

Council - 10th June 2014



Imperial College School of Medicine Students' Union President's Report

A note by ICSMSU President – Steve Tran

Union

Since October, the 16 other officers of ICSMSU Exec have done a tremendous amount of work and a whole lot of good has happened. There have been at least 15 meetings of the Executive Committee over the year. I wish to thank this year's committee for all they have done for the benefits of the students.

In addition, the School of Medicine elected next year's ICSMSU Executive Committee with an election turn out of 57.2%, the HIGHEST turn out of any department. The elected officers at the time of writing are:

- **President:** Dariush Hassanzadeh-Baboli
- **Deputy President:** Anju George
- **Secretary:** Dina Saleh
- **Treasurer:** Alex Compton
- **Communications Officer:** *To Be Elected*
- **Sites & Services Officer:** Kanchana Niruttan
- **Alumni & Careers Officer:** Steve Tran
- **Welfare Officer:** Jennifer Watson
- **Clubs & Societies Officer:** Maredudd Harris
- **Academic Officer (Clinical Years):** Salma Haddad
- **Academic Officer (Science Years):** Cyin San
- **Academic Officer (Early Years):** Usama Asif
- **Entertainments Officer:** Callum Brehany
- **Social Secretaries:** Gugs Lidder & Mala Mawkin
- **Summer Ball Chair:** Anna Hurley
- **RAG Chair:** Obinna Abani

The results of the ICSMSU Communications Officer by-election will be announced on Friday 20th June 2014. Good luck to next year's committee!

Events

I'm happy to report all the events in my last report went smoothly. Many of our final years even commented that it was one of the best Shrove Tuesday Final Year Dinners they've ever attended. Well done once again to Megan MacKenzie and her committee.

We've previously held myriad of events from our fantastic RAG week, spearheaded by Erika Refsum and her committee. Many highlights include the RAG Dash to Antwerp, and the RAG Fashion Show in March – which Maddison Gronager organised. RAG raised over £16,000 for Dacorum Mencap this year.

In terms of upcoming events, we have our second ever Finals Fortnight starting on the 16th June to welcome back our final years from event as well as celebrate them coming to the end of their degrees. The fortnight finishes with our annual ICSM Summer Ball, which will take place this year at the Millennium Mayfair Hotel on Friday 27th June 2014. I look forward to see what Helena Budarkiewicz and her committee have in stall for us!

The last big event before the end is our ICSM Affirmation Ceremony, which did remarkably well to sell out two months in advance of the event. We have over 850 guests attending this ceremony on Sunday 29th June 2014.

Education and Representation

In terms of our department this year, we have recently seen a restructure of our key management staff with Mr Martin Lupton taking on the reins of Head of the Undergraduate School of Medicine. It has been a busy year and I look forward to the medical schools and the students' union continued efforts together.

We've had very productive Student Staff Liaison Groups (9 in total) throughout the year tackling issues affecting every part of the course. Of note, I submitted a paper on behalf of the Students' Union to ensure a standardisation and continued good practice targeting blackboard in-course assessment submission deadlines and exam results releases. In short, with the new zero-tolerance to late submissions, we've encountered a number of technical glitches this year. So we have suggested to normally having in-course assessment submissions during the working day. In addition, we've suggested that Friday is not an ideal time to release results because there may be a lack of pastoral support available to students over the weekend. Please note this is only a summary, the paper goes into more depth regarding the reasoning behind both suggestions. I look forward to my successor pushing this paper through the rest of the necessary committees and the principles being implemented.

The only other big issue that has arisen this year is the restructure of the 4-year Graduate Entry course into a 5-year course. The decision to change the course had a myriad of factors and had been previously consulted with the first five years of the Graduate course back in 2012. Unfortunately it was only until the end of 2013/start of 2014 when a decision was made. Initially there was and still is a lot of dissatisfaction from students currently on the course. Martin Lupton and Chris John, Head of Graduate Entry, both gave an open discussion forum to air any concerns and explain the reasoning behind such a big change back on Wednesday 26th March. This change will be implemented from 2015 entry. The Students'

Union is awaiting to see any developments in terms of financial support for students attending this 5-year course; however for now, we're working with the GradMed Society to ensure that incoming students have the same or better educational benefits that we have all received so far and we look forward to seeing how the improved changes impact on the students.

Welfare

ICSMSU Welfare Officer, Sunila Prasad, ran a very successful Mental Health Awareness week (Monday 2nd December to Friday 6th December). Dr Nicky Goater, a consultant psychiatrist, was invited to deliver a talk on 'mental well-being and what it means for medical students'. This was followed by a Q&A session with our very own DPW (Marissa Lewis), two of our Senior Tutors, and a representative from the Imperial College Health Centre. Thank you to the MHA team for organising the week, especially Kristina Earle, Communications Officer, for designing the publicity for this week!

On Friday 28th February, Sunila also arranged for Dr Chris Hilton, an ICSM Alumnus, to come and deliver to first year this year's ICSMSU Alcohol Awareness and Substance Misuse talk. It was a very successful event and sometime we do hope continues in the future.

Clubs and Societies

On Wednesday 12th March, ICSM won back the JPR Williams Cup with an astonishing 37-11 victory over IC. Well done to everyone who participated in this year's Varsity. It was a stellar performance of the sporting potential we have within our medical school.

This year's ICSM Sports Dinner took place on Monday 5th May 2014 at Smollensky's on the Strand. Paddy McGown, our Clubs and Societies Officer, organised the do for more than 250 guests in order for us to award each clubs' most valuable and most improved player but also the annual ICSM Sporting Awards. This year's Sports Personality of the Year went to Elizabeth Nally (Netball Club Captain), Team of the Year went to ICSM Boat Club's Senior VIII and Club of the Year went to Imperial Medicals Rugby Football Club.

Paddy and John Golden, Treasurer have ran all their Managements Group meetings this years smoothly and have educated all Clubs and Societies with regards to the new ICU budgeting system and dealt with any remaining issues with regards to the BUCS merger.

Miscellaneous

Our Alumni and Careers Officer, David Thompson, put on our annual Mansfield Lecture in honour of Professor Averill Manfield, UK's first female professor of surgery on Monday 12th May. This year's guest speaker was Professor Jenny Higham, Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Medicine. It was a well-received lecture and enjoyed by all the students who attended.

Finally our BMA Rep, Yannis Reissis ,put together a team of students to represent Imperial College at the national British Medical Association Medical Students' Conference back in April. Our students spoke on topics arranging from promoting the necessity of medical students in identifying concerns for patient safety to lobbying for additional funding to providing education on Female Genital Mutilation.