

## Board of Trustees Council Chair Report

### Changes to Council

This year, changes have been made to the running of Council to improve its efficiency and increase engagement. Below is an update on the further changes we have made since the last Board meeting.

- **Training:** we have offered extra training sessions to Council members on effective representation. Unfortunately the uptake for this has not been as good as hoped. This is something we may look to introduce to the training run at the beginning of the year to improve engagement.
- **Recording:** we are currently trialling audio recording of meetings. This still needs some work and is something that should be considered in the budgeting rounds- the ideal set up would require some investment in equipment. This is something I have raised to the relevant staff members who will take it forward when annual budgeting starts. We are now looking at video streaming in order to allow students not based in London to engage. This is an important project in line with our strategic goal of being for all students as currently Council is not fully inclusive for all students at Imperial.
- **Communication:** Council continues to feature on the Union's social media channels and in the newsletter. This is already an improvement on last year and we're working to make this promotion more regular and less time intensive.
- **Feedback:** we will be seeking feedback after the last Council meeting of the term (Tuesday 11 December). This is to shape any changes for Council in the 19/20 academic year. We will also be looking to identify 'quick wins' we can introduce for next term.

### Council Discussions

There have been several papers coming through Council with varying financial implications for the Union. I have clarified (and will do so again at the 11 December meeting) that Council cannot make any decisions that affect resourcing. I have flagged that this needs to be better communicated as part of the start-of-year training as this is something I did not give enough weight to this year.

We are working on ensuring that there is a method by which papers passed at Council are passed to the relevant staff members so our staff are aware of any policies that may affect their work.

A full list of the papers are uploaded online [here](#).

If you have any questions on Council outside of Board meetings, please contact me on [chair@ic.ac.uk](mailto:chair@ic.ac.uk).