

DPCS Council Report

Abi de Bruin Deputy President Clubs & Societies

It was recommended that in the interests of greater officer accountability, our last council reports of the year should provide more of a summary than a standard report. In the interests of ensuring that Council is also sure of what it is I've been working on since last council it has primarily been working with the Union Award panels, club training, Out In Sport, the Space Review (see Tom's work) and some confidential work.

External Speakers

External Speakers have been a huge body of work this year, not just in terms of the operational pressure of ensuring they are all processed in a timely manner (and dealing with the arguments with College Security), but the strategic work we've been putting alongside it. We have put a lot of time in to looking at how the process works and, together with college and student groups, have pieced together a new process that will hopefully make it a lot easier for students.

Hand in hand with this has been the large body of work I did alongside the Islamic Society on the Prevent strategy and Counter Terrorism Bill, producing a formal response to the Government consultation as (DPCS, E, W and President), and working with the Union and College ongoing to ensure we are compliant both with the upcoming regulations regarding externals but also the Union stance to engage as little with Prevent as possible.

Out In Sport

This has been a project I've been particularly proud to work on this year, not least because of the dedication of the student volunteers involved. We have picked the project back up over the last few weeks and have been working on finalising the results analysis and the writing up of the report, aiming to release a report before the end of our terms of office.

This will hopefully feed well into the combined Sport Imperial/Union Sports Strategy that we are working on the planning stages of at the moment.

Room Bookings

As I'm sure most student groups that book spaces are aware, the process by which rooms are booked is not ideal. I have put a huge amount of time in this year to feed in to the College's Operational Excellence stream on Room Bookings which will hopefully produce many beneficial outcomes. Since the last few months have been broadly consultation and research into issues I do not at this point have a definitive list of outcomes to report to Council, but the steps are now in place for the future to see huge improvements to the system by which room bookings are processed, the interaction with College Security in the process, and a variety of other less club focused, but more broadly for the use of space, benefits to students in particular for their lecture timetabling too. Recently a lot of the work on this is ensuring it gets appropriately handed over to staff and incomings to ensure that the lists of recommendations have progress on them made rather than are simply lost.

Whilst minor, we have also managed to streamline the process for clubs booking space through the College Conference and Events team by reducing the Union list of signatures

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9 June 2015

from three named persons to a single 'union' sign off – this seems to be really reducing a lot of the frustrations surrounding booking these spaces.

Risk

Whilst not something I had anticipated working on this year, this has been a project I've been putting a lot of time into over the last few months. I have been doing a lot of research into best practice at other institutions as well as a thorough look at the Union's current processes. Attacking risk for 350 clubs was, unsurprisingly, not a particularly small task but there are now a list of proposals and recommendations that I'm hoping we can put into place both short and long term that will make risk assessing more straightforward and appropriate, and also to try and improve the rate at which incidents are reported.

Storage

As I'm sure many are aware, storage is a continuing problem, perhaps unsurprisingly as a South Kensington based university where space comes at a premium. I and the activities team have been putting a lot of work in over the last few weeks to start really attacking the problems that we have seen this year, starting with the organisation of a waste amnesty this term. We have also been looking more long term for space audits and processes to be put in place regarding the monitoring and control of storage space going in to next year, transferring a lot of storage control to staff so that the historic problems associated with the DPCS control, and thus knowledge loss each year can be avoided more.