

Imperial College Union
President's Report
A note by Alex K ☺

Strategic Plan

The process developing the Strategic Plan 2011-2015 continues; we have had several sessions recently including an away day last week where we took the main themes surrounding the Union such as Student Activities and Representation and developed some initial Key Objectives and performance indicators so that the Union's success in reaching these objectives can be measured year on year. These are still in draft form though. The information gathered at Ideas Day is also being written up to inform the final key objectives. The final draft document will also be put out for student consultation. Some new ideas have already come out of this process, the most significant being that students want the Union to offer more careers advice, especially in the area of alternative careers, and also academic skills training such as writing and presentation skills.

Planning Round

The Planning Round is the yearly request for our subvention from College. In May we submitted all the relevant documents and overall budget for next year, including projections into the future and immediate plans to deal with a 3% cut, 0% budget, or 3% increase. We had our meeting/interview with senior management on June 6 and I attended with the Operations Manager and Finance Manager. We will be given our allocation for 2011/12 in the next few weeks.

Aldwych Group

On 26 and 27 May myself and the Deputy President (Education) hosted an Aldwych Group meeting at Imperial, where we were joined by Sabbaticals from other Russell Group Universities. Presentations were given by Professor Andrew George, Professor Julia Buckingham, The GSA President and representatives from the NUS. The meeting gave us a lot of insight into issues that affect postgraduates.

Rector's Awards

Myself, and the Deputy President (Education) were on the panels to decide the winners of the Rector's Awards for Teaching Excellence, Research Supervision, Pastoral Care and Supporting the Student Experience. The Deputy President (Welfare) was also on the panel for the Pastoral Care and Student Experience Awards and the GSA President for the Research Supervision Awards. Going through all the nominations took a lot of time but it was definitely worth it and all the winners have done a fantastic job for Imperial and for students.

Union Awards

For the last few weeks since the beginning of the Summer Term nominations have been open for the Union Awards, under the structure of the new Awards Policy agreed under the May 3 Council. I am glad to report that over 130 nominations have been received and these will be considered at the meeting of the Colours Committee on 8 June.

Website

Several of us will be spending the next few weeks looking at the website and how it can be improved. I will mostly be concentrating on the Governance section to make sure all policies are easy to locate by students and that the information on the site is accurate.

Executive Committee

At the last few meetings of the Executive Committee we have discussed and passed the monthly management accounts. We also see consolidated accident reports and decide if any further action needs to be taken. Aside from this several policies have been passed which will be reported by those who brought the policies.