

Council  
13<sup>th</sup> June 2011

**Felix Report**  
**A note by the Felix Editor Kadhim Shubber**

**Phoenix**

This was published last Friday; hopefully you will have seen it and enjoyed it. I must thank Navid Nabijou and Marie Chkaiban, the editors, for working so hard to get it done and for producing something that I think is fantastic. I must also thank Jonathan Kim for putting it online so elegantly with our altered Phoenix front page on the website.

**I,SCIENCE**

The final I,SCIENCE is coming out on the 24<sup>th</sup> of June. It's going to be a good one, the theme is 'Great Expectations'. Andrew Purcell, Dan Wan, and the whole I,SCIENCE team have really produced a professional magazine and website this year.

**BONED – Felix Music Night**

At the time of writing this event has not yet happened. Hopefully I will be able to report that it was a massive success and that hundreds of students turned up.

**Facebook**

We have reached our target of 2,000 fans on our fan page 😊

**Handover**

I have begun working with Matthew Colvin to ensure that he is ready when I handover to him on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July. I am confident that he will take Felix to even greater heights next year.

During the overlap period in July, I will spend my time working with Matt, tying up all the loose ends regarding Felix's finances (I believe that we will be well in the black once all the income and expenses have been settled), researching a 'History of Felix' with Gilead Amit, further developing the website with Jonathan Kim, and hopefully continuing to write news stories.

**My manifesto:**

*"I love felix. I've worked for the newspaper since starting university and now three years into my Physics degree it's clear that my involvement has been the most important part of my student life. I firmly believe that the opportunities and experiences I've received through felix should be open to everyone and that every effort should be made to encourage all students to write, edit and get involved. To this end, my policies fall under two broad categories.*

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1. *I'll make it easier to get involved:*

*- I will hold an open meeting at the beginning of each term so that you can speak to the various section Editors in person. It doesn't always feel like people pay attention when you send an email and so by meeting in person you'll hopefully feel more comfortable about contributing to the paper.*

*- I will hold a stall every Monday lunchtime in the JCR to further break down the wall between students and felix. You'll be able to come speak to me directly so that I can tell you what to do to get involved. Every single week there's loads of ways that you can contribute and I hope to make students aware of all of these opportunities.*

2. *I'll have more student-focused content:*

*- It's important for the Editor to investigate the important issues that affect students, such as depression or student debt for example. If elected as Editor I'll work my socks off to bring you interesting features about these very relevant topics.*

*- I plan to turn more of the newspaper's focus onto student activities at Imperial. Usually we don't 'review' these activities so much as say that they happened. But by being objective and reporting events on campus in the same way that we report music gigs then I hope that students will realise that Imperial isn't only a large campus-sized laboratory but actually exploding at the seams with interesting events held by extremely talented people.*

*- As well as these serious issues, I will run more weekly competitions and giveaways, like free entry to Union events or tickets to gigs so that felix is not only a paper that students pick up on Friday or read online, but something that helps them have fun outside of lectures.*

*Finally if elected I will ensure that the website is updated throughout the week. I know the kind of hard work that is required of felix Editors (I've worked with three) and I know that managing the website is another burden on an already difficult job. However, if elected as felix Editor I know that I'll only have one shot at the job, and it's important enough for me to give it everything that I've got and more. Like I said earlier, felix has been the most important part of my life at Imperial and I have no intention of letting the newspaper, or more importantly you the student, down."*

On the first point – I can't say for certain, because we don't have figures for previous years, but I believe that the number of contributors has increased. At our peak we had between 100-150 regular contributors each week and we have had more than 400 contributors all year. Unfortunately I only had an open meeting in the first term, but I did hold a stall every Monday lunchtime.

On the second point – I think that we did report well on student issues, but I must give credit to my fantastic team of news reporters and my features editor Lizzy

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Crouch for often taking the lead on this. In terms of reporting objectively on student events, I think we did cover student events well – the Arts Editor Rox Middleton did a tremendous job in this respect.

On the third point – Unfortunately I didn't do this a lot, but we had a couple of cool offers like discounts for Wafflemeister in South Kensington in the Food section and our Relentless giveaway was very popular during the exam period.

On the website – There were one or two occasions where I fell asleep at the keyboard but for the most part the website has been fully updated at all times and has received a great deal of traffic. We get around 10,000 unique readers a month now.

### **To conclude**

It's been a lot of fun. It's perhaps time to let a new generation of Felix editors and writers make it what they will. I wish them the greatest success and I'm glad to have had the opportunity to edit this wonderful publication.