, where sessions lasted 3-4 hours last year.

5. RSMU Report

JO presented the report as its author.

JO noted the spring term to be busier than the autumn term, with many spring term events planned including refreshers fortnight, women in STEM fortnight, and bottle match.

JO noted they are encouraging rates of collaboration between all parts of RSM, and there is positive alumni engagement.

JO noted that an update on academic aspects will be included in the next Union Council report.

JO noted that RSMU currently has a low opening balance but are expecting 2 grants and other invoices in upcoming weeks.

Questions from Council members

- i. NM asked for further detail on the £3889 worth of outstanding payments. JO replied they are trying to get in touch with CSPs with outstanding payments and are in the progress of receiving £2000 worth of payment, but many students are busy with coursework at this time of year which is causing delays.
- ii. NM observed that JO had mentioned in her report that CSPB had decided to "rip-up the ring-fenced budgets for the RSMU and RSM Motor Club"; NM noted that CSPB is yet to pass an annual budgeting policy, so no decision has been made. JO noted RSM Motor Club Chair had felt it was important to communicate the concerns.

6. Guiding Principles for the College's Student Disciplinary Process Review (SDPR) [Confidential Paper/Item]

7. Silwood Report

DD presented the report as its author.

- i. NP noted she has a recommendation on pet insurance for Mr Tinkles, the Silwood Cat. AA asked whether there if there had been any follow up regarding enquiries about the Union funding the cost of the pet insurance. NP responded that she had not been involved in the most recent discussions on the matter.
- ii. NM also noted there is a £2000 budget for sexual health products and asked AA to put details in the Silwood annual budget.

8. Scrutiny Committee Report

CC presented the report on behalf of Scrutiny Committee (SC). CC noted that the Committee met on 3 January. CC clarified that comments not underlined are observations and underlined comments require responses from the OTs. CC noted the Committee had observed that a significant amount of the OTs' time is taken up serving on Imperial College boards or committees.

Questions to Union President

- i. SC asked if there will be student consultation regarding the Union's review of complaints and disciplinary procedures. HW replied that there will be in due course.
- ii. SC asked if there is more consultation in terms of community objectives, and in terms of communication and transparency. HW replied yes to both, adding that the survey sent out in June received 498 responses.
- iii. SC asked for more clarification on the union strategy. HW explained the Union's current strategic plan is called 'Back to Basics'. HW noted that it has been 3 years' time since this strategy was launched and it is time to create a new strategy. She noted that she will consult students and publish the consultation summary by April and turn the consultation into an actual strategy to be implemented by June.

Questions to DPE

- i. SC asked regarding the use of AI in Assessment whether the outcomes of discussions with the College staff can be passed on to student representatives. JZ replied that he will share results when there are concrete updates.

Questions to DPW

- i. SC asked regarding general updates whether minutes or the general outcomes of these forums can be shared with Union Council. NP noted that she will include an appendix in next report or submit it as points of information. HW suggested to include it as a hyperlink.
- ii. SC asked regarding Objective 1 whether more detail regarding the eligibility criteria for free meals. NP noted that it is still a work in progress on who will be eligible. NP noted that referring to LSE or UCL procedures, there is no eligibility criteria but have a rule restricting 1 meal per person. NP noted that the current idea is to scan Yoyo or student ID to show eligibility, which can be a discreet way for students.
- iii. SC asks regarding Objective 2 whether any student consultation has taken place and whether they can be shared. NP noted that they are not confidential.
- iv. SC asked regarding Objective 3 on clarifications of data protection and privacy, where tension has been sustained long time. NP responded that Imperial College and higher education sectors are leaning towards sharing information to keep people safe rather than focusing on GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation). NP expressed that data that are already being collected will be used in a different way, such as engagement tracking to provide senior/ student tutors information on

attendance, as disengaged students are at higher risks of suicide. NP supported this with a study that successfully prevented 11 students using a similar strategy.

Questions to DPFS

- i. SC asked regarding Objective 3 how postgraduate feedback will be sought. NM replied it will be ensured that they will be uploaded to systems.
- ii. SC asked regarding Objective 5 what format the annual budgeting training modules will take and whether the choice of format will be informed by student opinion. NM replied it will mainly be through online workshops for active budgeting and drop ins, and trainings will take place in the afternoon and evenings.

Questions to DPCS

Noted that DH had sent apologies to Union Council due to a dental emergency and he had therefore provided responses to the Committees questions in advance:

- i. SC asked what the process for testing the CSP sick list will be, and what metrics will be used to measure its success. DH reported that the sick list idea is still in its early stages, but the concept will be to allow ICU to record and track the financial health of CSPs over a longer period of time. If a CSP is in debt, or in danger of doing so, the "sick list" will contain within it a plan to keep that CSP working and to recover money over the next few years. It will show all steps taken to bring that CSP back into the black, with milestones along the plan to compare actual data to the forecast. CSPs in the sick list will continue to administrate themselves (i.e. this is not the same as being taken into administration), but will be in touch with ICU centrally to ensure the plan in the Sick List is being followed.
- ii. SC asked whether student consultation has or will take place on this objective to inform the choices of the Digital Transformation Project. DH confirmed that student consultation will take place.
- iii. SC asked whether student consultation will take place regarding Objective 2 to inform the final sponsorship structure at the end of this objective. DH noted that the proposal will be taken to CSPs.
- iv. SC asked regarding Objective 2 whether there will be any negative impacts to CSPs with existing sponsorship agreements that conflict with potential centralised sponsors. DH noted in general the aim would be to not disturb existing partnerships, but there may be cases where companies are taking CSPs for granted.
- v. Regarding Objective 4, SC suggested that Union Council be consulted to assist in identifying the key criteria to focus on in this objective. DH appreciated the suggestions of the SC in this regard and implored anyone on Union Council who has an interest to come to Environment & Sustainability forum meetings.

9. RCSU Report

TS presented the report as author.

TS noted some of the highlights from the report:

- RCSU had advanced planning with events, with risk assessments and room bookings already submitted.
- The connections with the alumni and RCSA were reforged and agreed to support students in receipt of Bursaries and/or the Hardship Fund, with updates given at the next council meeting.

- The RCSU representation team is working on reviewing Mitigating Circumstances and streamlining the UROP process.
- The Science Challenge Launch has been postponed to make sure dates align better with school dates including high school students.
- The Broadsheet newsletter is on track, with more students expressing interest in writing. The
- Charity RAGxRCSU event is currently in the planning.
- Previous plans to collaborate with ICSMU has been changed to plans to collaborate with CGCU due to better aligned goals such as planning more black-tie events.

Questions from Council members

- i. HW commented, regarding the note in the report about selling RCSU Merchandise, that discussions could be had with the Union Shop team about potentially collaborating over selling CU merchandise.

10. CGCU Report

KP presented the report as its author.

KP noted they are increasing alumni engagement and meeting with the CGCA committee to discuss schemes and potential funding.

KP also noted they are organising wellbeing and social events and black-tie events and are coming out with new merch soon.

Lastly, KP noted they are currently focusing on getting sponsorships for CGCU.

11. Felix Report

AH presented the report as its author.

HW raised to reject the report, arguing details were lacking compared to other CU reports, three of which are produced by unpaid volunteers. HW also noted that the report was submitted 3 hours before the Union Council.

AH replied she will prepare the report for the next council meeting and asked for clarifications on what the report should include. CC clarified that the termly report is meant to summarise last term's progress and plans for the new term.

YY also noted that late reports will not be accepted for future meetings.

AH expressed that this is the second busiest time of the year, and only the Felix editor was working on the paper where it is normally 10 people's work.

Council suggestions

- i. CC suggested that more quantifiable numerical data could be presented to reflect student engagement and increase engagement.
- ii. NM suggested to provide more detail on the distribution network.

Vote on report

RT asked to clarify whether the vote is on quality or submission time.

YY noted the vote is to 'receive' the report or not, and that rejecting a report expresses dissatisfaction with the report. AML asked for clarification on actions arising after rejection of

a report. YY replied that the Felix report would have to be rewritten and prepared for the next *council meeting*.

A majority voted against accepting the report, with none voting to accept and 5 abstentions recorded.

12. AOB

Utilisation of Student Support Fund (SSF).

MM asked NM and NP to share current detailed utilisation of the SSF.

NP noted that demand for the SSF has grown to 5 times that of previous (non-COVID) academic years, and is double that of demand during COVID. Uptake of the £500 streamlined grant for eligible students on bursary has been high (around 80%). NP noted she has asked Student Finance to keep a close eye on uptake amongst UG students in the £40k - £60k bracket as these students are in the highest income band eligible for the bursary, which means that they currently have lower levels of funding from the College. Highest uptake is amongst international students, as is usually the case. There is a working group due to be formed to streamline the SSF application to make it more accessible, decrease stigma, and reduce time required to complete it (the average is currently 4-6 hours).

Update on the College's stance and action after the November UCU's strike

MM asked, continuing from last month's update on this matter, if there was any recent update on the College's stance/action. In addition, MM requested the OTs confirm/update regarding any future strike/boycott that will take (organised by Imperial's UCU) place this term. JZ noted that the College position is unchanged and has always advocated for the pension scheme. JZ noted a meeting with Trade Unions will take place in January; the UCU meeting will take place on the coming Thursday to decide on actions taking place this term and they are required to provide 14 days of notice. JZ noted this means there are no actions in January.

History Dialogue [Confidential Item]

End of Union Council

YY noted that a member of Scrutiny Committee has resigned and therefore they are looking for someone to take on the role, asking interested parties to get in contact via email. YY thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting at 8pm.