

Council
14th February 2011

ICU Council Report

A report by the DPCS

Since last Council progress has been concentrated on two main fronts, a review of stewarding rules and College food rules. These two sets of rules imposed by College on all events held in their venues have significant implications for almost all clubs as they require stewards for all events with over 100 attendees and prohibit all catering on College grounds - the definition of catering can be fairly broad.

I am involved in a discussion with the Fire Office concerning an immediate relaxing of the stewarding rules pending a revised set of guidelines. This should involve stewarding for College events being done by stakeholders in the event who are volunteers rather than paid stewards. College have in principle agreed to relax the food rules once I've produced a guidance document on which spaces food would still be prohibited in. I do recognise the need for College Commercial Services to protect their revenues (which directly benefit students) as well as Health & Safety best practice to be adhered to.

As elections are approaching preparations for these have also taken up a reasonable proportion of my time, as have further discussions of the online Claim Forms system which I am working on with the DPFS.

I have started the work to develop the new training materials for the parts of officer training that haven't worked so well this year. I feel that wherever questions are asked repeatedly it's because the training we give has been inadequate so I'll work hard to make sure the next set is even better. I also plan to abolish face-to-face sessions as standard for all principal officers as it's such inefficient use of time – especially for officers who have to miss academic work to attend. However, I would hope my successor would be available to give training to any officers who felt they needed it.

The Great Hall show season has generated a lot of work for me already, making sure that Fire Regulations are adhered to and budgets, Hire Agreements etc. are all in order can be difficult. DramSoc have offered to write a booklet for next year to help Societies planning these types of shows which should alleviate the situation somewhat.

I chair CSB which had its tours meeting where many tours were approved, there was very poor attendance though which should be strongly discouraged. In addition CSB received the detailed and informative Management Group reports which highlighted a few common issues between clubs, especially storage space. I hope to have another small room for storage becoming available towards the end of the year which should help a little bit. I recognise it is difficult for clubs without appropriate storage space, but simply cannot allocate space I do not have!

New Clubs Committee has also been held where new clubs Mauritian, Calligraphy and Management were set up. I wish them all a very successful start and hope they get on well. In addition the first New Projects Committee of the term was held which I attended and was pleased to see a number of very interesting proposals being passed. In addition I am working with DPW Charlotte Ivison on revamping the Clubs & Societies tab of the website to Activities to include Projects and make it a little easier to use.