Imperial College Union
Board of Trustees / 18 September 2024

Union Council Chair Update

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Purpose: To report on the work of the Union Council Chair and Union Council

Decision: To note

1. Introduction

Over the summer, preparations for the academic year 2024-25 have been underway.

2. Progress for this year

We have coordinated with the Systems team to update the Council pages on the Union website to improve transparency and accessibility for students. This includes adding a headline paragraph for each meeting to summarise the decisions made at each meeting. These changes should all be live by the first meeting of Council.

We have arranged for Council notices to be included in the student newspaper paper twice per month, coinciding with the call for papers and the agenda circulation.

We have decided to continue using the existing location (the Union Dining Hall) this year, due to room availability and capacity. In future this should be changed, as the Union Dining Hall is not idea for hybrid meetings or the use of a projector.

We are hoping to drive more student engagement with Council by reducing the barriers to participation. This will be done by piloting a system of pairing students who have an idea for change within the Union with a Council member. We hope that this will aid students in formulating their ideas into Council motions. This is based off a system used at other student unions, such as that of the University of Manchester, called "SUggestions". This initiative is a collaboration between the team working on Council, Nico Henry (DPW) and the other Officer Trustees.

3. Council dates

The dates for Council this year are below. If any member of the Board would be interested in attending a meeting, they would be more than welcome.

Meeting dates 23/24	Meeting dates 24/25
05/11/2023	12/11/2024
05/12/2023	10/12/2024
23/01/2024	07/01/2025
20/02/2024	04/02/2025
19/03/2024	04/03/2025
30/04/2024	29/04/2025
28/05/2024	27/05/2025
25/06/2024	24/06/2025