

Executive Committee
13th September 2007

Imperial College Union

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A note by Stephen Brown

Building redevelopment

Unfortunately the Beit redevelopment is on hold and it is unlikely that work will start on the second phase before 2008. This is because College have indicated they are unwilling to support any ICU capital expenditure plan until they have confidence in our financial systems. The General Manager and I are currently having weekly meetings with Hameed Khan from Imperial College Finance Division so please take this as an indication that this is one of my main priorities for the coming term.

Service level agreements

I have been working with the Secretariat to draw up SLA's between ICU and HR, ICT and Estates. This process would be most charitably described as time consuming and I aim to have the final agreements signed by the end of November.

Trustee Board update

The Trustee Board has met twice over the summer and will meet again on Monday 17 September. As it is still an interim body most of the discussions have been structural. The next big step is to find suitable external trustees and Hamish Common and Danny McGuinness have agreed to sit on the nominations committee. Talks are currently ongoing with potential candidates and the aim is to have their appointments confirmed by this committee before the 2 student trustees are elected in the Autumn Term.

NUS/Aldwych

I have attended two meetings of The Aldwych Group in Belfast and Leeds during which the incoming sabbaticals conducted a mini "governance review" and came to an agreement over the aims and structures of the group for the coming year. If you do not believe this to be particularly impressive I suggest you ask John Collins or Ben Harris the trouble the group had with this relatively simple task last year. Following the Leeds meeting I am working with my counterparts at UCL, LSE, Oxford and Warwick to produce a policy document on International Student Provision within the Russell Group for consideration by the group.

I also attended the NUS Campaigns Convention at which their sabbaticals delivered a refreshingly realistic framework for a debate on the future of higher education funding. If anyone is interested in reading a report written by the Institute of Fiscal studies on the economics of free education drop me an email.

Other stuff

I have also spent a lot of time dealing with the Wye Degree classification controversy and this week I have sat on several exam disciplinary panels. I would also like to thank the Deputy Presidents for the efficient manner in which they have coordinated the relevant parts of Freshers Week.