

Officer Trustee Report Union Council

Jennie Watson – Deputy President (Welfare)

Liberation & Welfare Officers

- Secured Mental Health First Aid Lite training for all liberation and welfare officers as well as various CSP officers
- We had an excellent training and team building afternoon with liberation and welfare officers covering campaigning, representation, roles of student welfare officers and liberation movements.
- **BME Officer:** I've been supporting Lami and ACS in the delivery of Black History Month; hopefully this will include a photographic exhibition devised by Lami to celebrate women of colour at Imperial.
- We've had a largely successful Freshers' Fair with the liberation and campaigns stand promoting student led and external campaigns, volunteering and welfare contacts for students in need.

Housing

- Having introduced Lucinda to CitizensUK, we will be working alongside them on a major housing campaign in the run up to the Mayoral Election. We're attempting to hear from as many students as possible about their private housing experiences starting with freshers fair and continuing through the next couple of weeks to figure out exactly what the most common problems are for students. I'll be presenting these to CitizensUK and various West London community groups towards the end of October.
- I have also been drafting a proposal for College to act as a rental guarantor to students unable to provide one for themselves i.e. overseas students and students from families with low household income. This is in line with other London universities – UCL, LSE and Goldsmiths and was identified as a barrier to private housing for international students by Marissa Lewis (DPW 2013-2014) and was a problem for home students from low income backgrounds by the Advice Centre this summer.

Gender Equality

- Promoting and working on the HeForShe Get Free UK Tour alongside Gender Equality Officer Jonathan Masters, FemSoc Chair and Jodie Denmark and Secretary Jonathan Sutton, and Jess Wade of the WISE Young Women's Board. HeForShe was broadly successful and the afternoon panel discussion drew in a reasonable audience.
- I've been working with Lucinda on the Gender and Institutional Culture Steering Group. This is a piece of research looking at gender equality and sexism at Imperial on a staff and student level lead by Dr Alison Phipps. Director of the Centre for Gender Studies, University of Sussex.
- After conversations with women working in and using our bars I've been following up on reports of harassment and assessing the complaints process for students and bar staff, with a zero tolerance approach to gender based harassment in the Union.

Wardening teams

- After being approached by Marissa Lewis (former DPW, now subwarden) and Campaigns Officer Andrew Tranter regarding various events in Imperial halls last year, we have managed to secure funding from the Director of Student Services, Denis Wright for all wardens and assistant wardens to receive Mental Health First Aid training and for all subwardens to receive Mental Health First Aid Lite training.

Advice Services

- I'm pleased to announce that we have appointed an Advice Services Manager who will be starting on October 12th. There will be a complete review of the Union's current advice service, which we are planning to remodel over the next few months, including appointing an additional student advisor.

Medics

- As promised I have continued my work from last year on year 5 and 6 medical student funding. The issue was recently discussed at Provost Board after weeks of discussion with John Neilson of proposed short/medium term solutions. I have been told it received a generally positive response and has been raised with Prof Les Ebdon of the Office for Fair Access.
- In August I was approached by members wanting to demonstrate around the time of Jeremy Hunt's vote of no confidence. This project fell through, however I have recently worked alongside Imperial students to organise the major junior doctor contract demonstration a couple of weeks ago (September 28th)

Future Student Services Panel

- I have been appointed to the Future Student Services Panel, aimed at designing the best possible student services. We have done 2 out of 3 days of evidence gathering sessions covering student support services (Counselling, Disability Advisory Service, ICU Advice and ICU Volunteering) and education and finance services (Careers Service, Library, Student Finance, Registry).

Harassment, Bullying and Victimisation Policy

- I have been giving feedback on the new student Harassment, Bullying and Victimisation Policy which is currently nowhere near the ideal standard. I am determined that this policy will be fair, straightforward and accessible to students.