

Imperial College Union and the University of Kent Students' Union

FUTURE OF THE WYE CAMPUS

A note by John Collins, ICU President and Mike Hawe, Kent Union President

Background

1. Last year Imperial College announced that it would cease to admit students to study undergraduate management at the Wye Campus. All undergraduate teaching undertaken by Imperial College at Wye will be phased out by 2009.
2. Following an agreement between Imperial College and the University of Kent in 2006, the University of Kent has committed to deliver a new undergraduate management course to University of Kent (UKC) students at the Wye Campus in October 2007.
3. It is envisaged that this new UKC management course will grow and ultimately replace the course that is currently being taught by Imperial College. However, the long term strategy for the Wye Campus will not be agreed until December 2007.
4. Over the last academic year, ICU has worked with the Kent Union to draw up an agreement that would transfer the clubs, societies and commercial activities of the Wye College Union Society (WCUS) from ICU to the Kent Union by August 2007. Following extensive discussion with all parties, it has been resolved that no agreement should be signed until the future of the Wye Campus becomes clearer in December 2007.
5. That said; both ICU and the Kent Union see value in agreeing to an informal communiqué that would set out how both partners will work together next year to ensure that the needs of all students based at the Wye Campus will be met. Once a decision regarding the future of the Wye Campus is announced in December 2007, ICU and the Kent Union will be in a position to negotiate further with the view to transferring WCUS to the Kent Union by August 2008 if the University of Kent commits to delivering undergraduate teaching at the Wye Campus until 2012.

Decision required from the ICU and UKC governing bodies

6. To approve the appended communiqué.

Decision required from ICU Council

7. To grant associate membership to all University of Kent students who will be based at the Wye Campus of Imperial College from 1st August 2007 until 31st July 2008.

JC & MH 16/05/07

Imperial College Union and the University of Kent Students' Union

WYE CAMPUS AGREEMENT

Agreed on <date> May 2007

Overview

1. For the 2007/08 academic year, all student facilities at the Wye Campus shall continue to be provided by Imperial College Union (ICU). Clubs, societies and events that be co-ordinated by the Wye College Union Society (WCUS).

Representation and Communication

2. The Kent Union shall be responsible for ensuring that UKC students are adequately represented to the University of Kent.
3. The WCUS President shall invite one representative of the UKC student body to attend each ordinary WCUS Executive Committee meeting a non-voting observer.
4. The Kent Union shall assign a campus outreach worker to liaise with Kent Union representatives based at the Wye Campus to ensure that the needs of UKC students are met at Wye by both ICU and UKC.
5. ICU and the Kent Union shall ensure that their respective freshers' handbooks are made available to UKC fresher students at Wye.

Democracy

6. UKC representatives at the Wye Campus shall have access to higher representation channels in both Imperial College and the University of Kent through the ICU President and Kent Union President respectively.
7. UKC students will not be allowed to participate in the democratic processes of the WCUS or ICU. ICU students will not be allowed to participate in the democratic processes of the Kent Union.

Student Union bar at Wye

8. ICU and the Kent Union shall lobby their respective parent institutions for funding to support the Wye Bar for the duration of the 2007/08 academic year.

Clubs and societies

9. Imperial College Union shall grant associate membership status to all University of Kent (UKC) students based at the Wye Campus of Imperial College from 1st August 2007 until 31st July 2008.

10. All UKC students shall be granted equal access to clubs, societies, facilities and events that are managed by ICU at the Wye Campus.
11. The University of Kent Students' Union (Kent Union) shall pay ICU a stipend that is proportionate to the subsidy level provided by ICU to UKC students that chose to join WCUS clubs and societies and / or attend WCUS events.

Ratification and review

12. This agreement was approved by the Imperial College Union Council on <date>
13. This agreement was approved by the University of Kent Students' Union on <date>
14. This agreement shall be reviewed once the University of Kent have announced their future plans for the management course at the Wye Campus. This is expected before January 2007.
15. This agreement shall be publicised to the 2007/08 WCUS Committee, ICU Sabbatical team, Kent Union Sabbatical team and appropriate members of ICU and Kent Union staff.

