

Imperial College Union
DPGS report
“A note by Deputy President Graduate Students”

Fresher’s event-Showtime

All through August have been deciding which acts and venues will be most suited to a postgraduate community which has a general population demographic of 22-30. Liaised with contacts about getting different bands and DJs for free/expenses.

Organised logistics with mail send outs (postal and email).

Liaised with Graduate Schools to send mail outs to existing and new students and Alex McKee on design of different types of flyers and email layouts.

The night was successful with around 500 ticket sales. Mixed feedback the biggest drawback being the work still ongoing in the union which meant many people did not find the Concert hall or the union dining hall. Equally 500 people in three rooms and with Da Vinci’s and Union Bar still open meant that the event never really looked quite packed. Next event is on November 9th at DBs and am currently thinking of liaising with the RCA and RCM for a joint event.

Fresher’s event sponsorship

Forging relationships with ICFS and they agreed to part sponsor Showtime.

NPC Conference

Went to Birmingham for three days for National Postgraduate Committee conference. Extensive information gathered from various students there as well, in particular LSE, Cardiff, Bristol and York. Have written a report about my findings (please see Appendix 1) and I propose joining the NPC for a year as it will help the DPGS position in its infancy stages. Membership is £632 a year and the decision to join should be reviewed in at least two years from now so as to allow the DPGS position to get established.

Fresher’s Stall

Liaising with existing external affiliations with the GSA for any promotional materials along with any societies with a particular appeal to graduates. Liaised with Alex for general flyers about the GSA including any banners.

Christmas Party

Organising possible options for the GSA Christmas party. Currently have booked the MDH for Mon 11 Dec but subject to general consensus this might be changed to an external venue. More to come on this

GSA website update/rehaul

www.union.ic.ac.uk/gsa

Liaising with Alex McKee, Jon Mathews, Lin Mei, Luis Hui and Pete Mountney (original programmer of the website) on how to change content of the GSA website regarding the event and also information on the GSA members and constitution. There has been a problem in that noone knew how to allow access and who hosted the website etc. But this is now sorted.

Future work for the website includes adding a link to the pay page of the union for buying tickets for events. Also a possible ebay style page in the forum so that students can buy and sell books etc. A new graduate student has expressed an interest in turning the website into a more interactive one. In discussion now.

PG-list update (email)

Speaking to Dave Parry, graduate schools and registry to have current up-to-date PGs on list.

Organising lunch-time event with existing PGs in September

Arranged with GSLSM and GSEPS to have a lunch-time talk and meet with graduates with tea/coffee/ biscuits provided.

Organising departmental visits

Due to the relatively unsuccessful nature of above-mentioned event, in the process of organising individual departmental visits for existing departments. The success was marred due to using cascade lists to departmental administrators and often they were not efficient enough and did not forward on the emails in time. Using the updated email list should by-pass this problem.

In addition have already been in departmental talks to new students including bioengineering, mechanical engineering, management, international health management, earth sciences, finance and will go to physics.

Graduate School talks

Have spoken to entire GSLSM on Monday 2nd October and will speak to GSEPS research students on Tuesday 10th October.

Election reminders

Preparing email-outs and have been speaking to individual graduates urging them to stand for the positions. Many have shown an interest. Have been updating all the different positions.

Visiting PG halls

Personal visit to Clayponds during fresher's move in weekend and also a GSA representative special talk on Sunday 8th October.

Liaising with companies for external affiliations starting via ICFS

GSA centenary event: full day conference possibly inviting people like Alan Sugar and Richard Branson. This will be followed by an event at night. Thinking to hold this either in the spring term or in the summer after exams.

Individual PG problems

There have been 4 individual concerns highlighted to me regarding academic welfare.

PG Common Room

Carrying on Luis Hui's work on securing a PG common room. Liaising with the rector as to possible locations.

No large-scale graduate school meetings attended as they have been postponed-first one on October 19th