

Report to Union Council

Chun-Yin San, Deputy President (Education)

Academic Representation Network

- The **Research Reps Review** is continuing. We have started work on the 'Roles and Expectations' workstream, exploring what motivates Research students to become Reps. A report on progress will be presented to the May ERB. A change in membership means the project is now fully driven by PhD Reps.
- A new **Representation Coordinator** has been appointed, and will be joining us full-time from July. This is expected to reduce the burden on the Education & Welfare team and allow us to increase the level of support and personal development opportunities available to Academic Reps.
- All **VPE Student Forums** have now been held and minutes are progressively being circulated. The turnout to sessions were overall below expectations, but comments from Reps suggest that this is attributable to a message clash with Leadership Elections. We'll take this on board and make adjustments for next year's sessions.
- The **Leadership Development Workshop** evaluation results have come back, showing an 85% satisfaction rate amongst participants.
- Results from the **Student Experience Survey** showed that 98% of respondents were satisfied with the performance of their Academic Reps, though around half of students don't necessarily know who their Reps are (consistent with previous years). This is very useful feedback – proof of the great work that the Reps do, but also a continuing need for us to improve communications in this area.



Academic Affairs

- The College's Assessment Task & Finish group has **endorsed our recommendations on feedback timelines, feedback quality, and release of provisional grades**. This represents a major change in College policy; should the new regulations be ratified and implemented over 2017/18. Well done to everyone who has contributed to this great success.
 - Access to exam scripts and zero-tolerance is still being discussed, but I remain cautiously optimistic on our recommendations on these topics.
 - I will be supporting Jennie and Angela, Advice Services Manager, in producing the ASF Response component on **appeals & complaints regulations**. Progress on regulations in this area remain worryingly slow. We maintain that legitimate mitigating circumstances should be accepted after deadlines, and an appeals procedure tailored to PhD students must be in place.
- We are collaborating with the Graduate School to **launch a far-reaching review** that will reflect and improve on all facets of the PhD experience, and are currently identifying possible students to sit on the project workstreams.

Learning Environment

- There's been a lot of progress and constructive cooperation with us on making improvements to **Hammersmith Hospital and St Mary's Hospital campuses**, and as a result we will not be going forward with a campaign at the moment.
- Our engagement with Education Day, which explored how/whether **an Imperial education transforms its students**, went very well and has catapulted the workload intensity of Masters

Council
26 April 2016

students to the top of the agenda. I trust this will set good foundations for my successor, Luke McCrone, to tackle issues facing Masters students next year.

- I am coordinating our response to the student/education experience component of the White City campus consultation, while Lucinda will continue to lead the main consultation with the campus Masterplanners

Personal & Professional Development

- I am presenting about the educational benefits of getting involved in volunteering/innovation/enterprise to Heads of Departments on Tuesday April 26. This will be the first meeting between the Union and HoDs in such a setting, and we hope to build new partnerships and get more Departmental support for students to get involved.

Miscellaneous

- Initial results from the diversity strategy workstream were presented to the Board of Trustees. This work, which is at very early stages, will continued to be developed following input from the trustees.
- I have taken 10 days of annual leave over the Easter break.