

Council Attendance

| Role | Name | Initials | Attendance |
|---|----------------------------|----------|------------|
| Officer Trustee - Union President | Camille Boutrolle | CB | Present |
| Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Education) | Yi Yang | YY | Present |
| Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Welfare) | Andreea Cojocsa | AC | Present |
| Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) | Christian Cooper | CC | Present |
| Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Finance & Services) | Stephanie Yeung | SY | Present |
| Council Chair | Anthea MacIntosh-LaRocque | AML | Present |
| Constituent Union President - ICSMSU | Haider Nazerali | HN | Present |
| Constituent Union President - CGCU | Daniel Zhuo | DZ | Present |
| Constituent Union President - RCSU | Trinity Stenhouse | TS | Apologies |
| Constituent Union President – RSMU | Reha Chandresh | RC | Present |
| Constituent Union President - Silwood | Jack Arthur | JA | Apologies |
| Management Group Chair - Arts | Celine Driessen | CD | Proxy* |
| Management Group Chair - Community | N/A | N/A | N/A |
| Management Group Chair - Knowledge | Dhishan Mane | DM | Apologies |
| Management Group Chair - Recreation | Ethan Beech | EBe | Present |
| Management Group Chair - Sports | Vaibhav Chetty | VC | Present |
| LCO - Black & Minority Ethnic Officer | Comfort Oluwakoya | CO | Present |
| LCO - LGBT+ Officer | Avi K | AK | Present |
| LCO - Disabilities | Emmanuel Lawal | EL | Apologies |
| LCO - Mental Health | Aglaia Freccero | AF | Present |
| LCO - Gender Equality Officer | Wendy Song | WS | Present |
| LCO - Ethics & Environmental Officer | Yuxi Liang | YL | Absent |
| LCO - Interfaith Officer | Ariba Azam | AA | Absent |
| LCO - International Officer | Yuanze Xia | YX | Apologies |
| LCO - Working Class Officer | Jordan Elliott | JE | Present |
| Welfare Officer of CU - CGCU | Bowen Shi | BS | Absent |
| Welfare Officer of CU - RCSU | Julia Purrinos De Oliveira | JPO | Present |
| Welfare Officer of CU - ICSMSU | Lilia Evans | LE | Absent |

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| Welfare Officer of CU - RSM | Jay Haley | JH | Absent |
| Academic Officer of CU - CGCU | Linmo Lin | LL | Present |
| Academic Officer of CU - RCSU | Chloe Lee | CL | Present |
| Academic Officer of CU - ICSMSU | Yasmin Baker | YB | Present |
| Academic Officer of CU - RSM | Olivia Cai | OC | Absent |
| Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Engineering) | Xiang Yan | XY | Present |
| Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Medicine) | Nan Fletcher-Lloyd | NFL | Apologies |
| Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Science) | Michaela Flegrova | MF | Present |
| Postgraduate Taught Academic & Welfare Officer (Business) | Vacancy | N/A | N/A |
| Postgraduate Taught Academic & Welfare Officer (Engineering) | Vacancy | N/A | N/A |
| The PGT Representation Chair | Naraana Enkhijin | NE | Absent |
| The PGR Representation Chair | Jordon Milward | JM | Present |
| Council Representative (UG Science) | Edward Bird | EB | Present |
| Council Representative (UG Science) | Qingyu Liu | QL | Present |
| Council Representative (UG Engineering) | Ling Liu | LL | Present |
| Council Representative (UG Engineering) | Aditya Prabakara | AP | Absent |
| Council Representative (UG Engineering) | Kang Yang | KY | Absent |
| Council Representative (UG Medicine) | Yuki Agarwala | YA | Present |
| Council Representative (UG Medicine) | Kavyesh Vivek | KV | Present |
| Council Representative (PG Science) | Alex Auyang | AA | Apologies |
| Council Representative (PG Engineering) | Guoxuan Cui | GC | Present |
| Council Representative (PG Engineering) | Jing Xu | JX | Present |
| Council Representative (PG Business) | Ka-Chun Liu | KCL | Present |

In attendance [Students/Staff]

Jack Bartlett (JB) – Arts & Entertainments Group Vice Chair (Entertainments) [Student]*
 Dot Griffith (DG) – Member of the Board of Trustees [External]
 Jane Coulson (JC) – Member of the Board of Trustees [External]
 Cat Turhan (CT) – ICU Director of Membership Services [Union Staff]
 Annette Ma (AM) – ICU Governance and Representation Assistant [Union Staff]

1. Welcome

AML welcomed everyone and asked attendees to fill in their names and CID on the Menti poll.

2. Apologies

Noted as above.

3. Quoracy

Confirmed.

4. Proxy

Request for JB to proxy for CD was approved by Union Council.

JB is the Vice Chair Entertainments in the same management group as CD.

Proxy request approved by consensus.

5. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

Minutes of the Ordinary Union Council Meeting held on 9 Nov 2023

AML asked whether there are any issues surrounding the minutes of the last Union Council meeting.

- i. YY noted two attendees were not listed present – JX and KY.
- ii. JA raised a correction on statement 18 – he supported AA's statement regarding statement 17.
- iii. CC asked not to approve the minutes, as misquoting students can be incredibly damaging so he would like more time for approval of the minutes. CC noted a few amendments that he would like to raise.
- iv. HN raised around 20 amendments regarding item 11 on the Union Stance on Gaza.

Minutes not approved due to amendments raised.

AML noted the minutes will be approved if there is time in the end of the meeting, or via email.

6. Action tracker

AML followed up on the action tracker.

| Date of creation | Action number | Council reference (if applicable) | Action | Owned by | Status | Update |
|------------------|---------------|--|---|---------------------|-------------|---|
| 7/11/23 | 1.1 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 8, Resolve 8(1) | Addition of Trans+ Officer to LGBTQ+ Network Committee | AC | Completed | |
| 7/11/23 | 1.2 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 9, Resolve 9(1) | Advertisement of Disability History Month events on Union platforms | OTs/Union Staff, EL | In progress | 05/12/23 Sent out through newsletter and Disabilities Officer has published an article. Waiting for confirmation from EL (paper author) that this action is complete. |
| 7/11/23 | 1.3 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 9, Resolve 9(2) | Encourage Clubs and Societies advertise Disability History Month events on Union platform | CC, EL | In progress | 05/12/23 CSPB has discussed this and |

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| | | | | | | <p>was overall approved.</p> <p>Waiting for confirmation from EL (paper author) that this action is complete.</p> |
| 7/11/23 | 1.4 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 10, Resolve 10(1) | Union to adopt People & Planet Fossil Free campaign | CB | In progress | <p>05/12/23</p> <p>CB sent email to People & Planet Fossil Free campaign. Awaiting response.</p> |
| 7/11/23 | 1.5 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 10, Resolve 10(1) | <p>Demand that College:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Make a public commitment to exclude all fossil fuel companies from their investment portfolio(s). ii) Introduce a publicly accessible | CB | Incomplete | |

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| | | | <p>iii) ethical investment policy that explicitly excludes all fossil fuel companies. Fully divest from all fossil fuel companies within 3 years.</p> | | | |
| 7/11/23 | 1.6 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 10, Resolve 10(2) | Request quarterly updates of the university's investment portfolio. | CB | In progress | 5/12/23 AML to confirm with paper author what is meant by the investment portfolio, as CB noted the investment portfolio is public. |
| 7/11/23 | 1.7 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 10, Resolve 10(3) | Lobby for and secure student representation on all university investment-related committees. | CB | In progress | 5/12/23 SY noted that they sit on one of the College's investment boards, and that the last meeting was in 2022. Creation of action item 2.1 to |

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| | | | | | | understand when these committees are held. |
| 7/11/23 | 1.8 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 10, Resolve 10(4) | Lobby the university to end all future investments in fossil fuel companies and to divest from fossil fuel industry companies immediately. | CB | In progress | 5/12/23 CB is speaking to various College stakeholders, including Robert Kerse, the Chief Operating Officer of the Senior Team at Imperial. |
| 7/11/23 | 1.9 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 10, Resolve 10(5) | Actively work with Imperial Climate Action to ensure that Union work is linked up with grassroots campaigners. | CB | In progress | 5/12/23 CB has been working with Imperial Climate Action. |
| 7/11/23 | 1.10 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 11, Resolve 11(1) | Union makes official, public stance condemning the indiscriminate killing of civilians by the Israeli government in Gaza and continue their condemnation of the actions of Hamas. | OTs | Complete | 5/12/23 Blog post made on the Union's website making the Union's stance known. |

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| 7/11/23 | 1.11 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 11, Resolve 11(2) | Lobby the College to take an official, public stance condemning the indiscriminate killing of civilians by the Israeli government in Gaza, and to continue condemnation of Hamas. | CB | In progress | 5/12/23 CB has drafted an email to College leaders, but it is yet to be sent. College are aware that this motion has been passed. |
| 7/11/23 | 1.12 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 11, Resolve 11(3) | For the Union President to write a letter to Constituent Unions (CUs) assuring them they are allowed to reiterate the Union's stance on the conflict in Gaza. | CB | Complete | 5/12/23 CB sent email to CU presidents regarding this. |
| 7/11/23 | 1.13 | Paper Pack for 7/11/23: Item 11, Resolve 11(4) | Union to continue to promote and signpost students affected by the conflict to the relevant support. | AC | Complete | 5/12/23 AC noted that no student groups have specifically asked for additional support yet. AC is in contact with support staff to seek out how to |

Imperial College Union
 Union Council / DRAFT Minutes of 5 Dec 2023 meeting in UDH at 6pm

| | | | | | | continue providing support. |
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| 5/12/23 | 2.1 | Minutes from 5/12/23: 6.ix | Seek the date of the next College investment board meeting which she sits on and report back to Council. | SY | Incomplete | |
| 5/12/23 | 2.2 | Minute 7.iv | Amend Council standing orders to reflect that reasonable discussion is allowed between a paper author and seconders of a paper when deciding to accept major amendments. | AML | Incomplete | |
| 5/12/23 | 2.3 | Minute 10.iii, 10.vii | CC and RC meet to make refinements to RSMU standing orders and updated to eActivities for voting | CC, RC | Incomplete | |
| 5/12/23 | 2.4 | Minute 10.vi | Arrange meeting with CB, CU presidents | AML | Incomplete | |

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| | | | and members of Council interested in postgraduate representation | | | |
| 5/12/23 | 2.5 | Minute 12.i | CU Education and Welfare Chairs to tell departmental representatives to give feedback to CB. | BS, JPO, LE, JH, LL, CL, YB, OC | Incomplete | |
| 5/12/23 | 2.6 | Minute 13.i | CC and DZ to meet to discuss possible options for electing a CGCU Welfare Chair and report their conclusions to next Council. | CC and DZ | Incomplete | |
| 5/12/23 | 2.7 | Minute 13.i | Look at the elections process to fill vacant roles in CUs. | AML, CC | Incomplete | |
| 5/12/23 | 2.8 | Minute 14.i | Get in touch with CU presidents to sort out CU standing orders | AML | Incomplete | |

7. Standing orders

AML led the item and noted to discuss standing orders brought back to council and reapprove them now.

AML asked for questions or any amendments.

- i. CC noted most changes are positive and makes it clearer, the only amendment he has is regarding Standing Order 12.2 on the structure of paper, and the requirement for there to be a single author. CC wanted to ask for the reason behind this, whether other authors would be credited. AML noted that Council members raised it during the last meeting, where it took a long time when multiple authors of a paper had to decide whether to accept amendments. AML noted the people who contributed the paper can just be seconders.
- ii. VC noted that seconders are just supporters of the document, and suggested they can have principle and secondary authors, but the distinction between author and seconder is important. HN also noted the paper in question was an exceptional case dealing with a lot of complexity, otherwise papers with multiple authors usually don't take up too much time on amendments. HN noted while it took a lot of time during the last Council meeting, it was overall successfully and efficiently done. CC echoed HN's comments, said papers usually have multiple authors, and having time to discuss amendments can let them reflect and make sound decisions on amendments.
- iii. MF noted they are overcomplicating it: anyone listed as a seconder stands behind it and agrees with the paper but it does not differentiate the people that helped write it. MF noted other authors involved in the paper should be acknowledged, but there should be one corresponding author, which is usually the main author. MF noted that one person should be responsible for the paper and the key point of contact.
- iv. CC noted MF has a good point, as long as it wouldn't let the Council Chair disrupt paper authors from discussing on amendments during Council meetings. AML noted she agrees with the points raised and is happy to allow discussions on major amendments, given the discussions are reasonable in duration. AML noted she will make the changes and updates to the standing orders outside Council.

Action: AML to amend Council's standing orders to reflect that reasonable discussion is allowed between a paper author and seconders of a paper when deciding to accept major amendments.

- v. CC expressed support on Standing Order 3.4 where votes must be made available to members of the Union. CC said the British Government also does this to hold accountable its members. AML noted this was not a new update. CC said it hasn't been done for the last 5 or so years so it should be made clearer in the future.
- vi. HN noted Standing Order 12.2 on the requirement of indication of authors' Union roles, with the paper on the conflict in Gaza as an example, he noted it didn't represent him as his Union position but just as an individual, however he was still encouraged to put his role down even though the paper was not to represent the

2000+ students that he represents in his Union role. HN expressed they should have an option to not put a union role down in a paper if it's not related to their role. AML noted no paper will cover all students represented by their Union roles, but their voices will still align with some students who they represent.

- vii. JE noted to his understanding that any student that doesn't represent other students can bring a paper to Council, so the paper doesn't have to represent students. AML agreed to the statement but stated that the role can demonstrate who the student is and their experience. AML asked if anyone is proposing any amendments, to which no one raised one.
- viii. YY asked regarding Standing Order 5 on raising amendments, whether it is required for paper authors to make amendments within certain timeframes, or if it can be back and forth conversations. Specifically, if the paper was submitted on the last day of the submission deadline, but suggestions were made, YY enquire when the paper author should come back with the amendment. AML noted she did not add any specifications for this, and she previously communicated that the deadline was on Wednesday so if authors want feedback, they need to submit by Wednesday, and finish making amendments by Friday. Likewise, AML said if authors want to submit amendments on a fresh paper on Monday morning and deadline is 5pm on the same Monday, then she would not have time to suggest amendments and feedback. If there is no time to submit the final paper on the final paper deadline, AML may have to reject the paper. YY clarified whether the final one should be submitted before the Monday deadline. AML replied yes.
- ix. AML asked whether anyone needs clarification on a clear Wednesday deadline for feedback in the Standing Orders, or they are happy with the current email communication. No one raised an issue to which it was supported by consensus.
- x. HN noted a correction that Standing Order 4 should be Standing Order 6.
- xi. MF wanted to note that significant paper amendments should be sent in advance, so others can review it on paper, instead of seeing it fresh at the Council meeting.
- xii. CC added whether minutes can be circulated before the final paper pack, at most 2 weeks afterwards. He noted they were given 3 working days to review them before this Council meeting.

AML asked members to vote for approval of UC standing orders.

AML noted for members to still abstain if they have no leaning towards votes, so quoracy can be met.

8. Report from Felix Editor

JJ gave a brief introduction of Felix newspaper, noting the Council passed a motion last year to make the role a sabbatical role instead of an elected role, so he is the first appointed Felix Editor.

JJ noted his priorities are: 1) the publicity, 2) producing news stories that are more relevant to the student body, and 3) restoring stability to the paper. JJ stated Felix covers three types of news: 1) UK higher education news, 2) central College news (facilities, ground-breaking research, appointment) and 3) original news gathering where they go out to students and

report stories on campus. JJ noted he personally wants to cover more original news even though it requires more effort, but they reflect Imperial more.

JJ highlighted recent reports on an Imperial alumnus trapped in Gaza, speaking to Jewish and Israeli students on discrimination, pro-Palestinian protests on campus, and UC motions including divestment and on Palestine. They also did interviews with OTs to give students a sense of who they are and their mission. Lastly, they covered news on the mural, where students were not consulted with.

JJ noted they will be reviewing their progress in more detail in the paper this week.

Regarding publicity, JJ stated they made the Felix design bolder, punchier, and more professional. At the beginning of the year, they delivered 2500 newspapers to undergraduate fresher's halls. JJ has also started a weekly newsletter to all Felix members which is a free membership, and it comes with all the news stories in the paper each week, to engage students who don't read the physical paper. JJ announced in term 1, they have 75% more members than last year, and 430 new followers on Instagram compared to last year.

JJ noted he is still very conscious that there are students who don't know about Felix, but continued efforts will help.

JJ noted his predecessor resigned last year, and there was poor engagement with no one coming in the office. With their new video production unit, JJ concluded it is an overall good success story for this term.

AML thanked JJ for the report.

Report noted by Council.

9. Felix editor appointment

AML noted the paper describes the new appointment process for the Felix editor, which is new this year.

- i. AML noted amendment suggested that 'Felix' should not be referred to 'the Felix'.

Appointment paper noted by Council.

10. RSMU standing orders.

RC noted in alignment with the Byelaws, CUs must change their laws to abide by Standing Orders, so they have taken the byelaw and edited their Standing Orders accordingly.

RC noted that one RSMU role and the RSMU support committee were not included in the committee. RC said that she sent it to committee in September, which voted and passed the amendment.

- i. CC suggested to entirely remove Regulations 1 which is antidemocratic, where PGs become certain roles. He noted the rest of the stuff in regulation is

essentially outlined by Byelaws. CC also stated Regulations 2 is overruled by discipline byelaws. RC accepted amendment. AML noted amendments will be projected on a projector screen in the room.

- ii. MF asked when papers come to Council, whether a cover paper can be provided outlining why it's brought to council, as she was confused why they are discussing the paper. MF noted for example AML's cover paper, makes it easier to understand what and why. AML added she didn't ask RC to complete it on this occasion but should have.
- iii. CC asked if Council is removing Regulations 1 and 2, whether Council is willing to accept that CC meet with RC to ensure that the actual standing orders abides and fills any gaps if necessary. CC noted any other refinements would not need to be brought up to Council. AML asked if members are happy with this arrangement, which was accepted by consensus.

Action: CC and RC meet to make refinements to RSMU Standing Orders.

- iv. MF noted that the Vice Chair (Education) and Vice Chair (Welfare) are Faculty representatives for the undergraduates in CUs, so they should only be elected by undergraduates. AML noted it needs to be made sure that it is only open to undergraduates. MF noted she doesn't remember if it's the same, because she remembers students complaining that they can't run for the roles. AML asked if it's already defined in the Union's Bye-Laws, and AML said this could be checked and clarified later. CC suggested to remove Regulations 2 but rework Regulations 1 to remove anything contradictory to the Byelaws, and also make the president role fully open to all members. RC accepted the amendments.
- v. SY commented it might be a general conversation to take away from Council to re-evaluate how they want to represent postgraduate students in communities, and they need to make sure they are still represented by committee members. RC added that this was accounted for in RSMU, where postgraduate honorary members were added in the Constitution last time, but unfortunately the role is currently not filled, otherwise the role can sit on their committee and have their say. AML clarified whether SY is specifically talking about CUs. SY responded this is in general including CUs. MF asked whether there is a forum for CUs to meet and discuss. AML noted there supposedly is, but it has been lost over time. CB noted she can meet with individual CUs. MF noted it would be good if CU committee roles are set in a more standardised way. CB pointed out there are inherent differences within CUs, and ICSMSU by definition only represents Medicine students, so it's very different.
- vi. AML noted an action for her to organise a meeting with CU presidents and the Union President and asked any members interested in postgraduate representation to reach out to her.

Action: AML to arrange meeting with CB, CU presidents and members of Council interested in postgraduate representation.

- vii. CC asked if there are any structural changes to committee that is imminent and needs voting. RC noted there are 3 roles such as the Publicity Officer, that are to be contested by three people together, but given the eActivities system, only one person would run on the website on behalf of the three students. The other

people must then be manually given the role onto the system. RC spoke to CC before but is not sure if this needs eVoting updates or any structural change. AML noted the discussion should be made in the meeting between CC and RC and conclusions to be reported to council.

AML suggested members wait so amendments are fully made and vote at the next Council with the full amendments.

11. Amending the Terms of Reference for Research and Academic Representation Forum (RARF)

YY gave presented the paper as its author.

YY noted she is leading the academic representation network, including an undergraduate and postgraduate forum. YY noted she has been collaborating with the Graduate School, so someone from Graduate School will attend all of their rep meetings to sit and answer any questions directly. They will also ask policy stakeholders to answer PG students question when required. This is mainly why they're changing the terms of reference, as they want to include more stakeholders and allow students to raise any questions, and extend forums from just YY and academic reps.

- i. YY noted she is happy to amend that the forum structure will not be confined on Teams channels, and to consider any other channels. AML suggested an electronic channel. CC said a virtual/online channel. YY accepted the amendment.

AML asked members to vote.

12. Reports from OTs

AML noted OTS will each give a short oral report, followed by questions from council. AML noted this is a trial, so she will send a survey over Christmas break to consult members on this reporting format.

Report from the Union President

CB noted she will give her report following her three OT objectives.

CB noted regarding her first goal to improve facilities and amenities across campus, that there is a new student space in Sherfield Building level 3, and microwaves, hot water taps in cafeteria, and more. CB said she has directly contacted HN and JA to identify missing amenities on the campus on Charing cross and Silwood campuses, and reached out to departmental reps to acquire specific departmental needs.

CB's second goal is to further improve outreach programs, and CB reported she is working with AC, the staff team, and looking for participation of graduates, which is ongoing for the end of term.

CB reported no progress on her third objective so far.

CB also further added regarding rankings, she is still waiting on replies, and with regards on her work on divestment it is very much in the works, and she is planning to bring a paper to Council in March. CB noted stakeholder management will be done until then.

- i. AML noted an action to ask CUs to get departmental representatives to give feedback to CB.

Action: CU Education and Welfare Chairs to tell departmental representatives to give feedback to CB.

- ii. MF asked regarding order 1, she heard complaints of staff availability on the White City campus, and permanently shut food outlet. MF wondered if CB knew what the College is doing about it, and if there is anything CB can do regarding this situation. CB noted the White City campus is part of the miscellaneous progress, and she's part of the engagement group to develop what's new and what's missing, so CB would welcome MF's feedback as a representative. MF said the Charing Cross and Hammersmith campuses have been pretty desolate and abandoned over time. CB asked to email her directly for further discussions.
- iii. JE noted that general oral reports could reduce accessibility if there's nothing written down for people to read along. CC said he is happy to circulate the written version to Council in a couple weeks.

Report from the Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)

CC reported on positive progress on the Student Experience Fund, building on work that started last year. The fund is given to bursary recipients to use on union activities, such as CSP memberships, events, and activities. CC reported they have currently seen 25% recipients make use of it, with £20,000 spent, and the team is predicting around £30,000 spent a year. CC added he is working in CSPB and with AC on expanding the fund to students not receiving bursaries, specifically for international and postgraduate students, and would welcome feedback from Council on it.

CC reported he is working with student management on increasing funding efficiency across societies, including CSPs with huge savings and seeing how they can facilitate them to be financially high performing without saving loads of money.

CC noted he is encouraging more collaboration. He recently attended with VC and planned meetings with different universities with the equivalent role to share ideas on what they're doing well, which should inform his work this year. In terms of participation and support training, CC had CSP trainings held at the beginning of the year, noting the first run was successful, and had a lot of constructive feedback for improvements for next year.

CC added his progress on some discussions on how they can reward student roles and make them more accessible to opportunities and not just focus on administrative work.

CC said he is working with CB and senior management on Future Sports, a joint project with them to implement College sports on Imperial and is also discussing with the Arts and Music Centre to better support students.

CC noted in terms of sustainability, he is working with SY to implement socially responsible engagement on collaborations with financial partners and on CSP fundings, and how they can reject funding that is not in line with their values. He noted they are doing quite well compared to the College.

Report from the Deputy President (Welfare)

AC reported regarding mental health at Imperial, she is working with the College and mental health to plan sessions with staff, AF, and AML to consult student voices. AC is planning a wider structure and steps for student consultation, including surveys and focus groups. AC noted she had 3 meetings so far, and there is a provisional action tracker, but is open to suggestions for it.

AC reported she is working with YY to improve training for academic and wellbeing reps, and separated sessions for each faculty, and on the undergraduate or postgraduate level, so 8 training sessions were held, with additional training sessions for PGRs or AWOs and like.

AC said she is collaborating with committee members of the mental health and LGBTQ+ network, holding a few social media campaigns, setting up a bookshelf at the Imperial library for book exchange. AC noted students said it would help with welfare to relax picking up a book and might also help financially disadvantaged students.

AC reported that together with Move Imperial, and Union Advice Services, they started a Stress Less Campaign, starting this Monday for 2 weeks. This provides additional support for students and training sessions to cope with stress during exam season.

AC also mentioned a mental health stall was set up in Sherfield Building and library entrance on Mental Health Day to distribute leaflets of support resources for mental health.

AC noted she is liaising with welfare officers of CUs, to form an unofficial stance to establish who is get the best person to get in contact with if there are students that don't show up for consecutive meetings or classes.

Based on feedback on the 2022-23 survey, working with CC on the Student Experience Fund, happy to expand to future years to include additional student groups that they potentially failed to engage with so far, and they are not covered by the bursary provision. AC noted they are looking to develop 3 main criteria to determine which students to provide funding to.

Report from the Deputy President (Finance)

SC noted she will give her report following her three goals: 1) non-alcoholic events, 2) postgraduate engagement, and 3) developing the Union Sustainability Plan.

SC noted a 2-point progress on non-alcoholic events, where she is working with the Venues Team to expand non-alcoholic options, included on the back of bar menus, and to ensure seasonal special menus always have a non-alcoholic option. SC is continuing to increase non-alcoholic options in campus bars. SC said she is also in discussion with the Events Team to ensure a good variety of non-alcoholic events in term 2 and 3, noting this as ongoing work.

SC noted there has not been much time to get significant progress on postgraduate engagement yet, but she has received the PGR working report, which outlines how to better engage PGR students, and will take the recommendations from January.

SC reported the Sustainability Plan itself has been in development with CB and senior management of ICU, and they are hoping to put plans in place, and consult with UC beforehand. They have previously consulted students on the Environmental and Sustainability Forum and gotten feedback.

Report from the Deputy President (Education)

YY noted she is working on breaking the language barrier for international students – she has been working on multiple promotion work in terms of welcome talks and social events to talk to students in person, via newsletters, and interviews to promote CFAE services. YY reported the engagement rate has increased from 38% to over 60% this year.

YY described new drop in opportunities for students to bring in their presentations or piece of work to get advice on English grammar and spelling. YY sent out a survey to see how international students want to receive academic support in different stages of their studies, including non-native English-speaking students, or undergraduate or postgraduate students. YY is also seeking out students that are confident in English and seeing whether they want to volunteer. YY reported she is organising two sessions with volunteering tutors next term in early February and will see if it will help to have GTA funding and get volunteers in normal reading and writing sessions.

YY noted regarding UROPs, the work will be mainly for her to reflect on student roles and promotion and correcting timelines on the UROP report for 2025. YY said her campaign on UROP 2024 is not constructive, but in terms of funding, she is hoping to promote opportunities more across different departments, such as Natural Sciences, to get departmental and faculty funding, and additionally trying to get funding to be distributed more evenly across all departments.

YY described that the student feedback concludes that if mutual expectations are to be amended, 1-on-1 meetings of PhD or MRes students with their supervisors would be beneficial and should be required, and she agreed with some representatives to set up a survey to see how many hours meetings every month should be, with results released later this week or early next week.

YY noted regarding sustainability-focused objectives, she is looking to join current college committees to discuss on what has been taught and what can they embed to ensure students are competitive in their career paths.

AML commended OTs on all the good progress and work.

13. CGCU report

DZ gave the report as its author.

DZ shared main highlights from CGCU, including increase in activities and building relationships with City & Guilds College Association (CGCA). DZ shared that the CGCU welcome dinner, which has 150 years of tradition, received more attendees and more entertainment this year.

DZ reported that their main goal this year is to increase activities and performances; for next term, they are trying to get engineering departments on the theme of sustainability, and possibly organise Sustainability Week events with them. DZ noted they are in contact with sponsorships and CSPs to plan collaborations.

DZ reported that they are maintaining all social media and expanding to more platforms. They also have a Chair that resigned but have already appointed a new Chair. DZ noted lack of an active Welfare Chair in place, so DZ has to cover most of the work, but they have managed to host events so far.

DZ noted regarding education, they have contacted education officers and year representative to get feedback on how to better assist them.

DZ reported that they have contacted all of their CSPs for future collaboration plans and will hear back from them to see how they feel about it.

- i. AML asked when the next opportunity will be to get a Welfare Chair elected. DZ said they are trying to co-op someone in, with a meeting to be held tomorrow – if everybody is there then they can vote and elect someone. CC flagged this as an action, noting that co-opping is not allowed if the previous person of responsibility resigned, and only CSPs can be filled thru AGM. AML then asked what the solution would be for the Welfare Chair in the meantime. CC said he will provide an update next week, but he doesn't want to promise anything. CC added that it might come to Council or CSPB but will evaluate on what is the most appropriate. CC added his current suggestion will be that co-option comes to Council.

ACTION: look at elections process to fill in vacant roles in CUs. CC and DZ to meet and discuss the possible options on electing a CGCU Welfare Chair and report their conclusions in the next Union Council.

14. ICSMSU Report

HN gave the report as its author.

HN noted the first page of the report gives a brief overview of structure of the CU, where it is split in to five streams. HN noted there have been large projects including their newsletter, Halfway Dinner, and other subcommittees. Broadly, HN thanked everyone in the committee

being a fantastic team, noting a lot of events in the planning so far and is excited to report on that.

HN reported they are hoping to increase BMB students' identity in ICSMSU, as they are younger and may be more easily disconnected. HN said they have added committee roles held by BMB students to try and improve and maintain connection with them and provided training for them.

Regarding executive updates, HN reported the new refurbishment on the Reynolds Bar, a new common room with kitchen facilities at the Hammersmith Hospital, and a new SAF common room. HN also noted all CSP items are dug up out of storage spaces to be used. HN reported ICSMSU at a stable financial situation with new sponsorship packages to be sought in January, and an overall 15% increase from last year. There has been a strong number of large-scale events that were run this term, to which HN expressed excitement for next term.

In terms of CSPs and entertainment, HN reported the 70 CSPs they are responsible for has been providing a lot of entertainment events and they highlighted Medicine events in Felix.

For Academics, HN reported that the collaborative mock exam is traditionally run by students, but faculty involvement will help make it more true to the live exams. Additionally, they have also launched their own Instagram account to showcase the work of the Academics Stream.

Lastly, HN reported regarding welfare, they have included in the Standing Order to have sets of trainings in committees related to prejudice and active bystander, given the stressful nature of medical studies, and previous committees being stressed from students approaching them for help on these particular issues.

- i. AML noted the ICSMSU Standing Orders will have to be approved by UC and will discuss this with HN outside Council. AML noted it has only been recently changed for a requirement for Standing Orders to be recognised by Council.

ACTION: to get in touch with CUs to sort out Standing Orders.

15. RCSU Report

EB presented the RCSU report as delegated as the Vice President of Operations and noted that questions should be directed to TS.

EB reported that RCSU has increased engagement from postgraduate students, and there was lower engagement from freshers as they were not added to newsletter subscriptions until November. EB noted low engagement in leadership elections, but the committee was filled, and the Autumn Ball and postgraduate Pub Quiz both received high engagement and success.

EB noted positive alumnus relations so far with regular meetings with RCSA, and they are planning a big summer dinner at the end of the year. The Vice President of Education and Welfare are working on mental health and LGBTQ+ inclusion, and the RCSU shop has also launched, with hopes to have more products on sale.

Lastly, EB noted that due to timing conflicts, they are looking to co-opt a new Vice President of Activities and a few people have expressed interest.

- i. CC noted he will look into the co-opting process, as mentioned for the CGCU Welfare Chair.
- ii. YY acknowledged some chaos this year due to the Union directly deciding on the person responsible to release information to student representatives. YY described understaffing in the representatives' section of Union but is hoping to get this resolved as quick as possible and awaiting for a reply from the Education Office. From her understanding, YY noted new updates to representatives are unlikely to come from YY or ICU. YY apologised and asked for understanding from members.

16. Silwood Report

AML noted JA has sent apologies for not attending the Council meeting, and the Silwood Report will be received in the next Council. AML told members to direct any questions to JA.

17. RSMU Report

RC noted the report outlines two main goals: 1) increasing postgraduate involvement, and 2) increasing events diversity to have non-alcoholic events.

RC reported successful collaboration events with multiple CSPs across Union, and high engagement with their postgraduates to reach a wider audience. Staff and students are also getting involved in environmental activities.

RC noted previous mishaps and lack of communication but are dealing better and making plans for communication and relationship strategies within RSMU and across college bodies. Additionally, the Vice Welfare Officer is taking big steps to promote welfare within RSMU, shoutout to him for his efforts.

RC noted they changed the way events are advertised, and saw an increase in attendance in all events, and significant increase in engagement overall. They are working to make plans in late February, and communication plans are currently underway. RC stated all CSPs are in good shape, with career related talks and symposiums being run for students' benefits.

Lastly, RC noted they are collaborating with the Royal School of Mines Association (RSMA), having just done awards and bursary schemes for RSMU students, to ensure they're not disadvantaged with new experiences. They are on track to receive a £6000 grant from the Faculty of Engineering, and a sponsorship from external organisations.

18. CSPB Report

CC summarised last meeting, the New Activities Committee approved and recently closed CSPs with no action for a few years.

CC made a positive note that funding of £10000 has been allocated to CSPs. CC also submitted a trips funding request to IC Trust and asked to increase trips funding next year.

Lastly, CC stated that Standing Orders of management groups and trips policy were approved, as they needed ratification from updates from last year.

CC encouraged members to contact him to get involved and refer to the CSPB minutes for more detail.

CC amended that the next CSPB meeting will be held on 12 December instead of 14 December.

19. AOB

AML noted in terms of EL couldn't attend this Council meeting but will get his comments on the item on last Council via email.

AML thanked DG and JC from the board of trustees to attend the Council.

Student Experience Fund

CC and AC briefly shared their current plan to define how to target students within international and postgraduate students as recipients, including those with financial needs and also those who aren't engaged, and secondly how to implement it. They noted most discussions will take place in CSPB, but they want to invite members to get in contact with CC and AC to get involved and discuss it.

End of Council

AML thanked everyone for coming and for the good discussion.