



MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
of the sixth ordinary meeting of
the
Council
of the
Imperial College Union
in the 2008-2009 Session

The meeting of the Council was held in the Union Dining Hall on the 16th February 2009 at 6.40pm.

Present:

ICU Council Chair	Afonso Campos
ICU DP (C&S)	Lily Topham
ICU DP (E&W)	Hannah Theodorou
ICU DP (F&S)	Christian Carter
C&GCU President	Mark Mearing-Smith
ICSMSU President	Mark Chamberlain
RCSU President	David Charles
A&E Chair	Rachael D'oliveiro
ACC Chair	Sam Furse
Media Group Chair	Amar Joshi
OSC Representative	Alex Balikhin
RCC Chair	Jennifer Wilson
RSM President	Adam Baldwin
SCC Chair	Peter Mabbott
CAG Chair	Christoph Aymanns
RAG Chair	Jon Downing
ICU Welfare Campaigns Officer	Tim Barrett
RCSU Welfare Officer	Edward Poynton
C&GU Academic Affairs Officer (Taught)	Alexander Grisman
CGCU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	Rikki Norris
CGCU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	Lawrence Weetman
CGCU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	Owen Connick
CGCU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	John James
RCSU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	Christopher Gibbs
Physical Sciences Postgraduate Representative	Neki Patel
ICSMSU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	Najette Ayadi O'Donnell
ICSMSU ordinary member (Undergraduate)	Salman Waqar
Non faculty representative	Seyyed Mozaffari-Chinjani
Governance and Administration Co-ordinator (Clerk to Council)	Rebecca Coxhead

Observers: Jovan Nedic Felix Editor

Apologies: ICU President Jennifer Morgan, GSA Chair Rhys Morgan, ICU Equal Ops Officer Bhavesh Patel, RCSU Academic Affairs (Taught) Oliver Rogers, ICSMSU ordinary member (Undergraduate) Albert Poon (proxy ICSMSU President), ICSMSU year 4 & Research Rep Alex Walls, RCSU ordinary member (Undergraduate) Sammi Elfituri, Union Manager Peter Haldane

Absent: ICSMSU Education Rep 356 Strachan Mackenzie, Silwood Park Chair Muhammad Tariq, ICSMSU Welfare Officer Kathryn Wright, Engineering Postgraduate Representative Soumaya Mauthoor, RCSU ordinary member (Undergraduate) Nida Harwood, Life Sciences Postgraduate Representative Sean Delaney, Business School Postgraduate Representative Luke Dhanoa, School of Medicine Postgraduate Representative Basma Bahsoun

1. CHAIRS BUSINESS

NOTED:

- a) The meeting was declared not to have meet quorum at 6.40pm but was decided to continue with the meeting and wait for councillors to show up.
 - i. At 6.55 the meeting meet quorum.

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING – 19th January 2009

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the minutes as an accurate record.

3. MATTERS ARISING – NONE

4. PRESIDENTS REPORT

RECEIVED: The paper was presented by the Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) on behalf of the President

NOTED:

- a) The assurance from Andrew Murphy was highlighted.
- b) Nominations for Sabbatical elections are now open.
- c) Council moved to a vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the paper as tabled.

5. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (CLUBS & SOCIETIES) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)

NOTED:

- a) Councillors were encouraged to fill in and promote the Clubs and Societies survey that is currently online.
- b) The newly formed Baha'i' faith group will be holding an awareness week in the near future.
- c) Applications to the Exploration board needs to have a large amount of student initiative and 'adventure' to be considered for funding.
 - i. The Board have had fewer numbers of applications this year.
- d) Council moved to a vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report

6. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (EDUCATION & WELFARE) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Education & Welfare)

NOTED:

- a) The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) apologised for the briefness of the report.
- b) The SEC presentation will concentrate on Personal Tutor's but the Deputy President (Education & Welfare) is open to any suggestion for other topics to cover,
- c) Welfare campaigns have been occurring this term on a smaller scale.
- d) There is a QA audit next January.
 - i. The Union section of the submission needs to be completed by November.
 - ii. There will be a large scale student survey that will need to have been completed by Easter.
- e) The Deputy President (Education & Welfare) may start training other officers to attend subwarden interviews on her behalf.
- f) Green week is taking place on the 9-13th March.
- g) Council moved to a vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report

7. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (FINANCE & SERVICES) REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Deputy President (Finance & Services)

NOTED:

- a) The online budget submission process went extremely well.
- b) College have indicated that there will be an across the board 5% reduction in all departments subvention.
 - i. The Central union are hopefully able to absorb this but this is being discussed at the next meeting of the Executive Committee.
- c) Hoping to serve Fairtrade wine and spirits at the Summer Ball.
- d) Club bribery is being using used during the Sabbatical and Trustee elections.
 - i. Hustings will be taking place on the Tuesday lunchtime and the Thursday evening with 'free' beer being provided in the evening's events.
- e) The Union currently has approximately £1m invested with College which is receiving 1.5% interest and £1.1m cash in bank.
- f) College have offered to pool the Unions cash in their account but the long term benefit needs to be looked in to.
 - i. This will be looked in to at the next meeting of the Trustee Board.
- g) Council moved to a vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report

8. CITY AND GUILDS COLLEGE UNION REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the City and Guilds College Union President

NOTED:

- a) The reason for the report not being submitted to the last meeting was due to a massive academic commitment for the City and Guilds College Union President.
- b) The City and Guilds College Union President stated that he would very much like to dedicate more time to the Outreach programmes this term but academic commitments are restricting this.
- c) It is anticipated that the Masquerade Ball will break even.
- d) Council moved to a vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report

9. AXE THE BEER TAX – SAVE THE PUB

RECEIVED: The motion was presented by the Welfare Campaigns Officer

NOTED:

- a) It was questioned if the paper presented was ultra vires.
 - i. The Deputy President (Finance & Services) stated that in his opinion he believed that paper to be political and not affecting students as students and as such should not be discussed.
 - ii. The Welfare Campaigns Officer stated that we have a responsibility to the students that are at Imperial College and this issue does affect them outside of College as well as in the Union bars.
 - iii. The Deputy President (Clubs & Societies) stated that there are students at Imperial College that do not drink and as such does not affect them of which the Welfare Campaigns Officer stated that not all students get involved in Union activity.
- b) It was questioned as to what supporting this campaign would require for time and resources of students.

- i. The Welfare Campaigns Officer stated that CAMRA and the British Beer & Pub Association will be doing the majority of the work.
- c) The Deputy President (Finance & Services) pointed out that students pay tax on everything.
 - i. The purpose of the campaign is to make the taxes in pubs and supermarkets comparable as currently they are grossly disproportionate.
- d) The City and Guilds College Union President suggested amending the paper to reflect that Imperial College has 2 MP's that can be written to; Mark Fields and Malcolm Rifkin.
 - i. This was accepted by the Welfare Campaigns Officer.

RESOLVED:

1) Resolve 3 to now read:

'To write to the Mark Field and Malcolm Rifkin MP, informing him of our support for the campaign and encourage him to support the campaign.'

- e) The SCC Chair suggested to strike Union believes 2 as the pub is not a key experience for all Imperial College students.
 - i. The Welfare Campaigns Officer amended the point to remove the word 'key' and reflect that it is an experience for some students and not all.

RESOLVED:

2) Union believes 2 to now read:

'That having a safe and comfortable social space such as a public house is a component to the student experience to some students at Imperial.'

- f) Council moved to a vote to accept the amended paper and the votes are as follows

FOR	16
AGAINST	7
ABSTAIN3	
Passes	

RESOLVED:

3) That this Union should support the Axe The Beer Tax – Save The Pub campaign and it's five key objectives:

- a. To stop plans to increase beer tax by up to a third.
 - b. To enforce existing laws – not create new ones - to deal firmly with irresponsible drinkers and premises.
 - c. To end the irresponsible promotion of alcohol in supermarkets, pubs and elsewhere.
 - d. To trust responsible adults to make informed choices about what they drink, not punish them for the actions of an irresponsible minority.
 - e. To support the British pub as a vital part of social life in local communities.
- 4) That this Union should actively promote the campaign through free resources provided by the campaign's founders, appearing as a supporter on www.axethebeertax.com and providing a link to the campaign from our website.**
- 5) To write to the Mark Field and Malcolm Rifkin MP, informing him of our support for the campaign and encourage him to support the campaign.**

16 ANY OTHER BUSINESS – NONE

Meeting closed 7.15pm

Approved as a correct record at a meeting of Union Council

on _____ 2008/09

_____ Chair of the Meeting