



Imperial College Union Board of Trustees

20/02/2019

AGENDA ITEM NO.	
TITLE	Union President Report to the Board of Trustees
AUTHOR	Rob Tomkies
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	Report summarising my activities in the 2 months since last Board including
PURPOSE	To inform and entertain
DECISION/ACTION REQUIRED	NA

Union President Report to the Board of Trustees

Rob Tomkies, President

Introduction

I promise this will be the last time I say it this year but Happy New Year to anyone I haven't seen before. January into February seems to be a governance heavy time of year with the combined factors that always lead into elections so apologies if the content of this report is Governance heavy. Several pieces of work I shall mention here and rather than going in to depth attach as papers to note.

Report on Progress

Club, Society, Projects (CSPs) and Constituent Union (CU) Support

- Links between the College alumni service and Union staff have been started to have been set up so we can strengthen these ties. Emelie and Kerrian have both been introduced and discussions held in the relevant areas. We are starting the process of taking a more holistic approach to our Alumni offering with particular interest on how we can stop duplicating effort and using alumni donations to diversify our income (pier to pier mentoring, careers events, alumni cards etc).
- We have agreed a pilot group of clubs will be put on Plexus to trial the functionality and create a framework and timetable to provide other clubs access should the trial go well. This hopefully will enable alumni to be able to donate directly to CSPs – further diversifying income.

Governance – Process Development

This is a relatively dense section which relates to other papers attached separately.

- **GSU Reform** - This will be presented in a separate paper. Highlights include a complete governance restructure and a separate funding pot being set up to allow them to apply for activity funding given their repeated lack of success during budgeting. They also have contacts and workstreams for events and communications as well.
- **OT Role Review** – Holistic approach to role review was taken – looking at both College and the Union Structures. This resulted in minor changes in DPFS and DPCS role descriptions. A name change was proposed for DPCS however Council showed concern over confusing students. The paper for council on this has also been attached for information.
- **Policy Review** – Exec Policies were analysed and proposed locations identified for ownership. This was brought to governance committee agreed and so the ownership locations will be informed in the coming days. Leadership as the location for staff policies and operational procedures was also accepted. Student staff have just completed going through Councils policies. I am now constructing a framework for reviewal and renewal of Exec and Council policies going forward.
- **Elections** – I have been heavily involved in the design of the election process including the implementation of recommendations made last year through Council and the review process. These improvements were taken and improved on at Governance. Changes made were then communicated back to Council in a “You said – We did” approach.
- **Disciplinary Review** – In the quiet period before Christmas real head way was made in the disciplinary review including areas of focus and the identification of areas that will likely need a separate policy (sexual misconduct etc.) The more research done on this the larger

the scope of the review seems to become. This was paused in mid-January to tackle the time sensitive issues around GSU, OT Roles and elections.

Support for the Deputy Presidents

- Worked with Becky and secured £250k funding for 2015 bursary cohort. Big win this – the money won't be directly available to spend on mozzarella sticks rather will have directions around it e.g. medics will be able to put it towards an overseas elective
- All the OT's have been working alongside James to finalise the details of the higher-level Sports Hub work
- The first programs from the curriculum review have started coming through college's programmes committee – these have been through many layers of critique before this however Alejandro and I are now having the final word on things and putting recommendations through
- Worked closely with Deputies shaping papers for various different locations. This includes the preliminary stages of the Bursary Response with Becky – we will take our findings to CWB before constructing a full document to challenge College.
- Working with the entire team to help tackle leadership and decision making within the Union.

Operational Highlights

- Work has started on the OT handover/transition specifically around induction into Board.
- A couple of College Disciplinaries have gone through.
- Union awards working group has been set up to start looking at implementing the recommendations from last year's review.

Closing Comments

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

union.president@ic.ac.uk | [@icu_president](https://twitter.com/icu_president) | 020 7594 8060 | IC ext: 58061