

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

Clubs and Societies

Budgeting 09/10

Budgeting is now virtually over. After the last CSB meeting, two club appeals were heard and awarded. All final budgets have been set and we await any appeals from the few remaining clubs who have the right to do so, should they so wish. The online budgeting system was, in my opinion, a huge improvement over last years excel file malarkey. I hope everyone else appreciated the improvements. My thanks once again to systems for the excellent job on this.

Wye Visit

I have visited Wye twice since last Council meeting, we have collected some of our smaller assets. We are looking to sell a snooker table, small marquee and radio transmitter to cover some of the ~£70K deficit the clubs have left us with. There are various items of Bar furniture which will be donated to the Reynolds. The students have now all left and we cease all contact with Wye next year.

Online Claims

There is now a project outline for this which takes more of the processing of cheques away from the CSC Treasurer and onto the central union staff. It also speeds up the finance staffs time in terms of entering data into the system. This was discussed at CSB and work begins now on the system. I hope for there to be something to demo by mid July, but this will be a project that my successor will take on over the summer. It is likely that we will demo it with one CSB during the winter term and if successful release it to all CSCs in the Spring.

Tours

Thank you to all those who applied for tours, please note that your reports are due in 4 weeks after you get back. The IC trust who fund our central tours pot with nearly £20K will need a report on how the money has been spent if they are to fund us again next year. This report will be based on your tour reports so they are very important.

Training

Finance training, along with the other officer training courses, starts tomorrow. There have been lots of bookings already, please get your clubs to tell their successors how important it is. This year sees the introduction of an online test to verify you were listening at training, without a pass you will not gain financial responsibility.

Oracle

We looked into using oracle training suite with the college, but this was impossible to get up and running in the short time we had before the training began. The online training has been writing by our union systems. My thanks to them yet again.

ICTAP

The ICT Advisory Panel, is a nice 3 hour meeting where we sit and discuss the operational issues with ICT. Things that might concern the students which ICT are looking at are: Multiple copies of the college anti virus software for home use and a cross campus licence for Matlab.

Colours Committee

Another nice long meeting, we deliberated for hours but reached conclusions in the end. The results of which should have been reported to council today.

Elections

Please see separate report submitted on the elections.

Summer Ball

The ball is less than two weeks away. Go buy your tickets if you haven't already.

Ticket sales for Ents are all on schedule and are broadly similar to last year. The Dinner is looking less prosperous than last year and we expect to have around 550 diners which is down on last years 600. Dinner tickets will be closing soon so go buy a ticket this week if you want to come to the dinner.

The Ball is all on budget this year and although not all the expenses have been finalised we are looking good to hit our targets.

The planning is all on schedule, the nitty gritty details being worked out with a fine toothcomb.

We are offering free Ents tickets again this year, to Beit student who still have exams after the ball.

The winner of battle of bands was "We Play Parties" and the runners up were "Cosmo Jones" who will be on first followed by the winner, they will open the Live Arena.

Operational Budgets

I have set up and had several meetings with the operational managers and finance in order to ensure a useful and usable budget be set for the coming year. The budgets are currently in draft form and are being continuously updated. The budget will be presented to the Exec committee in July for their approval.

Finance Review

An external review has now taken place.

I am still 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.

Security Review

We have reviewed the security of the Union, in particular the Bars and the top floor. We are looking at installing swipe card access and cameras in certain areas to stop theft and vandalism. There are cameras in the new SAC and there will be some in the new offices when they are completed.

Website

The website redesign project was approved by Exec and is now with the designers, we will hopefully have something up and running by August.

I am also looking into the possibility of launching a Union iPhone application to keep you updated with the latest goings on in the Union.

CLC – 5 June 2009