

Postgraduate Representation in Constituent Unions

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Union Notes:

1. In the last few years, Postgraduate Students (PGs) have not been classified as Full Members or allowed to stand or vote in RCSU or CGCU elections. PGs are however members of their corresponding Departmental Societies (DepSocs) which these Constituent Unions (CUs) oversee.
2. Historically, PGs of FoE and FoNS have been members of the CGCU and RCSU.
3. The RCSU and CGCU often invite PGs to events, and PGs do attend events, however as they are no longer Full Members there are no official direct communication channels and no PGs on either committee.
4. At present, PGs in the Departments of Earth Science Engineering and Materials are granted Full Membership of the Royal School of Mines Union.
5. The membership composition of the CGCU and RCSU is mentioned in Parts A.21.1 and A21.4 of the Union Bye-Laws and these do not preclude PGs from becoming Full Members of either CU. It states:
 - a. "21.1 The City & Guilds College Union for the undergraduate students of the Faculty of Engineering, excluding students of the Earth Science Engineering and Materials Departments."
 - b. "21.4 The Royal College of Science Union for the undergraduate students of the Faculty of Natural Sciences"
6. The RCSU Constitution (Appendix A - attached separately) defines membership of the RCSU in section 4.2.1 as:
 - a. "4.2.1 All registered students of the Imperial College Faculty of Natural Sciences are automatically Full Members of the Union."
7. The CGCU Constitution (Appendix B - attached separately) defines membership of the CGCU in section 4.2.1 as:
 - a. "4.2.1 All full-time students of the Imperial College Faculty of Engineering are automatically Full Members of the Union"

Union Believes:

1. The exclusion of PGs from their Faculty CUs has no benefit to those students and only reduces the opportunities and range of events they receive and membership would only serve to augment their student experience.
2. PGs should be allowed to fully participate in the social and political activities of their Faculty CUs as well as the GSU. This will also result in better communication and co-ordination, as well as access to more resources for events.
3. The proposed change would give Taught Master's students greater opportunity to socialise with UG Master's students, whom they often share courses with.

4. The academic representation and welfare system should primarily remain within the GSU during its continued existence; the Faculty CUs would serve only to augment this.

Union Resolves:

1. To recognise PGs in the Faculty of Natural Sciences as Full Members of the RCSU.
2. To recognise PGs in the Faculty of Engineering except those in the Departments of Earth Science & Engineering and Materials as Full Members of the CGCU.