

## Imperial College Union Council Report

Alex Chippy Compton, President

### Goals

#### Governance & democracy review

- The first Governance Steering Group met and confirmed the vision, timeline and scope of the review which has already been circulated to Council. I have included this as appendix A in my report for reference.
- Each Officer Trustee is now leading a work stream and consultation questions should be finalised by the last week of term.
- The Officer Trustees will have met before Council to discuss their roles and work on potential changes. These will go to the Governance Steering Group on Monday 4 December and be discussed with the Union's Senior Managers on Tuesday 5 December. I will provide a verbal update to Council.
- Before the Christmas closure we will have a clear consultation plan and will be in the process of formalising Officer Trustee and Liberation Officer Roles for the 2018 Leadership Elections.

#### Support and development of our key volunteers

- The first CU forum provided a platform for our Constituent Unions to discuss common issues.
  - o Jarlath O'Hara and Malcolm Martin (Managing Director and Head of Finance & Resources respectively) provided an update on the Union's upcoming projects and the recent Student Experience & Services restructure.
  - o A discussion was had around the role of a CU and the support the Union can offer.
- These will be a monthly meeting from next term.

#### Wellbeing strategy

- We spent a session breaking down the relevant objectives in Our Strategy to synthesise a vision for the strategy which we are now sharing with College. We aim to have buy in from the College leadership and then draw up a brief for the strategy.
- We have identified several risks to the success of a strategy, including that the project will span two teams of Officer Trustees. We hope that by identifying the risks early on, we can mitigate against them.
- We have had input into the Student Recruitment and Outreach Strategy that College is working on. While this isn't specifically part of the Wellbeing Strategy we are aiming for, it feeds into a lot of the work we are doing around liberation.

### Operations

Operational tasks of note I have completed recently are as follows:

#### Board of Trustee Subcommittees

- Appointments & Remuneration Committee met on 14 November and discussed the appointment of a new external trustee and student trustee.
- Governance Committee met on 22 November and discussed the Leadership Elections, the Governance Review and lapsed Board policies. Governance Committee are now taking the lead on ensuring Board policies are reviewed regularly.

### College Finance Committee

- I represented students in regards to the new halls in Acton at both College Finance Committee and College Council.
- The site was purchased last year with the aim of building another set of undergraduate accommodation in line with the College's expansion. This will ensure that the College can still offer accommodation to first year undergraduates (currently all firm offer holders are guaranteed halls).
- The Union reviewed the College's rent pricing before the opening of Woodward Hall and will do the same for the new Acton halls (although this will not be this academic year).

As always, I am available in person and via email for any questions you may have on my report or the Union's work.

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## Appendix A: Governance Review 2017/18

Imperial College Union works to make the student experience at Imperial the best in the United Kingdom. We aim to have the strongest democracy of any Students' Union, in which every student is empowered to shape the world around them.

Democracy is one of our fundamental values. Reviewing our governing documents gives us the opportunity to strengthen our democratic structures. We will extend the reach, engagement and effectiveness of our democracy. This will strengthen our Union and lay the foundations for the best student experience in the UK.

### Scope

In this review, we will focus on 7 areas, in two stages. The first stage of the review will look at the Officer Trustee and Liberation Officer roles. The second stage will focus on Postgraduate and Business School representation, our disciplinary process, Union Council reform and elections. We will identify good practice at other institutions and consult with our membership to shape and develop a strong set of governing documents.

Across these areas, we will be reviewing the role of technology, how we measure success and the equality, diversity and inclusion of all our members.

### Timeline

Action	Deadline
Publish scope, aims and timeline of review (A4 page summary)	17 <sup>th</sup> November 2017
Develop and agree consultation strategy (and survey details)	30 <sup>th</sup> November 2017
Consult stakeholders (phase 1- OT and LO role reviews)	14 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Submit preliminary recommendations and OT changes for Leadership Elections 2018	19 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
Discuss recommendations and Constitution & Bye-Laws at Board of Trustees	1 <sup>st</sup> February 2018
Consult stakeholders (phase 2- Constitution & Bye-Laws review)	5 <sup>th</sup> March 2018
Finalise recommendations and Constitution & Bye-Laws at Governance Committee	13 <sup>th</sup> March 2018
Submit recommendations and Constitution & Bye-Laws to Union Council	20 <sup>th</sup> March 2018
Submit Constitution & Bye-Laws to Board of Trustees (Away Day)	4 <sup>th</sup> April 2018
Submit Constitution & Bye-Laws to College Council	18 <sup>th</sup> May 2018