



ROYAL COLLEGE OF
SCIENCE UNION

ANNUAL REPORT
2017-2018

RCSU General Committee

Michael Edwards
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Vice President (Activities)

Becky Neil
Vice President (Operations)

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Michael McGill
Honorary Junior Treasurer and
Mathematics ARN Departmental
Representative

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Rohan Kamath
RAG Champion

Matthew Stone
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Sherwin Sabeghi
Welfare Officer

Ansh Bhatnagar
Science Challenge Chair

Pranavi Agarwal
Broadsheet Editor

Ivan Tang
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Representative

Natasha Boyd
Biology WBRN Departmental
Representative

Felix Thompson
Chemistry WBRN Departmental
Representative

Chenyu Lin
Mathematics WBRN Departmental
Representative

Royal College of Science Union Final Report to Council Tuesday 19th June 2018



Prepared by Michael Edwards on behalf of the
RCSU General Committee

President's Report - Michael Edwards

This third and final report of the year brings the General Committee's leadership of the Union - and my tenure as President - to a close. This year has seen a broad range of successes - from a 20 % increase in entries to our Science Challenge and an expanded Revel to include another department to discussions with academic and pastoral staff across the Faculty to develop effective working practices for the communication and incorporation of student voice in decision making processes.

My proudest work has been supporting the work of the volunteers of my Union, and the words of Isaac Newton succinctly sum up my sentiments regarding my committee and the volunteer community of the Union - *"If I have seen further, it is by standing on the shoulders of giants"*. The work of the 115 volunteers within the Faculty of Natural Sciences driving positive change and delivering an excellent student experience has been exemplary, and everyone should be proud of their achievements this year. The hard work of the General Committee across the portfolio has enabled me to dedicate time and effort on high-level long term projects such as the development of the inaugural RCSU Strategy and productive engagement with the democratic structures of the Union throughout the year, for which I am thankful.

I would like to thank the Officer Trustee team for their hard work throughout this year - your efforts to increase the involvement of volunteers in your high-level work have been highly appreciated. The new approach - typified by the new CU Forum and a grassroots approach to communicating with students - has been incredibly effective but much more is required to maximise the engagement, motivation and 'buy-in' of volunteers and boost our effectiveness as a wider Imperial College Union.

I would like to wish the President-elect of the Union, Mr Michael McGill, the best of luck in his promotion to the highest student office in the Faculty. My final weeks in the role will be spent tying up and concluding any ongoing projects for handover, and supporting the development of a tactical plan for the coming year in collaboration with the incoming Executive and General Committee.

Finally - a wise person implied at the start of the year that our role as a Union was archaic, was not real and had limited impact on the student experience. I hope, through this report, I have proven them wrong - through the combined and concerted efforts of the Officers, Representatives and volunteers of a modern, real and impactful Royal College of Science Union - and set our Union in greater stead to tackle the challenges our members face moving forward beyond my term.

General Committee

The General Committee of the Union has been an excellent forum for the discussion of issues facing the student body, the College and the Union throughout the year. The exceptional engagement of a wider number of officers and representatives than previous years has brought a wide range of issues to the fore.

For example, the heavy workload of some Operations roles has stimulated discussion regarding an expansion of casual and appointed volunteer positions within the Union to alleviate stress and develop a greater engagement with the core operations of the Union. Steps have already been taken to develop casual roles for the Science Challenge and the Broadsheet, and formal policy regarding the handling and nature of these roles is being drafted for introduction next year.

The introduction of remuneration for the GSU Presidency meant that the RCSU has become the largest Constituent Union to receive no formal remuneration for its President or Executive Officers. General Committee discussion resulted in a stance towards expanding the budget of the Union before seeking formal remuneration from the Faculty, citing concerns regarding the President's representational role and a compromised relationship between our Union and the Faculty. The General Committee of the Union were also instrumental in outlining our stance towards the UCU pensions dispute, ensuring students were well-informed of the options available to them and that their representatives were working for them to mitigate the disruption.



Following from our January report - an Election Session and Volunteer Social was held on the 1st February to coincide with the start of the Leadership Elections. Although the Election Session was poorly attended, the Social saw more people turn up and learn of the opportunities in the elections. We were unable to run a hustings and were not informed we were expected to until the week of campaigning, during which time the RCSU had made other plans and was drawing multiple significant projects to a close at the time. Despite this, the RCSU field remained similar in comparison to last year's election cycle - with the key difference that three strong candidates ran for RCSU President, driving engagement in the elections and provoking strong and constructive debate on the future of the Union. Although this zeal for elections didn't carry across into the summer, the RCSU has been put on a solid footing to further develop its democratic engagement of its membership - a core part of the inaugural RCSU Strategy (*see later*)

Little progress has been made towards Union communication of wider democratic goings-on, beyond brief updates in the Presidential bullet-in - which have shown to spark the interest of the wider student membership. The work put in by our member and ICU Student Trustee Mr Thomas Waite in communicating and expanding student participation in his work on social mobility and widening participation was exceptional and worthy of note here.

For their role in holding the Executive to account and driving positive change within the RCSU and across the Faculty, thanks are due to the General Committee of the



Union.

Executive Committee

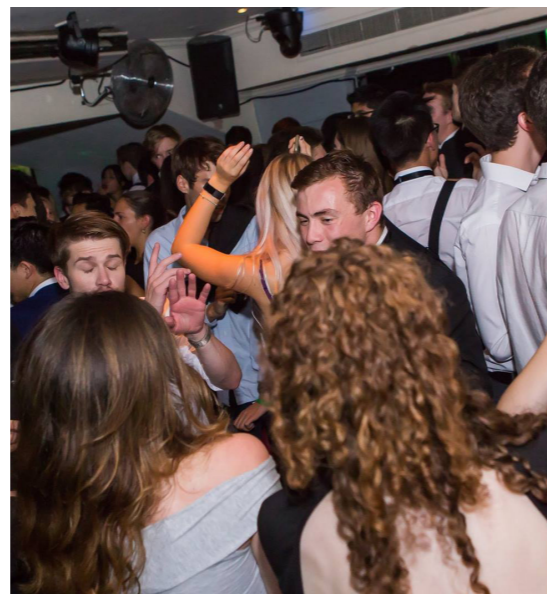
The Union Executive – comprising of the President, Vice Presidents, Honorary Junior Treasurer and Honorary Secretary – have been exceptionally active this year in the running of our operations within the Faculty of Natural Sciences. Each have stepped up and contributed extensively – from the eleventh annual Science Challenge to the Governance Review which culminated in the expansion of the Executive to include the Academic and Wellbeing Faculty Representatives as Vice Presidents (Education) and (Welfare and Wellbeing), and the introduction of several new positions and boards to ensure the smooth and effective running of the organisation moving forward.

The Executive have been the only formally included volunteers within the Union in the ICU Governance Review and were consulted on the role and development of Constituent Unions in February 2018.

Furthermore, the development of the RCSU Strategy has come to a conclusion, and it is intended to have a brief presentation of the Strategy at the meeting. ICU and Faculty staff have been involved in the development of the document since the last update, and the final version is being presented to FoNS Heads of Department and relevant staff members as well as our Dean, Prof. Tom Welton, and the central Faculty staff.

Pending final payments and donations owed to the Union, the end-of-year finances of the Union are healthy with a handover of £9,000 at the very least. The President-elect and Treasurer-elect have drafted a budget in co-operation with the incoming Executive that will be presented to the Dean of the Faculty to secure financial support for Union operations in the coming year. The initial meeting with Tom Welton and the FoNS staff team will be happening on the afternoon of the Council meeting and a verbal update will be provided by the President-elect.

Thanks are due to the Executive Officers of the Union for their outstanding service throughout the year, and I wish the incoming Executive the best of luck in carrying forward and building on our achievements.



Entertainments Board

The 2017-18 Academic Session has seen multiple strong events from our Entertainments Board – from our Freshers' Week provision to the third annual Revel, we've managed to bring together a broad cross-section of the community in a range of both traditional and inclusive events.

The Revel was held on Thursday 1st March at Aqua Nueva, just off Oxford Circus. The event was positively received but challenges have been identified with the event which required follow-up with the Deputy President (Finance & Services). Concerns regarding decisions made on the night of the Revel have been acknowledged and followed up with representatives of ICU, DoCSoc and EESoc, and will lead to significant changes to the future running of the event.

Our final social event for the year will be the Colours Bar Night on Tuesday 26th June, at which RCSU Colour awardees and the wider RCSU volunteer community will come together to celebrate their achievements over the past year. All are welcome to attend - drop me an email if you'd like

This year has seen significant steps taken towards effective inter-Faculty and inter-CU social events such as the Quad Union series in the Autumn Term. Future iterations of these events are planned, and are advised to be held on nights on which students are expecting to pay, such as a CSP Wednesday. Efforts to run a joint Summer Ball with the CGCU at the end of this term resulted in cancellation due to the clashing study

commitments of the organising group. We still intend to hold the second annual Sparkes Cup on Saturday 23rd June at Wasps FC, and have secured alumni association support for this. All are welcome to attend.

Sadly we were unable to run an inter-CU event for the ICU RAG Week due to multiple rescheduling of the week and a lack of sustainable interest from the other CUs - due to the intense work put into their respective committee elections, with multiple hustings from the other CUs, we appreciate this may have been a bridge too far. We would however advise this is looked into in future years to re-engage CUs with the valuable charitable work carried out by RAG. Our Ents Board have nonetheless been closely aligned with ICU RAG, with an effective and hard-working liaison in our RAG Champion, Mr Rohan Kamath, who has helped redefine our relationship with the organisation.

Working towards a range of engaging and exciting events form a large part of the inaugural RCSU Strategy, and we look forward to the future development of new events to meet the needs of our community. Supporting events with an explicit student wellbeing dimension was a key recommendation of the Governance Review.

Thanks are due to the Entertainments Board for their hard work in providing excellent social experiences for the student body of the Faculty.

Operations Board

Broadsheet

At time of writing, the third and final Broadsheet of



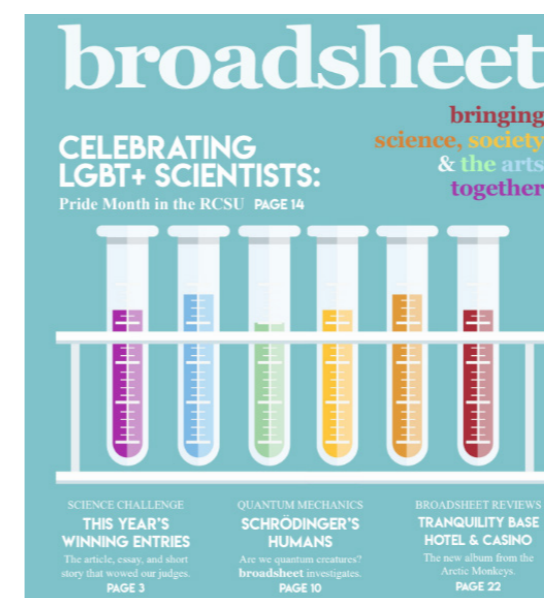
the year is being developed for distribution in the final weeks of term. Whilst we have moved away from our initial process of theming issues, the publication still responds to current affairs of the day, and our feature article will be celebrating LGBT scientists at and beyond Imperial and the historic contributions made by the community to STEM.

Developments to the Broadsheet this year have led to a significantly improved, inclusive and engaging operation, including a stronger community of writers and contributors from beyond the committee and periphery with socials and group meetings to set the overall agenda of each Broadsheet issue. Unfortunately the role of Editor has remained unfilled following two major election cycles, and as a result we will be appointing a provisional successor from the Broadsheet community in accordance with our Governing Documents

Thanks are due to the Broadsheet team, all the writers and contributors, and especially to our Broadsheet Editor, Ms Pranavi Agarwal.

Science Challenge XI

The Science Challenge this year focussed on the theme of 'One Small Step, One Giant Leap' – beyond the immediate historic nature of the words, many entrants recognised the creeping effect of small scientific innovations on the wider progression of society, and the 'double-edged sword' of scientific progress. The competition received a 20 % increase of entries compared to last year, receiving entries from 140 Imperial and secondary school students, which



exceeded ambitious targets for improvement. The Final event and prize-giving brought together a range of alumni, Faculty and student leaders to celebrate the importance of science communication on Tuesday 6th March at the House of Lords. Unfortunately Dr Somara and Lord Oxburgh were unable to join us on the evening, which led to our President and Vice President standing in to deliver the prizes for their sections. The event has been widely praised by the Faculty and attending dignitaries.

Unfortunately no Science Challenge Chair was elected in either the Spring or Summer Election cycles, and so next year's officer will be appointed according to the provisions of the RCSU Governing Documents.

Thanks to all who joined us on the night for the culmination of 8 months of work by the Science Challenge Committee, and especially to our perennial Science Challenge Ambassador, the Lord Winston. Work on the 12th Science Challenge will begin pending the appointment and subsequent election of a Science Challenge Chair for the coming year. Thanks are due to the Science Challenge Committee for the contribution to this year's competition, and especially our Science Challenge Chair, Mr Ansh Bhatnagar, for his leadership and management of the project.

Web Communication

This year has seen a redesign of the RCSU main website to make our activities and decision-making processes more accessible to a wider range of the student body. As a result of changes, meeting minutes are now directly accessible from the homepage and are uploaded on a

monthly basis to ensure regular release of information and increased transparency. The websites for all the main operations of the Union – where they exist – have also been updated and renewed for the foreseeable future.

Thanks are due to the Web Communications Officer, Mr Pui (Ivan) Tang. Although Ivan will be continuing in his role next year, we intend to capture the experiences of this year to ensure we learn as much from his experiences this year and maximise effectiveness moving forward.

BAHFest

The third annual BAHFest was held on Saturday 17th March in the Imperial College Great Hall. The event sold out earlier in advance than previous events and raised significant revenue for the Union. We were able to make use of the h-bar venue for pre- and post-show drinks and the book signing for the judges, which was haphazardly organised (*MEd. - Sorry Lloyd!*). The event raised £900 net for the venue and we have been approached about using the space again - with the exclusion of the book sale, which will likely be re-relegated to the Sheffield Foyer. The book sale lacked a PDQ machine for sales, which took in over £1000 in cash and presented a risk - the development of a policy governing the handling of PDQ terminals is overdue and would be welcome as soon as possible.

The host of the event was the noted comedian and mathematician Dr Matt Parker, with a keynote delivered by cartoonist Boulet. Shortlisted submissions adequately represented the Imperial student and community, with submissions from Mr Pietro Salvi and Mr Louie Terrill, both current RCSU students. RCSU committee and students were also in strong attendance as volunteers on the night to ensure the smooth running of the event, for which we are immensely grateful.

Thanks to all those who joined us on the night - a significant proportion of the Officer Trustees were in attendance on the night and we are happy that you have been able to participate in the fruits of our most successful modern project. BAHFest has been nominated for ICU's Event of the Year and by the time of the meeting we will know whether the work put into the event has been fully recognised. Finally, our gratitude to our resident BAHFest Co-ordinator and President-

emeritus, Mr Lloyd James, for both the immense workload he shouldered on leading this project and the innovative mindset required to institute and develop this event to the level of success it enjoys today.

Alumni Affairs

We've been able to retain strong links with the Royal College of Science Association and secure support for our operations this year. As part of their 110th or 'Eleventieth' anniversary we heavily pushed attendance at their Annual Dinner and have been advertising their free student and recent graduate membership all year. We hope this will significantly increase uptake of membership for this historic organisation in the graduating classes, and have plans to do an advertising drive during the latter half of this month.

We were also able to engage with and meaningfully involve alumni with our core operations – Dr Felicia Yap, an Imperial Biochemistry alumna, was a Science Challenge Judge in the Creative Writing section. Furthermore, a relationship has been started between the RCSU and the Lord Fox, a former RCSU and ICU President, which we hope will prove to be productive in the coming years.

We were able to develop ties to the FoNS arm of the Imperial Advancement Division, and have been fortunate to involve them in discussions regarding the future of alumni engagement in the work of Departmental Societies. The introduction of the new Alumni and Sponsorship Officer will serve to deepen ties between the different stakeholders in the interface between the



current student experience and members of our alumni community.

Sponsorship

Through collaboration with Applied Predictive Technologies and FTI Consulting, we have brought career advice and recruitment sessions to Imperial students from businesses that target Imperial graduates. The funds raised from these collaborations have been valuable for the expansion of operations this year.

The sponsorship drive for the incoming committee has already begun and the materials sent to companies have been revamped and simplified for a more effective effort than this year's team managed. The co-ordination of three volunteers behind this task should maximise the potential to increase student exposure to recruitment opportunities.

We wish Ms Ruihua (Roxanne) Zhang the best of luck in her role as the inaugural holder of the Alumni and Sponsorship Officer position.

Academic Affairs Board

Since the last report there have been a number of significant developments in the Academic arm of the Union, and senior student representatives in the Union have remained among the most vocal and active volunteers in Union fora. More specific details from the RCSU can be found in ERB minutes.

At the start of the year a report was submitted to the ERB outlining our plans for the coming year,



including pushing for greater eActivities integration for Representation volunteers and more student involvement in the ongoing Curriculum Reviews. The RCSU 'Rep-ository' idea has been raised to the Education and Welfare Team, and we are waiting for a new staff member to be hired before continuing discussion to simplify discussions. Inclusion in Curriculum Reviews has been on the agenda of all SSCs at Faculty and Departmental levels to ensure it doesn't slip through the cracks. Finally, the efforts towards formalising student activities support from the departments developed into a wider project regarding the resources available to representatives, which is being written up as a formal policy document for circulation to departments.

This term saw the rollout of a new Faculty-wide student survey, aiming to probe the attainment gap between SOLE and NSS results for the departments of the Faculty. Preliminary results have been analysed, and conclusions are still being drawn regarding future development of the SOLE platform to improve its utility as a meaningful indicator of student satisfaction.

RCSU Officers and Representatives were key in the development of a formal stance on the UCU Pensions dispute, which brought together representatives from all the Constituent Unions in solidarity with the striking staff. RCSU Officers and students stood on the picket line through rain and snow with the striking staff, and organised engaging events including a memorial teach-out for the late Professor Stephen Hawking with Prof. Fay Dowker, whose political leanings were strongly aligned with the ethos of the strike.

As part of our continuing efforts to improve representative engagement and identification with the Union, a number of socials have been held throughout the year, as either standalone events or part of wider sessions or social events for volunteers. These have proven fairly successful in bringing teams together across departments and to ensure networking and transfer of ideas is not limited to Faculty-level meetings. This is an innovation this year we would strongly recommend keeping.

RCSU representatives, along with their counterparts in the other Faculties, have been closely involved in discussions regarding a number of critical discussions, such as the implementation of Co-Curricular Module Provision ('compulsory Horizons') changes to the



Academic Regulations, and the debate regarding the weighting of first year across the Faculties of Engineering and Natural Sciences. Thanks are due to the Deputy President (Education), Mr Nick Burstow, for facilitating wider participation in such critical issues - his approach towards the inclusion of the Union's volunteers is, as always, applauded.

Wellbeing Affairs Board

Work on the welfare representation of FoNS undergraduates has been ongoing since the last Council meeting, with developments in key areas. Updates from the Wellbeing Representatives can be seen in CWB minutes.

At the start of the year a report was submitted to the CWB outlining our plans for the coming year, including increasing support for Departmental Societies for their work.

At the time of the meeting, the final Wellbeing SSC for the Faculty will have taken place, and the Welfare Officer will be able to provide a verbal update. Topics for discussion include improvements to personal tutoring - which has a proposal coming from the Faculty Senior Tutor - and the new RCSU Strategy, which will be discussed at length with the aim at developing wider staff 'buy-in' to its principles. The Faculty SSC in parity with its Academic counterpart has been an excellent forum for discussion of wellbeing concerns and we look forward to developing it further to be a body through which positive change can be discussed and enacted

by staff and students in partnership.

Scientists of Imperial was launched to moderate success but has suffered challenges with retaining interest and, more critically, testimonials from the student body. Work on the project will continue over the summer and into next year, with an aim to rekindle interest. Publicity and presence on campus are particular areas to consider for future success.

Departmental efforts to improve the visibility of reps and their achievements have been excellent, and throughout this busy period our departmental teams have been running drop-ins. PhySoc, as the stand-in for the Physics WBRN Team, were able to run a successful Welfare Week at the start of the common exam period for all cohorts. The campaign was run through a range of casual events, including yoga, tea and biscuit drop-ins and a pizza party.

For his part in developing the Wellbeing Representation during its challenging implementation period, thanks are due to the Deputy President (Welfare), Mr Fintan O'Connor - as well as the wider membership of the CWB for this innovating and inspiring 'Year of Welfare'. Student wellbeing has been raised permanently as a standing issue for student and staff representatives to engage with

Clubs and Activities Committee – The RCSU Management Group

The RCSU Club network – the five FoNS departmental societies, Synthetic Biology, and our incubator clubs – are currently operating well, with adequate support from



the Management Group Officers, informally known as 'the Michaels'.

Issues have been raised to the Clubs, Societies and Projects Board, ranging from sponsorship administration to the implementation of the Mums and Dads programme (CSPB, November 2017). We will be following up on our work of the last term regarding these items to ensure these issues are addressed.

Annual Budgeting saw a decrease in the Grant allocation to RCSU Clubs and RCSU Exec. The shortfall will largely be taken up by increased external sponsorship drives and increased departmental contributions, which will be made easier by our work to formalise departmental support for student activities.

Clubs have made changes to several club constitutions in time for the Summer term by-election. There are multiple positions vacant following the by-election and club chairs are being compelled to appoint provisional officers pending election as per the provisions of their Constitutions and the RCSU Governing Documents.

The student-led activities of RCSU clubs feature heavily in the RCSU Strategy, which is being delivered as a separate item to this meeting.

RCSU Colours and Awards

The RCSU Colours Committee met on Tuesday 22nd May and deliberated the nominations received. We received an increased number of nominations this year, but concerns were raised at the support given to members to submit effective and successful nominations.

35 nominations were received, and the following 17 volunteers were granted RCSU Colours for their services to the Union and its students:

Half Colours

<i>Alma Fredriksson</i>	<i>Alexander Crew</i>
<i>Diana Piermarini</i>	<i>Felix Thompson</i>
<i>Flora Chamberlain</i>	<i>Ivan Tang</i>
<i>Michaela Flegrova</i>	<i>Oscar Scrivens</i>
<i>Pranavi Agarwal</i>	

Full Colours

<i>Calum Patel</i>	<i>Charlie Keyzor</i>
<i>Chenyu Lin</i>	<i>Hunain Nadeem</i>
<i>Mira Davidson</i>	<i>Natasha Boyd</i>
<i>Peter Hull</i>	<i>William Micou</i>

Following deliberations of the Annual Reports of the Clubs of the Union, the panel shortlisted the following clubs for RCSU Club of the Year;

RCSU Chemistry, RCSU Biochemistry, and RCSU Synthetic Biology

The RCSU Club of the Year Award was granted to **RCSU Biochemistry**.

The RCSU President's Awards were equally distributed across the four Departments of FoNS and the multiple

operations of the volunteer community to recognise the diversity of volunteering excellence within the Faculty. The final Award was set aside for an outstanding member of the RCSU General Committee to acknowledge the challenges and hard work required at the level of Imperial's Constituent Unions. The 2018 RCSU President's Awards were granted to:

Ms Chenyu Lin, for her service as the first Mathematics Wellbeing Departmental Representative, during which time she organised many events beyond her remit, liaised with staff regarding a wide range of student-friendly changes to the department, and setting a strong example to the rest of the RCSU Wellbeing Representation Network.

Mr Hunain Nadeem, for excellence across multiple areas – offering dedicated leadership as Vice President of RCSU Physics, representing the interests of his cohort at Departmental and Faculty level meetings as a Year Representative, and providing pastoral support as a hall senior at Wilson House.

Ms Mira Davidson, for her excellent leadership of RCSU Biochemistry, through which she has built bridges spanning departments and Faculties with a clear aim to develop a more open and friendly student community. From entrepreneurial seminars to the Coding 101 initiative with DoCSoc, Mira's innovative style of meeting the needs of her constituents has been truly unique.

Mr William Micou, for outstanding leadership of RCSU Chemistry, demonstrating a keen eye for the strategic development of the club and a zeal for improving the student experience, with a clear focus on next year's move to the White City campus and the future 'split-site' paradigm.

Ms Becky Neil, for her role as the 'fixer' of the RCSU Executive and the General Committee as Vice President (Operations). Key RCSU events such as the Science Challenge Launch and Final, along with the innovative work surrounding the RCSU Governance Review and Strategy development, would not have been possible without her tireless efforts to maintain organisational coherence.

RCSU General Committee, 2018-19

Michael McGill
President

Rohan Kamath
Vice President (Activities)

Yizhou Yu
Vice President (Operations)

Michaela Flegrova
Vice President (Education)

Shervin Sabeghi
Vice President (Welfare & Wellbeing)

Kaifeng Wei
Honorary Secretary

Sulaimaan Mughal
Honorary Junior Treasurer

Kushaal Desai
Events Officer

Sheng Chia
Publicity Officer

Christopher Smith
Sports Officer

Ivan Tang
Web Communication Officer

Ruihua Zhang
Alumni and Sponsorship Officer

Isabel Esain Garcia
Biochemistry ARN Departmental Representative

Catalina Costenco
Biochemistry WBRN Departmental Representative

Albert Muljono
Biology ARN Departmental Representative

Lorenz Hoffman
Chemistry ARN Departmental Representative

Felix Thompson
Chemistry WBRN Departmental Representative

Timothy Marley
Physics ARN Departmental Representative

Immanuel Adewumi
Physics WBRN Departmental Representative

Ankush Rajput
Mathematics ARN Departmental Representative

President-elect's Remarks - Michael McGill

Due to the size and scale of influence the RCSU can have, it is important to guarantee that the high level of service is maintained in the 2018-19 academic year. This means I plan to start work before my official appointment to the role on the 1st August. My initial intentions and ideas are presented below, and I welcome anyone who wishes to help with any of the work in any way.

With the Treasurer-elect and newly appointed Sponsorship and Alumni officer, work is very much underway with regards to securing sponsorship for the upcoming year. The general idea being that we wish to create more of a partnership that can be carried through year on year with the Union, meaning students can be given more opportunity to succeed thanks to the RCSU.

With the help of the entire General Committee, plans will be set in motion for the beginning of the year, with the main focus being on introducing the Union to incoming Freshers. The first step in this will be the Freshers' Handbook, which aims to ease the transition into life at Imperial. It is also an opportunity for the Departmental Representatives to introduce themselves, and for the wider committee to be more visible to the new cohort. The Operations team, led by our Vice-President (Operations) will start preliminary work on our main services: Broadsheet and the Science Challenge, by beginning promotion of the operations, and recruiting members of the Union to assist in running these opportunities. The Entertainments team, led by our Vice-President (Activities) will also begin organising the many events we hold during Freshers' Fortnight – such as: the Autumn Ball, the Tea Party and the Mums and Dads' pub crawl. Involvement in the first few weeks of their university experience will encourage new students to engage more with the RCSU. This will also mean running an effective Freshers' Fair Stall, ideally with some RCSU stash to get people to the stall.

The Departmental Representatives, led by our Vice President (Education) and Vice President (Welfare & Wellbeing) will be working closely with their respective departments to both introduce themselves to the new cohort more informally, and to try to prompt them to run for volunteer positions within the union. The societies which fall under the wider umbrella of the RCSU's management group, will also be working hard to prepare their individual campaigns to welcome and excite new students to ensure they get involved.

The main aim for the union can be summed up in three simple words; Represent, Engage, Excite. Personally, I feel my focus as President will be on publicising the union as an organisation that can provide a large number of benefits to students; socially, academically and in a welfare capacity. It is my hope that in future years this will lead to a much stronger, cohesive student community between scientists that students graduating will remember fondly.





ROYAL COLLEGE OF SCIENCE UNION

RCSU

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