

Council Report

A Paper by the DPCS

It has been a relatively short amount of time since the last Council but nonetheless I have felt quite productive.

DepSocs

As no-one from Council had any thoughts, comments or objections regarding DepSocs I brought a policy to CSB which subsequently passed opening up DepSocs to all students, though they may set restrictions on who may join. I haven't yet followed up on this.

Room bookings

I have held meetings with the Security team and other stakeholders regarding rooms for student activities in College and we are rapidly approaching a policy agreed at College Management Board enshrining student's rights to book spaces which will be a massive step forward. These attempts have been met with varying levels of enthusiasm from different departments but overall the consensus is that without something written down it is impossible to apply sanctions consistently where they are required.

Publicity Policy and External Speakers Policy

Both of these policies were brought to last Council for discussion but have the broad support of the College Secretary. They are coming again as the last Council was not held. The publicity policy shall replace the current poster policy. The reason these have both been created is that the current police guidance advises for the rules on both External Speakers and publicity of all types to be clear. In addition, the External Speakers Policy will be taken to the Trustee Board as once we are a charity they could be held responsible for any breaches in the law that occur.

Trade Fair,

Trade Fair – all common “suppliers” of Union groups will be invited to attend a trade fair where new club officers can get to know the people they'll need to speak to well in advance. Hopefully it will help things run more smoothly next year. A number of groups have already confirmed attendance so I hope many of you are telling successors to keep 23rd June free.

Careers sessions for Club Officers

A pilot session ran on 4th May but suffered poor attendance making the Careers Department reluctant to repeat it. Another one will be held on 8th June and I hope to fill it on this occasion, though I recognise it is still exam time. All officers are welcome reps, welfare officers etc. and feedback from the first session was very good though we're modifying the session slightly to reflect some of the feedback that was given.

Sponsorship speed dating

Took place on 18th May and was a great success. Companies have already pledged over £9000 to clubs that took part and more will be able to bid once they've gone back to their budget holders. The pot of entry fees will be split between the unsuccessful clubs. Who received what will not be revealed until all companies have finished bidding.

New Clubs Committee

Was held on 10th May and four new clubs were created:

Mahjong

Rugby Football League

Pole Dancing

Rounders

I wish them the best of luck for the future and congratulate them on the strength of their applications.

CV2012

I have been continuing to assist the CV2012 team with marking of applications to receive this award which can be unexpectedly time consuming. I will also be assisting with interviews.

Projects

Some of the more ambitious Projects are preparing to be the pioneers of the newly developed College approval process. They are producing documents to present to the College Approval Board which will allow them to use College travel insurance and the College name. Usually this will take place over a longer time frame but due to this new framework having only just been developed I'm trying to assist them in getting through the process before they leave.

Training

A side-effect of clarifying so many rules with College and within the Union has been that a lot of training needs updating so I have spent a lot of time doing this – including developing marshalling training from scratch. Ravi has assisted in recording the accompanying eLearning.

Metric use

A policy was passed at Exec outlining the priorities for Metric use allowing it to be used for club activity when space is short and it is not already in use. This policy also provides for clubs to be able to use the in situ equipment after appropriate training – probably using the Union sound engineer.

CSB

The most recent CSB was the Tours meeting and the quality of the applications was generally outstanding – as was attendance. We also discussed the rolling over of equipment grant which is a surprisingly contentious issue. We resolved that CSB will have to consent to any equipment grant rollover planned this year.