

ICU Council Chair's Report

A note by Jenny Wilson

Since the last meeting, there have been 2 meetings of the Council. The first was held on 11th October and the second on the 1st November 2010.

Ordinary members were also elected in the October elections, held between 2/10/10-26/10/10. There are however some outstanding positions to be filled such as the Non-Faculty, GSLSM, 1 CGCU ordinary members. We are currently in the process of organising the bi-election to fill these positions, ideally by the next Council (15th November), but realistically the one following.

11th October Meeting

This meeting predominantly received reports from the senior Union officers, including the Sabbatical team, Faculty Union Presidents, GSA and Felix editor. They were all accepted unanimously. The most significant piece to come from the reports was the resignation of the CGCU President, due to feeling that she could not commit enough time to do the role to the best of her ability. A bi-election is currently underway for the position of President with results available on Friday 5th November so an update should be possible.

We also reviewed the Trustee Board appointments paper, submitted by the President. George Palos' recommendation was warmly received by the Council and swiftly voted through. The other candidate was not appointed as the sentiment of the Council was that it would prefer someone with a little more distance from the College.

1st November Meeting

All Sabbatical reports were received and accepted. The main focus of the meeting was the renewal of the Higher Education Funding Policy, which was brought forward in light of the recent Browne Review. There was very healthy discussion on the matter with no major alterations to the paper, but a couple of additional sentiments and clarifications added, before being passed almost unanimously. Due to the short time frame, the appointment of another Lay Trustee came up as a matter in Any Other Business. The following day, an email vote was opened for the appointment of Janet Rogan, with the closing time being Thursday 4th November at 5pm. The results will be apparent at this meeting.

Ordinary Member Training

Building on the handbook put together by my predecessor, the President, Rebecca Coxhead and myself thought it would be beneficial to put on some Ordinary Member training. This was an 1.5 hours on Monday 1st November. The aim of the session was to empower our Ordinary Members and help them to know what was going on and what was expected of them. In particular, the main points were that they are valued as the main scrutinisers of the Union as they are the most representative of the majority of our membership, and that just because things are the way they are does not mean they are right or the best and they are welcome to question the current processes. We also told them about the Union as it currently is.

Trustee Board
9th November 2010

Agenda item 7

The attendance was lower than desired with only 5 attending the first session, however those who could not attend, sent apologies and it would seem there is the demand for a second session in an evening.