

Deputy President (Finance & Services) Council Report
A report by Alex Savell

1. Leave:

1.1. I have not taken any leave since the last Council Meeting

2. Higher Education Funding Survey/Policy

2.1. A lot of recent work has gone into this

2.2. Thanks to all that took the survey and came to the General Meeting on 1 December

2.3. Please see the corresponding paper for more details

3. Operational Excellence/College Strategy

3.1. OE continues to take a lot of time, however we have broadly finished the discussion over Invoicing of students

3.1.1. An outcome of this has been a meeting on Foreign Payment Bank Charges

3.1.2. We are now discussing bursaries and scholarships particularly application processes and how they are administrated

3.2. The main section of College 5 year Strategy Planning has now concluded

3.2.1. The best result of this (from my stream) has been that student satisfaction was targeted as an objective for attaining Financial Sustainability

4. VAT Exempt Events

4.1. Over the last month it has become clear that our approach to VAT Exempt events is not compliant with HMRC guidelines

4.2. A significant number of meetings with the Head of Finance have led to a new method of deciding on VAT Exemptions for Fund Raising Events

4.2.1. This should mean it is possible to do more fundraising events overall

4.2.2. However, it will change which events are eligible

4.2.3. Any fundraising event may be eligible so long as it is:

4.2.3.a. Reasonably Unique (<15 similar events in the same location per year)

4.2.3.b. OR at a location we rarely use

4.2.3.c. Is advertised/promoted clearly as a fundraiser from the outset

4.3. There is now an application form on imperialcollegeunion.org/forms to be returned to dps@imperial.ac.uk for this purpose.

5. Finance Administrator Appointments

5.1. I was on the interview panel for the two new Finance Administrator Position

5.1.1. We interviewed 12 candidates over 1.5 days

5.1.2. We appointed to both positions and both start after the Festive break

6. Policy

6.1. I am assisting Abi with the Management Group Restructure

6.2. We will also be working on various Exec Policies that need to be relocated to CSPB

6.3. By the time of this meeting I should have a finished draft of a new Web Policy

7. Metric Website

7.1. I have begun work with the Central Services Manager on a new Metric Website