

Council
4 December 2012

Imperial College Union
Council Report
By Henry Whittaker, Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)

BUCS

Our proposal will be considered at the National Advisory Group on December 4 where the proposal will be presented by Cari Davies. Cari is the Athletic Union President at Cardiff and was put forward as an impartial person who is aware of the Medical School issues. The National Advisory Group is made up of a four BUCS executives, elected staff representatives and elected student officers. They will consider each proposal and decide which to accept.

Booking Issues

There have been problems with the room booking system (Kx) where block bookings (those longer than one day) would not appear in a certain view. This meant that rooms would appear to be free when they were in fact busy and bookings were entered on these dates. The problem was worsened by the fact that warnings generated by the booking system about a double booking being made had been ignored. An example of this is the Concert Hall had been booked by Medics Drama for the week but had a UNICEF booking added and confirmed. For this particular double booking UNICEF had planned an event using the stage. I met with them to see if they could use Metric for their performance. It transpired that the stage was far too small so in hired and constructed a stage extension for them. This enabled UNICEF to run their event in Metric. The booking system has been checked for double bookings and these have now been resolved.

The problem with the booking system has been raised with the Kx administrator and has been resolved. The union is now aware of the issue which should prevent a major issue such as this happening in the future.

New Clubs

At the last NCC meeting two clubs have been put into the New Club Incubator the English Cultural Society and the Italian Society. The Motorbike club was preliminarily approved while questions on their activities and the clubs inclusivity are addressed.

University challenge

For the past month I have been working with the quiz society. They have run a selection process for a University Challenge team supported by some union publicity. A team was submitted on Wednesday 21 November.

Publicising Club activities

I would like to be able to put information about club activities on the union news feed. So far a few groups have replied saying they will submit information about. Hopefully there will soon be some interesting articles about the great things our student's organise.

Short listing and Interviews

I have been involved in the selection process for the new Activities Coordinator. This is a post that came available after a position was internally filled. I was on the interview panel for this position with the interview being held on 26 Monday. Of the candidates we interview we had a close call between two excellent and candidates. An appointment has been made and the new Activities Coordinator will be starting next week.

Media Studio Bookings

When I started there was a slight discrepancy with how the media studio was booked and utilised. It is currently partly managed entirely by the Media Group. This means that anyone with access to the key can use the room can use the facilities with no sort of booking procedure. There are several problems with the current standing the first being that as part of the room booking requirements from college we need to know the usage of public space. The second is that Union would like to be able to clearly demonstrate usage of the media facility to College. Thirdly any disputes over the room usage and state are exceptionally difficult to resolve as there no definitive system and rules for the usage of the facility. The final issue is there is no clear process for a student group to correctly gain access to the room and use the facilities. To resolve these problems I have been meeting with the Media Group to discuss incorporating the Media Studio into the Union room booking system. The Media Studio will follow the standard room booking procedures for next term onwards with the media group entering advanced bookings. This facility is primarily for the usage of the media group and any system will reflect that. The new system should not impact on the activities of the media group but allow appropriate student groups to use the facility at time when it is underutilised.

Clubs and Societies Board resolves

After consultation with the Clubs and Societies Board it was decided to put Club's, Societies' and Project's constitutions in a public location so they can be accessed by any member. The constitutions are now generated online through eActivities and will be put onto the union website in the "A to Z" section. Student groups are being asked to enter their constitutions into the online system. This will ensure that all student groups have a constitution.

Management group and Faculty Union meeting dates, minutes and policies will be going online. To integrate management group meeting dates, minutes and policies into the same system implemented for other Union Committees. The management group exec will be able to upload information and set meeting details. The management group standing orders will be available for download from the exec page in this section.

This would appear on the website similar to this:

