

Imperial College Union
Deputy President (Finance & Services) Report
A Note by Christian Carter
Deputy President (Finance & Services)

Clubs and Societies

Budgeting 09/10

Budgeting continues, all CSCs/FUs should have made their final allocations by now and the clubs have been informed of these. The clubs now have a two week opportunity to appeal these budgets to the CSC/FU they belong. The appeal dates for CSB and ICU Exec are 26th May and 4th June respectively.

Wye Visit

The advertised Wye visit did not occur over Easter, this will happen on Thursday.

Online Claims

This is a discussion which did not occur either due to lack of availability in the last week of term. I will look to hold this meeting mid way through this term although I understand the issues around examinations and will not expect a full attendance.

Webserver

Although the build of the webserver is now finished, there is programming work to still be done, the sites have not yet been migrated to the new server. I am told this is still in action.

Club Credit Control

Membership Services has kindly taken on the job of club credit control after months of asking finance to take this off the club officers. The clubs positions have greatly increased although there is still along way to go. Felix still suffers

Subvention Bid

I have been working with Finance, the GM and DGM, and operational managers to produce our trading and office budget overview for the next 5 years, the figures will be reported to the next Exec on the 5th May. I will be starting work on the full trading and office budget for the coming year in the next few weeks, which will go to an Exec meeting before the end of term. I invite those incoming Sabbaticals who this affects to attend and also give input.

Elections

Please see separate report submitted on the elections. I have suggested a number of changes so that next years Council and RO are aware of the major problems. I have also started work on some of the systems changes I highlighted in the report.

Summer Ball

A full line up will be released later this week. See imperialcollegeunion.org/summerball to find out more information.

We are hosting a Battle of the Bands competition which will take place on Thursday evenings for the next three weeks. The winner will get a slot at the Ball.

We have nailed down an increase in Sponsorship this year, we are waiting to finalise the contract.

I have been having regular updates with conferences and everything seems to be in order. I'm having a meeting with Estates later next month to plan the groundwork of the ball.

Ticket Sales are going well, we have taken 30% of our expected sales which equates to around 700 tickets. This puts us at the same stage as last year which is satisfactory.

Final price hike is the 16th May.

Website

The website is one of the vital forms of communication with our students which I still believe is lacking in practicality and this is something I promised to address in my manifesto. I have been working with Communications to produce a redesign and add new features which will make the site easier to navigate, and add more functionality for Clubs and Societies. The project will be presented to Exec on the 5th May.

Vans

The minibus fleet is running well and with the introduction of new and modern vans, our trade with Clubs and Societies has increased above expectations. This leaves us with a demand for vans which is not being filled, we are passing up trade to our Clubs and Societies who have to go elsewhere. We have come up with a business plan which allows us to buy two new Vans and not increase the price of the service by the planned 4% this year. At least one of the new Vans is planned to be stationed at Charing Cross to provide easy access for some of our medical students.

Investments

I have been concerned that our Investments have not been working hard enough for us during this current climate and it is important to keep on top of them. I have been meeting with the Investment managers at College and a potential new investment scheme has arisen. Details of the scheme will be presented for decision at the Trustee Board on the 12th May.

Finance Review

I am keen to hear thoughts from all of you who interact with our Finance department to gauge an opinion on the service you have received throughout the year. Please send your thoughts to dpfs@imperial.ac.uk All comment will be kept confidential if requested.

Open Meeting

The DPCS and I sat in a Clubs and Socs Open meeting, inviting those who have a key interest in our Clubs and Socs to come and discuss issues that we can address in Training this year. Issues raised were mostly reclaiming expenses from College which really only effects the sports clubs.

ISSG

Various issues were raised at the last meeting of ISSG, mostly policy changes etc. Two points which may be of interest are: Oracle training suite, I am investigating whether or not we can utilise Oracle, the colleges new training online training suite, to make our Club Officer training more accessible to all students by introducing an interactive option.

College are also looking into whether or not students can obtain more than one licence for the free version of Norton AntiVirus they give out. The licence holds the College to an unrestricted 5000 copies, I have petitioned for College to allow those who have more than one machine registered to own more than one copy of the software. If this should come to fruition it is likely to be implemented with the launch of the new Software Shop.

CLC – 22 April 2009