

Imperial College School of Medicine Students' Union President's Report

A note by Mark Chamberlain

Union

Nominations for next year's Executive committee opened today, for a two week period, before a week of campaigning. Results will be announced on the 22nd of May at 8pm in the Reynolds. This year we made several changes to our constitution, the largest of which related to the portfolios of the three Academic Officers. Graduate Entry has been moved in with years 1 and 2, to make room for Biomedical Sciences and Pharmacology to join with year 4.

We are also currently in talks with the trustees of the newly formed Imperial College Healthcare Charitable Trust, to ensure continued funding for the Sabbatical position.

Events

Last term was very busy with events – most of them centred around our RAG campaign. A very successful RAG Week, the Dash to Paris and the Fashion Show all contributed to a preliminary total of £67,000 raised for the Winnicott Foundation at St Mary's Hospital.

Other events last term included the Shrove Tuesday Final Year Dinner, this year for over 380 guests at the Park Plaza Hotel. Congratulations must go to Tamara Elliott and her team for organising such an excellent and financially sound evening.

Coming up this term we have the annual Sports Dinner and Awards on the 5th of May, and the Summer Ball on the 25th of June – the planning for both of which is going very well.

Education

The Faculty's Curriculum Review process is drawing to a close with our changes having been passed at the last session of Senate. The next 5 months will be spent working closely with the new Vertical Theme heads and the course directors to make sure the proposed changes are implemented to best benefit the students.

A lot of effort was made last term to bolster the careers advice provision for the older students. In conjunction with the School we held 5 evening sessions covering different areas of practice, with large attendance at each. We are also coming to the final editorial stages of the Careers booklet, documenting the post-qualification pathways for every speciality, as well as personal experiences and advice.

Reynolds Bar

To date, the bar has seen some fantastic trading figures, and currently we are £14,000 up on this point last year. Applications soon open for the bar manager positions for next year.

We are currently working with the Charing Cross campus estates and the Campus Dean to help bolster our stewarding and event management processes.

Representation

As part of the Curriculum Review, several large welfare reforms have recently come into effect, including the appointment of 3 new Senior Tutors, with whom we have been working hard to strengthen the pastoral support offered to our students. We are currently in the middle of a large Fitness To Practise campaign, highlighting aspects of professionalism to the students. Despite some of the best results in the college's recent POLE and ISB surveys, there is still a lot of work to be done before the next cohort of students arrive in October.

Seven members of the Union travelled down to Exeter three weeks ago for the annual BMA Medical Students' Conference, where several of our motions were passed as national policy. In addition to this, we have been taking part in the GMC's current review of Tomorrow's Doctors – the syllabus for medical education in the UK.

Clubs and Societies

The BUCS and UH seasons are now over, and our sports teams have done fantastically. With some great wins in the Varsity matches as well, our students are now turning their attention to the summer sports on offer. Our societies have been performing brilliantly as well, with MusicSoc recently being recorded for a BBC show.

Alumni

The Union are now administering the ICSM Alumni service, and at the recent Final Year Photo day we again got large numbers of sign-ups.