

**RSMU Mid-Year Report for Council**

**12/02/2013**

*Presented by RSMU President Lewis Ryan*



**Events**

Our first term events all went very well. We have had an excellent level of participation from all students, particularly those in first year. The Fresher and Christmas dinners both sold out and have had great feedback from the students and staff who attended. The Christmas Dinner was held at the Grand Connaught Rooms and 150 attended including alumni, post-graduates, staff and undergraduates. We had two bar nights in the Union which ran in a slightly new format to last year, and with the help of Matt Bowman and the Union staff, this change in format has been extremely beneficial. We have been planning two bar nights, each either side of the upcoming Bottle Match, and also a brand new event – The RSM Spring Dinner – which will be aimed more at older years, post-graduates and alumni as well as staff. This event will be a formal dinner at an external venue and will be a chance to award Colours and various other awards to students and staff of the RSM.

**Clubs and Societies**

All three of our DepSocs have had a very successful first term. The De La Beche (DLB) club had a trip to the South of Wales and is currently planning its second trip to the Isle of White in March, and the DLB Symposium (tomorrow). Geophysics society ran two events last year which had outstanding turn out from their own members and others, they are currently organising two talks from lecturers within the University before the end of term. MatSoc have been on a day trip out of College and have had good participation from their students at all of their other events so far this year. The RSM sports teams have been very active, particularly hockey which now runs a mixed team as well as men's and ladies' hockey. RSM Football are looking at ways to rectify their financial issues by charging entry to annual inter-year football for the first time, and by encouraging player support for kit purchase. RSM Rugby is financially healthy having gained £300 sponsorship, and is a growing club hoping to enter into an external league next academic year.

**Bottle Match**

Our biggest event of the year is taking place next week (22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> Feb). We are planning for this to be the most supported Bottle Match in recent years, and we have been working closely with Harlington and the Union staff to ensure it will be well managed and successful for all parties. Camborne School of Mines will be joining us in the Queen's Tower Rooms for a dinner then Metric for the awards ceremony during the evening of Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup>. We are expecting over 200 supporters from the RSM and Imperial, and we are getting a greater response from alumni than ever before.

## **Regalia**

We have had an outstanding year so far in terms of regalia sales. Imogen Simmonds and Fiona Middleton – RSM Regalia – have been in constant contact with alumni and students to get our products to as many as possible. For the first year we have engraved hipflasks which have sold at an alarming rate, as well as hoodies, t-shirts, ties, cufflinks and tie-pins.

## **Elections**

For the first year we are running our elections online, as opposed to using a ballot box in the RSM Foyer. We are hoping this will encourage more members to vote and will make the process more reliable and faster. This year it would not be advantageous to run under the same timetable as The Big Elections, as a large proportion of our students will not be in college for the voting period. Unfortunately, as Earth Science and Engineering courses have changed this year, 50% of its undergraduates are on field trips for nearly all term weeks after 13<sup>th</sup> March. Therefore, we have decided to run the elections on our own timetable for this year only, with the intention of being a part of The Big Elections next year. I would like to thank ICU, Rebecca Coxhead and Andrew Keenan for their help to accommodate our needs.

## **Finances**

The RSMU is financially stable, with sponsorship from Rio Tinto for all our Fresher events, BP for our Christmas Dinner, also our FoE grant for the year, and departmental funding and alumni funding. We have not made a loss on any of our events so far as the attendance has been 100%, and we have had a large amount of income from regalia sales.