

## **Deputy President (Welfare) Report**

### **A note by Charlotte Ivison**

#### **Campaign Weeks**

We had the Limits campaign at the end of February – the literature and freebies we gave out went down well but the police workshops suffered low attendance. A lot of respondents from the Campaign Week survey said that they didn't have the time to attend workshops, so we'll be focusing on Sherfield stands with 'have a go' activities instead. Fairtrade Fortnight seemed to go well, although the walkway FT stand that the shop did didn't sell much. The next campaign is Diversity Week (14<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> March) – please join the Facebook event if you haven't already and invite your friends. All events will be free – there's a film night, a music night, a debate and a sports day in Hyde Park planned. There's also going to be a second Study Skills Week planned for the beginning of next term.

#### **Welfare survey**

The welfare survey is written and is currently at the testing stage – thanks to those of you in RWB who have given feedback. The survey should be online as of today, running for three weeks. The prizes for completion are Shop vouchers and bottles of wine.

#### **Fairtrade policy**

I'm in the process of gathering data from various sources for the paperwork. When that's done, I'll send it off and we'll renew our status.

#### **The Environmental Policy**

The policy has been updated to include content from the student working group, meetings with staff and the Environmental Officers and the results of the bottled water survey, and will hopefully be passed at this meeting.

#### **Projects**

The next New Projects Committee is on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March and so far has three groups applying.

#### **Halls Committee, Commercial Services and Rent**

The Halls rent survey has been held back due to concerns about the lack of a full rent breakdown to inform as to the most significant cuts. Commercial Services are being very slow to get us any kind of concrete breakdown, as they are arguing that it is not possible.

#### **RWB Budgeting**

The RWB was accepted with a couple of cuts. It includes a much smaller contingency and larger spending on campaign weeks and welfare officer campaigns. Hopefully this increased structure will make life easier for next year's officers.

#### **Elections**

Elections has been going well so far – both the STOIC Meet the Candidates and Hustings went well despite some technical difficulties. We have a promo team (including officers) out encouraging people to vote, and the new voting stats functions should add some interest.

Council  
14<sup>th</sup> March 2011

### **Halls Committee**

The Halls Committee meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup> Feb was primarily focused on rent reductions. It was agreed that the amenities fund should be uniform across Halls. However, amenity fund scrapping and whether it should be spent on alcohol was less conclusively decided on as the hall reps are typically alcohol drinkers and engaged with Hall activities, making them not entirely representative of Halls students. The committee also thought that removing the Ethos subsidy from rents would make a much more significant reduction. The next meeting of the Halls Committee is scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup> March.

### **Green Reps**

We have a meeting scheduled for the 15<sup>th</sup> March to do some more training with the Green reps and define their roles, as there are three different groups which makes the system quite disparate if not organised properly. The training will be done with College Estates.

### **Earplugs in Metric**

A while ago the Equal Opportunities Officer suggested selling earplugs in Metric as part of the RNID's 'Don't Lose the Music' Campaign. I asked students if they would buy them, but as the response was mixed and the earplugs are expensive I will be doing a short survey next term to ascertain how to proceed.