

Community & Welfare Board Agenda

The third Ordinary Meeting of the Community & Welfare Board for the 2018-19 Session will be held on Tuesday 29 January.

Location: Meeting Room 3, Beit Quad

Deputy President (Welfare)	Becky Neil
ICSMSU Welfare Chair	Aisha Chaudry
RCSU Vice President (Wellbeing & Welfare)	Shervin Sabeghi
RSMU Student Welfare Officer	Chloe Lewis
Disabilities Officer	Sam Haselgrove
Ethics & Environment Officer	Charlotte Griaud
International Students Officer	Laura Chen
Mental Health Officer	Tasneem Mahmud
Apologies	
Chemical Engineering Department Wellbeing Rep	Omar Abdulla
Black & Minority Ethnic Officer	David Tyoember

Formal Business

1. Chairs business
 - a. Deputy President Welfare (DPW) apologies for no biscuits and explains that there is no one to minute the meeting so the reports section will be recorded and the second half will involve flipchart discussions.
2. Minutes of last meeting
 - a. The board pass the minutes from the previous meeting.
3. Matters arising
 - a. Forward these to the next meeting – as they weren't checked.

Matters for Report

4. Updates from Deputy President (Welfare) (**verbal**)
 - a. DPW recaps their Union Council report:
 - i. Explained that some projects are waiting on College e.g. Student Support Strategy and Wellbeing Map
 - ii. Work is going ahead on other projects.

5. Updates from Constituent Union Welfare Officers (**verbal**)

a. ICSMSU Welfare Chair

- i. ICSM blooms campaign was a take on healthy habits, started on 7th Jan and ran for 21 days. The campaign got people to pledge for 21 days and share on social media. A student who completed their pledge the most will get a fit bit.
- ii. ICSMSU Welfare Vice Chair Wellbeing Representatives - Jack got 2 microwaves in SAF and water dispenser replaced in Charing Cross through the SSLGs.

b. RSMU Student Welfare Officer

- i. RSM Constitution changed so there will be a Vice Chair Welfare and a Welfare Events Officer.
- ii. Been helping in ESE and people are stressed about fieldtrip funding. Will go to the department with numbers of people struggling to see if they will listen.
- iii. Students in ESE without maths, physics and chemistry have a high dropout rate. Compiled information from the students, to take to DUGs and Senior Tutor next week looking at getting students more support or different entry requirements.
- iv. Materials had a successful Christmas party and are doing a Chinese New Year party this week.
- v. Had planned to run an inclusivity event, to incorporate more cultures but this may not happen as MatSoc have done a few of the ideas already.

c. RCSU Vice President (Wellbeing & Welfare)

- i. Together with RCSU Vice President (Education) reignited the Life Sciences common room issue, so they could be getting a common room either in September or the year after.
- ii. Personal tutor training is ongoing. Went to the training to see what it was and the feedback from the students survey had fed into the training.
- iii. Will be pushing for a second welfare officer in the RCSU as RSM changed to have one at the previous council.
- iv. Will be getting smoothie bikes in and potentially look at restarting Scientists of Imperial during the rest of the year.

6. Updates from Liberation & Community Officers (**verbal**)

a. Disabilities Officer

- i. Send out a survey to the mailing list before the next Disability Action Committee to see if there's issues to bring up.
- ii. Keen to go with the Lib&Com film all-nighter, that was mentioned at the Inclusivity Starts Here event.

- b. International Officer
 - i. Planning for international week – reached out to the international office and Mech Eng international officer but aren't able to provide much help.
 - ii. Will put posters and email for volunteers. Date will be end of Feb.

ACTION: DPW to email international officer about the week.

- c. Mental Health Officer
 - i. Been getting on with creating the mental health survey.
 - ii. Been thinking about mental health awareness week
- d. Ethics and Environment Officer
 - i. Email from ESoc about Green Week in 2 weeks – link with Claudia and advertise through email.
 - ii. Greening Imperial week – Greening movement Meat Free Mondays, cup levies, ideas of promotions e.g. yoyo points if bring a cup etc 2nd week of March, just before exams.
 - iii. Working with President of Cycling Society – Map for Freshers about safe and least polluted route from halls to campus, and info about D-locks and bike auctions.
 - iv. Fashion Revolution Ambassador – Promotes transparency of fashion companies, DIY workshops, sustainable fashion talks and launch the digital clothes swap platform.
 - v. Speaking to two people who have ideas for start-ups and would like funding.
 - vi. People trying to contact the union about campaigns and had no response – Promoting Ecosia the search engine.

ACTION: DPW to chase up about Ecosia campaign and Union contacts.

- e. LGBT+ Officer – Update through RSM Welfare Officer
 - i. IQ has plans for LGBT History Month: Careers fair on 7th February, Film nights, Stand at Maths Welfair, Pride in Finance event, V&A event, LGBT quiz, Arts & Crafts
 - ii. Listed the companies attending the Careers fair.
 - iii. Looking at spending LGBT History Month money on rainbow lanyards or badges for students. Suggested to have Imperial College on the lanyards.

ACTION: DPW to chase up about Queens Tower being lit up during LGBT History Month.

Matters for Discussion

7. Health and Wellbeing Survey (Mental Health Officer)

- a. Named so that it is sensitive.
- b. Worked with Raya on this to ensure PGs are included and there are specific questions for them.
- c. There are sections depending on students that may have different needs e.g. UGs, PGs, medics, international students.
- d. Include a section about liberation and community zones to find out what people know and could link to the sign up form.
- e. Tried to avoid leading questions – gave examples of this.
- f. It has multiple bits built in so people may not see all the questions depending on their answers.
- g. The results will help to guide the next steps e.g. if there's a link. The aim is to see some of the causes of stress, do people feel supported and do they know what to access and address the root of the problem.
- h. Question about previous surveys. There was a previous mentality survey but nothing recently.
- i. Question about distributing the survey: Suggestions is Union channels and other CWB member channels.
- j. Question about the time length: Suggestions to push it for a week, incorporate it into mental health awareness days or week, do it for a longer period, University Mental health day, March is a good time for other CUs.
- k. Requested any additional input or the survey.

8. Flipchart Activity

- i. Due to having no one to minute the next questions were done with members writing ideas and thoughts on flipchart paper and the voice recorder was turned off. The following represents everything written on the flipchart, in no particular order.

a. **Wellbeing dep reps: What works/ what doesn't work/ solutions**

- i. No wellbeing reps attended so nothing was gathered.

b. **Liberation and Community Officer: What works/ what doesn't work/ solutions/ ideas**

- i. Training is useful and lib& com week was good.
- ii. The transitional handover from the predecessor needs to be better e.g handover document detailing program and plans. Be clearer on the role.
- iii. Lib & Com week was bare, and the launch event wasn't as focused on the officers.
- iv. Inform officers about what their roles are earlier on.
- v. During welcome week, a meet and greet or a freshers talk and separate stall in freshers fair.
- vi. Have more group support- all the officers together, organise a group of people relevant to each officer and have an informal network. Could be a social event.
- vii. Elections – give more information on officer roles

- viii. Lib & Com week – more events, focus more on the officers, greater promotion.
 - ix. Training – throughout the year with clearer timelines
- c. Constituent Union Welfare Officers: What works/ what doesn't work/ solutions/ ideas**
- i. Trying to do rep stuff and events can be difficult
 - ii. Liaising between CU welfare officers is minimal – make a group chat!
 - iii. Too many late, large and frequent meetings that aren't productive and drain passion.
 - iv. Communication to student body and each level of hierarchy doesn't work.
 - v. Smaller CU welfare officer meetings/ communication
 - vi. Huge co-run campaign or more joint campaigns – where sensible.
- d. How can we be more inclusive?**
- i. College- transparency, more inclusive catering e.g cheaper veggie options.
 - ii. Departments – academic staff putting less stress on students, inter-department events, being inclusive to invisible disabilities e.g. all slides being dyslexia friendly.
 - iii. Union – Alcohol, assumption that only U18s don't drink, generally advertising events better to those who don't drink.
 - iv. Clubs & Socs – Communication, tell them about celebration weeks etc.
- e. What could liberation and community zones look like?**
- i. Lib & Com stall at freshers fair that are separate because they are a political campaign. Have in the middle of freshers fair.
 - ii. A feedback system.
 - iii. Whiteboards to write suggestions on.
 - iv. Visual zones
 - v. CSPs identifying themselves.
 - vi. Having an officer is a good idea.
 - vii. Officers want to be held accountable.
 - viii. New students linked to mailing lists.
 - ix. Networks or more people involved- where everyone could access mailing lists and get the relevant info. Meetings – what would we say?
 - x. Officers should be easy to contact.
 - xi. Connect to other universities to get ideas
 - xii. Felix page with contacts, needs a rota
 - xiii. Lib & Com week – activities on queens lawn.
 - xiv. T-shirts with logos
 - xv. Faces on promotions.
- f. What does an effective peer support network look like?**
- i. Formal structure
 - ii. Balanced seriousness, so a bit serious but not too much. Kids don't see the point if it is too formal.

- iii. There needs to be some kind of commitment because people use it to add to their CV, e.g. compulsory training or send a booklet.
- iv. It's currently seen as a fun social thing, is that a good or bad thing.
- v. It's needs some set expectations and boundaries.
- vi. The volunteers could be like a personal tutor but closer to you
- vii. The name needs to be chosen carefully – peer supporter, buddies, mums & dads – like and don't like all of these.
- viii. Recurring events and reminders to get in touch.
- ix. The experience currently depends on the DepSoc and people involved. Likes that it's older students.
- x. Opt in to the scheme.

g. What problem would you like to see the Union tackle in the coming year?

- ii. Structure of room bookings – the processes for CSPs, people block book rooms and then decide to run events and it's not fair.
- iii. Liberation and Community
- iv. Mental health department – takes too long, no information on it, protest about it.
- v. More international food
- vi. Eco grocery store
- vii. Food outlets with good, healthy food.
- viii. ACC & Sports nights – the current system is unsustainable, socials should be maintained.
- ix. International welcome week – can lead to a divide between international and home students. Maybe UK/International buddies and you can ask for who you would like/ what you need.

AOB

9. SACAs

The Board is asked to submit SACA nominations and encourage their cohorts to do so. Particularly for staff members that many students don't work with.

Meeting Concludes at 19:45

Next Meeting

Tuesday 26 February 2019, 18:00. **Location:** Beit Quad, Meeting Room 3