

## **Royal College of Science Union Council Report**

*A report by Jennifer Morgan*

### **Refreshers Week**

Towards the beginning of term a second freshers' week was organised with guestlist/discounts being offered to various London student nights. This culminated in a fantastic night in dB's with a live band and DJ set appreciated by everyone. A huge thank you goes to Shray Amar for coordinating the week and also to Malcolm MacPherson for finding us a sound tech at the last minute whilst he was moving house!

### **Science challenge**

The RCSU again ran its flagship event this year in a surprising manner, with 5 questions being proposed by various dignitaries. Lectures by the proposers were run over the preceding month giving clues about the answer. Over 300 essays were received from Imperial students with the schools competition attracting many more. The finals were held in the science museum with finalists giving presentations in the IMAX theatre. The reception and prize giving was held in the Making of the Modern World exhibit. Daniel Burrows was appointed as Science Challenge Chair at the beginning of the year to ensure the RCSU continued to function during the Spring Term. Daniel did an excellent job and special thanks also goes to Andreas, Vicky, Shappy and Chris Larvin for ensuring the smooth running of this event.

### **Student Survey**

Following the RCSU representative working group an academic and welfare survey for UG students of the RCSU was written by myself, Vicky and Andreas with initial consultation of representatives. The logistics of carrying out a paper and pen survey were handled exceedingly well by Vicky and Andreas. The questionnaires were distributed through the majority of our reps to departments, and in most cases were completed at a level of over 60% and in some cases 100%; this was most likely aided with the temptation of a chocolate bar upon completion. The only really problem encountered was that the survey was not distributed in a few year groups due to those particular reps not being bothered. The results of these questionnaires will be reviewed following the exams to give next years academic and welfare team a head start on identifying the problem areas. The findings will also be presented to faculty staff in a report later this year, with solutions to apparent problems being strongly pushed for.

### **RAG Week**

The major event of RAG week run by the RCSU was the RAG Ball which lived up to expectations. A live band and impressive DJ set followed dinner, all at London's Café de Paris. The tradition of tours up the Queens Tower continued this year. Tours were run at lunchtime and Wednesday afternoon; they was hugely successful despite some difficulties.

This is a brief report documenting the highlights of the spring term, if you have any queries then please don't hesitate to drop me an email.

Jen – 23/04/08