

Council
30 October 2012

Changing the Constitution
A note by the Union President – Paul Beaumont

<https://www.imperialcollegeunion.org/your-union/how-were-run/constitution-reform>

Background

Over the Summer, I met with members of the Trustee Board who expressed concern over the governance of the Union, and impending charity registration.

Plans were drawn up by myself and the Managing Director to address these concerns, and to prepare the Union for charity registration.

These plans were taken back to a smaller 'working group' of the Trustees – the Trustee Board Chair, Chair of the Finance & Risk sub-committee, Council Chair and Court Chair.

At the last Council meeting these plans were presented with little contention.

Since then, I have been meeting with smaller groups of the Council to discuss the proposals:

- Management Group Chairs at CSB on 9 October
- Felix Editor on 10 October
- Academic Affairs Officers on 10 October
- Ordinary Members who attended the Initial Candidates Meeting were made aware of the plans on 15 October
- Welfare Officers on 15 October
- Faculty & Constituent Union Presidents on 16 October

The full proposals were published on the Union website with a link to the exact page emailed to all members of Council, and all Members of the Union standing for Ordinary Member positions on 15 October.

A Felix article was published on the 19 October.

Discussion

The Council is asked to discuss the merits of giving the Chair of the Trustee Board a power of veto over a proposal taken to the Board. This is not currently in the proposed document, but is something that should be interesting to discuss and think about including before moving to the resolutions.

Resolutions

The Council is asked to approve the proposed:

- Constitution
- Bye-Laws
- Standing Orders for the sub-committees of Council

Whilst not required, the Council is also within its rights to informally approve or raise issue with either of:

- Standing Orders for the sub-committees of the Trustee Board
- Financial Procedures
- Associate Members Policy