



MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS
of the fifth ordinary meeting of
the
Council
of the
Imperial College Union
in the 2010/11 Session

The meeting of the Council was held in the Union Dining Hall on the 17th January 2010 at 6.40pm.

Present:

Council Chair	Jenny Wilson
President	Alex Kendall
Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Heather Jones
Deputy President (Education)	Alex Dahinten
Deputy President (Welfare)	Charlotte Ivison
C&GCU President	Victor Du Mesnil Du Buisson
ICSMSU President	David Smith
RCSU President	Scott Heath
RSMU President	Ben Moorhouse
GSA Chair	Deena Blumenkrantz
A&E Chair	Adam Khamis
ACC Chair	Monya Zard
Media Group Chair	Matt Allinson
OSC Chair	Ahmad Alsaadi
RCC Chair	Nathaniel Bottrell
SCC Chair	Rhodri Oliver
CAG Chair	Nicolas Massie
RAG Chair	Naida Dzigal
ICU Equal Ops Officer	Stuart Haylock
CGCU Welfare Officer	Sahil Chugani
RCSU Welfare Officer	Mevani Jagodage
CGCU Academic Affairs Officer	Marcus Ulmefors
ICSMSU Education Rep 4, Biomed & Pharm	Suzie Rayner
RCSU Academic Affairs Officer	Catherine Wu
GSA Medicine academic and welfare officer	Elena Lovo
GSEPS Representative	Edafe Edivri
GSLSM Representative	Mary O'Sullivan
CGCU Ordinary Member	Alice Rowlands
CGCU Ordinary Member	Steve Long
CGCU Ordinary Member	Tom Hills
RCSU Ordinary Member	Lewis Palmer
RCSU Ordinary Member	Alan Itakura
RCSU Ordinary Member	Karmen Chui
ICSMSU Ordinary Member	Aislinn O'Malley
ICSMSU Ordinary Member	Alexandra Burke-Smith
ICSMSU Ordinary Member	Hannah Tullett
Permanent observers	
Non Faculty Ordinary Member	Mark Collins
Governance and Administration Co-ordinator (Clerk to Council)	Rebecca Coxhead

Observers: Felix Editor Kadhim Shubber, Afonso Campos

Apologies: Deputy President (Finance & Services) Ravi Pall, ICSMSU Education Rep 12 & GEP Ali Hosin, ICSMSU Education Rep 356 Annalan Navaratnam, GSA Non-faculty academic and welfare officer Llewellyn Thomas, ICSMSU Welfare Officer Gayathri Rajasooriar, Engineering Postgraduate rep Shuoying Cao, GSA Life Sciences academic and welfare representative Joe McKenna, GSA engineering academic and welfare representative Shuoying Cao, GSA Physical Sciences academic and welfare officer Neki Patel, Operations Manager Robin Pitt

Not present: Silwood Park Chair Mark Ramsden

1. CHAIRS BUSINESS

NOTED:

- a) The RCSU Ordinary member representative (UG) Angad Rekhi had missed 2 consecutive meetings of Council and as such deemed to have resigned as an Ordinary Member of Council under regulation 6, point 32
'Ordinary members of the Council who do not attend two consecutive ordinary meetings (irrespective of apologies) shall be deemed to have resigned and their post vacated.'

RESOLVED:

- 1) **To remove Angad Rekhi as the RCSU Ordinary member representative (UG)**
- b) In light of the RCSU Ordinary Member UG vacancy, Bingqi Wang stood for this position.
 - i. RON was also a candidate in the election.
 - ii. Those eligible to vote in the election did and Bingqi Wang was elected unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) **To elect Bingqi Wang to the position of RCSU Ordinary Member UG to Council.**

2. MINUTES – 13th December 2010

RESOLVED:

- 1) **To accept the minutes as true and correct.**

3. MATTERS ARISING

NOTED:

- a) The Deputy President (Finance & Services) has set up the Summer Ball working group (which is the Ents Committee).

4. PRESIDENT REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the President

NOTED:

- a) The President expressed his extreme disappointment with the way that the Union's submission to the plant sciences restructure has been apparently ignored and the restructure being 'pushed through'.
 - i. The President is meeting with the Faculty to discuss.
 - ii. The President gave his extreme gratitude to academics and students, specifically Dan Wan, for all their support and assistance for the cause.
 - iii. It appears that Masters Students are not being given information about the restructure.
- b) Sabbatical elections are approaching.
- c) In regards to the Strategic Review, it was suggested that Imperial College Alumni could potentially give their expertise for free to the project.
 - i. The rationale behind the strategy to plan for the next 5 years and it is legally required by the charity commission.
 - ii. Red Brick have worked with other Student Unions in the past.
 - iii. The Union does not have the resources in house to undertake the project.
 - iv. Tenders are currently being received from external companies.
 - v. The strategy will be a dynamic and flexible document to reflect in the turnover of officers.
- d) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) **To accept the report.**

5. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (CLUBS & SOCIETIES) REPORT

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

NOTED:

- a) Clubs tried to 'over book' space when room bookings opened which is extremely obstructive and
- b) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

6. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (EDUCATION) REPORT

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

NOTED:

- a) SOLE results should be published next week and the Deputy President (Education) will disseminate the information out.
- b) NSS is running until the 30th April.
- c) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

7. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (FINANCE & SERVICES) REPORT – refer to AOB

8. DEPUTY PRESIDENT (WELFARE) REPORT

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

NOTED:

- a) It was recommended that photos of the Welfare Officers get sent out to their constituency.
- b) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

9. FELIX REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the Felix Editor

NOTED:

- a) The Felix Radio show is starting again on Monday 24th January.
- b) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

10. CGCU REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the CGCU President

NOTED:

- a) It was pointed out that Beerfest was not as successful last year as was suggested in the report.
- b) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

11. RCSU REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the RCSU President

NOTED:

- a) The RAG ball will now be run by the CGCU exclusively.
- b) Council moved to vote to accept the report and it was accepted unanimously.

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

12. EXTENDING THE COLLEGE DAY

RECEIVED: The policy was presented by the Deputy President (Education)

NOTED:

- a) Any comments to the Deputy President (Education) are to be sent to the Deputy President (Education).
- b) The extended day will apply to Undergraduates and Masters students.
- c) The College meeting that was scheduled to take place today to discuss this proposal has been cancelled and yet to be rescheduled.
- d) Felix are printing a feature on this issue so any comments can be emailed to the Felix Editor by Wednesday morning.

13. FAIRTRADE POLICY

RECEIVED: The policy was presented by the Deputy President (Welfare)

NOTED:

- a) The policy has been updated to include the '5 goals'.
- b) The application will be joint with College.
- c) It was pointed that point 10.a should read 'Imperial remains a Fairtrade University'.
- d) Point 10.b stops the Union from having to sell Fairtrade cotton at a loss.
 - i. The 'reasonable rate' will be at the discretion of the Shop Manager.
 - ii. It was suggested that an amount should be quantified i.e. not more than 10%, to protect the profits of the Union.
 - iii. It was suggested that point 10.b needs to be consistent with point 10.c. and should read as follows 'To sell a Fairtrade alternative, where one exists, for all products sold by the Union when the product is no more unreasonably expensive than the non Fairtrade alternative
 - iv. The Council moved to a vote on accepting this amendment and the vote is as follows:

FOR	22
AGAINST	5
ABSTAIN	4
Passes	

RESOLVED:

- 1) Point 10b to read as follows:**

'To sell a Fairtrade alternative, where one exists, for all products sold by the Union when the product is no more unreasonably expensive than the non Fairtrade alternative'

- e) Point 10.e refers to the promoting in Student Media, it was suggested that this should be restricted to the Union Page as Felix should not be dictated to as to what to print.
 - i. It was unanimously agreed that this will be the case.

RESOLVED:

2) That promotion of the Fairtrade Fortnight will be promoted on the Union page in Felix.

f) Council moved to a vote on the amended policy and it was passed unanimously.

RESOLVED:

3) To passed the amended Fairtrade policy (see appendix i)

14. VISA REFORM SUBMISSION

RECEIVED: The policy was presented by the Deputy President (Welfare)

NOTED:

- a) The survey is being hosted on survey monkey.
- b) The President, Deputy President (Welfare), Deputy President (Education), Representation Coordinator and staff from the International Officer has gone through the survey at length.
 - i. Have also been through the document with the International Office.
- c) The Deputy President (Welfare) was unsure what the current language requirements are.
- d) It was pointed how much of a hassle it is leaving the country to apply for extensions and the likes.
- e) It was clarified that restriction of students working no more than 20 hours is imposed, however there are some cases that students work over this but it is unsure if they were International Students.
- f) It was pointed out that in regards to question 3, the College is not really affected by this as pertains to below degree level qualifications.
- g) In regards to question 13, it was clarified that this will affect Master students/PhD students as they are more likely to have family members to bring over.
- h) I was agreed that the Union's stance on letting families members work should be included in the closing statement.
- i) In regards to question 18, it was suggested that the Union's response should be 'don't know' as is unknown as to what it means to actually raise the accreditation.
 - i. Council moved to a vote on changing the Unions response to 'don't know' and the vote is as follows:

FOR	14
AGAINST	10
ABSTAIN	8
Passes	

RESOLVED:

1) To change the Union's response to question 14 to 'don't know'.

j) Council moved to a vote on the amended response and the vote is as follows:

FOR	32
AGAINST	0
ABSTAIN	1
Passes	

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

15.1 ICSMSU REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the ICSMSU President

NOTED:

- a) The Daily Mail article is being used as an opportunity to implement change in Reynolds.
- b) Council moved to vote to accept the report and the vote is as follows:

FOR	29
AGAINST	1
ABSTAIN	2
Passes	

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

15.2 GSA REPORT

RECEIVED: The report was presented by the GSA Chair

NOTED:

- a) Council moved to vote to accept the report and the vote is as follows:

FOR	32
AGAINST	0
ABSTAIN	0
Passes	

RESOLVED:

- 1) To accept the report.**

15.3 DPFS REPORT

NOTED:

- a) The President stated that he was asked to give a verbal update on behalf of the Deputy President (Finance & Services) who was absent due to illness.
- b) The Council Chair asked Council if they wished to accept a verbal report of reject this.
 - i. Council moved to a vote on not hearing a verbal update report and the vote is as follows:

FOR	32
AGAINST	0
ABSTAIN	0
Passes	

RESOLVED:

- 1) To not receive the verbal report.**

Meeting closed 8.40pm

Approved as a correct record at a meeting of Union Council

on _____ 2010/11

Appendix i

Fairtrade University Policy

Imperial College Union Notes:

1. That the Fairtrade Foundation requires the completion of five clear goals in order for "Fairtrade University Status" to be awarded. These are detailed in the appendix.
2. That Imperial College has committed to remaining a Fairtrade University.

Imperial College Union Believes:

3. Ensuring that producers in developing countries are paid sufficiently for the services they provide and goods they produce is an important issue for many Imperial College Students,
4. Imperial College Union has a wider social responsibility to promoting ethical and environmental standards through its graduates to influence future social behaviour and global trading
5. Becoming a Fairtrade University will help to promote cultural and social awareness among staff and students through an increased awareness of how our actions affect the standard of living for a wide diversity of people all over the world,
6. Providing an ethical choice and appropriate information is an important service for the Union to provide its students.
7. It will be good for the Union's and the College's reputation for Imperial to become a Fairtrade University.
8. As Imperial College Union fulfils many of the requirements for Imperial College to be a Fairtrade University, it would be beneficial to be recognised for that and to promote that fact.
9. That the Union and College should not limit ethical product sale to products for which the Fairtrade Foundation has criteria for awarding the FAIRTRADE Mark, but where possible should sell ethically sourced products from reputable organisations which uphold the principles of fair trade set out by the Fairtrade Foundation in addition to those with the FAIRTRADE Mark.

Imperial College Union Resolves:

10. To work with College to ensure Imperial remains a "Fairtrade University", specifically
 - a. To nominate the Deputy President (Welfare) to take responsibility for implementing this policy,
 - b. To sell a Fairtrade alternative, where one exists, for all products sold by the Union when the product is no more unreasonably expensive than the non Fairtrade alternative
 - c. Where foods such as tea, coffee and sugar are served at functions/meetings by Union catering to ensure that they are Fairtrade where possible, when the product is no more unreasonably expensive than the non Fairtrade alternative,
 - d. Where a Fairtrade alternative exists, all products provided in the union offices shall be Fairtrade where practicable,
 - e. To promote the FAIRTRADE Mark and Fairtrade Fortnight in publications, such as student media, prospectuses and the website and also on union noticeboards where appropriate, in fulfilment of the five goals,
 - f. To support campaigns to increase awareness and uptake of Fairtrade products throughout the year and during the annual Fairtrade Fortnight,

- g. To continue to support the Fairtrade Steering Group which was set up to further the aims of this policy and promote Fairtrade on campus as required by the Fairtrade Foundation. This group shall be chaired by the Deputy President (Welfare) or his/her nominee and membership includes:
 - i. The Fairtrade Society Chair,
 - ii. The Head of College Catering,
 - iii. A member of the college authority,
 - iv. Other interested parties as required.
- h. To nominate the Deputy President (Welfare) as responsible for completing and returning to the Fairtrade Foundation the paperwork required to renew the university's Fairtrade Status annually, complete with evidence of achievement of the five goals.

Appendix A

Goal 1: Instate formal Fairtrade* policy. The Student Union (or equivalent) and the University/ College authorities both create a Fairtrade policy incorporating these five goals. (this should be reviewed annually)

Goal 2: Fairtrade products including food and cotton are made available for sale in all campus shops. Fairtrade foods are used in all cafés/restaurants/bars on campus. The availability and use of Fairtrade products throughout the university/college increases year on year. The university/college and Student union commits to sourcing Fairtrade cotton products in their purchasing (for example staff uniforms, course wear and merchandise)

(N.B. The sourcing of Fairtrade cotton is not mandatory.)

Goal 3: Fairtrade products are served at all meetings and events hosted by the University /College and the Student Union (or equivalent), including internal management meetings. Tea, coffee and sugar to be served as standard with other Fairtrade products being introduced (e.g. biscuits and juice) where possible.

Goal 4: Campaigns are run on campus to increase the understanding of Fairtrade and consumption of Fairtrade products. This should include student events, actions and trade justice awareness raising as well as integrating Fairtrade in to subject teaching where appropriate

Goal 5: A Fairtrade Steering Group is established, with representatives from the student body, University/College staff and catering or procurement department. (Where this is part of a wider ethical procurement committee there should be a Fairtrade working group who either meet each term or who cover Fairtrade comprehensively in the wider meeting.) Student representation in the steering group is essential.