Honorary Lifetime Membership for Sabbatical Officers

Proposer: Lloyd James (Council Chair)

Seconder: Milia Hasbani (GSU VP (Representation))

Union Notes:

1. According to the Awards Policy, Sabbatical Officers are excluded from consideration for Union Awards, as a full-time role cannot be fairly compared with voluntary work.

- 2. Instead, Council shall consider and vote separately on conferring Honorary Lifetime Membership to each Officer. An HLM recognises the accomplishments and achievements of an officer who has gone above and beyond their role during the year.
- 3. 'Nominations' in support of each Officer have been prepared by the Chair, having sought input from Union Volunteers on Council and its subcommittees.

Union Resolves:

- 1. To bestow Honorary Life Membership upon **Abhijay Sood, Union President**, of whom volunteers said:
 - a. "[He has brought] to light the necessity of 'non-traditional', pragmatic action plans to resolve longstanding issues with the College/Union"
 - b. "[His] dedication to the Union is admirable and unwavering. He always has the best interests of the student body at heart, and is willing to make tough decisions and make a stand to benefit the students"
 - c. "sensitive when the situation required, honest and upfront when that was necessary. Always contactable and checks in regularly with a huge amount of people to see things are still working for them"
 - d. "Abs has probably been the first president to actively challenge college... He has also been one of the most approachable presidents, making an effort to get to know students across Imperial which people have appreciated."
 - e. "He has listened to student needs, including those PG students. His effort has exceeded expectations, especially considering the difficult times and situations throughout the past year."
 - f. "Abhijay has been pushing Union transparency throughout the year, ensuring that all sabbs effectively communicate what they are working on to the student body, holding them accountable and ensuring the students know what is happening."
 - g. "Has shown extreme dedication to his role throughout the year, dealing with problems such as the MD resignation, problems with bars and the halls rent dispute... It takes extreme caution to be able to negotiate with college effectively on a topic like [Halls Rent] without permanently damaging the relationships and Abhijay has excelled at it by being rational and factual in his negotiations."
- 2. To bestow Honorary Life Membership upon **Shervin Sabeghi, Deputy President (Welfare)**, of whom volunteers said:
 - a. "Even though this was way beyond the scope of his role, Shervin has been key in mitigating the negative effects of the COVID-19 lockdown. He has been leading the student representation on College when it comes to remote teaching and exams."
 - b. "He has been involved in many important college issues such as being a leader in the Halls Rent negotiations. He always voices fair and thoughtful opinions. Chairing the CWB, he has brought many interesting and impactful projects and has encouraged

- productive collaborative work among the committee. He handled the liberation reform with care, providing a platform for all the relevant societies to collaborate and voice any concerns."
- c. "his dedication to reforming the Liberation networks has been much appreciated, and he's always available to discuss concerns. Throughout my time at Imperial, I have not seen a DPW more wholly invested in improving the student experience"
- d. "gone above and beyond to accommodate new initiatives to improve the student experience. He strives to go the extra mile and is a dedicated and sincere Sabbatical Officer"
- e. "I have been greatly supported/mentored in my role, where he offers useful & practical advice to help me achieve my goals within my role."
- f. "has gone above and beyond to accommodate new initiatives to improve the student experience"
- g. "Picked up responsibilities of others this year shown initiative and ensured job has got done (e.g. rep training)... Sometimes works too many hours"
- 3. To bestow Honorary Life Membership upon **Ashley Brooks, Deputy President (Education)**, of whom volunteers said:
 - a. "His work on the PRES response has made positives changes to the PhD experience for years to come."
 - b. "On the committees I have shared with Ashley he made sure postgraduate students are being represented."
 - c. "Ashley has worked hard during this particularly difficult period in trying to ensure that all student queries are listened to"
 - d. "An optimist who sees the best in people...ensures the PG voice isn't forgotten about"
 - e. "His specific focus on trying to implement the changes and recommendations of the PRES and the NSS have trickled down to even our SSC's and highlight his continued commitment making sure the student voice is heard"
- 4. To bestow Honorary Life Membership upon **Thomas Fernandez Debets, Deputy President** (Clubs & Societies), of whom volunteers said:
 - a. "Tom has been massively helpful as DPCS. If any problems arose regarding the Management Group aspect of my role, Tom was always available to help. He managed the Annual Budgeting process fantastically"
 - b. "Tom has started to change the entire attitude of Imperial College Union and Imperial College, ensuring they give the student experience enough weighting when decisions are made. This entire shift of ethos is hugely important to students at Imperial and I'm sure will have a long lasting Impact...
 - c. "often the first one in in the morning, and last one to leave in the evening"
 - d. "Very supportive of CSP volunteers...Keen to get involved with central projects outside of his direct remit"
- 5. To bestow Honorary Life Membership upon **Fifi Henry, Deputy President (Finance & Services)**, of whom volunteers said:
 - a. "She has always been available to address any problems I and my officers had, and has been an approachable face in the Union. She took a strong lead in advocating for a student-led Summer Ball which was shaping up to be a success...Fifi has been a joy to work with"
 - b. "it is clear she puts all of the time and effort she possibly can into helping the union run smoothly... On the Services and Sustainability board she has been so enthusiastic

- and supportive of our ideas to help promote healthy living to benefit both staff and students of the university"
- c. "Fifi has been extremely passionate about extending the work of the services and sustainability board. She was highly receptive to all member's new and innovative ideas, and willing to investigate all aspects of the Union's involvement in services."
- d. "Fi-fi has been an integral part of the union this year from forming the much needed SSB to implement standard procedures and protocols moving forward with union services to organising the summer Ball Committee... her dedication to the union has been second to none"
- e. "Considered matters outside SK actively, more so than I've seen in most other sabbs in my time at ICU... Navigated occasionally difficult relationships with staff members well"
- 6. To bestow Honorary Life Membership upon **Ben Russell, ICSMSU President**, of whom volunteers said:
 - a. "done an amazing job this year as the President of ICSMSU, helping improve the quality and accessibility of all aspect of life as well as showing exemplary leadership during COVID-19"
 - b. "Ben has also brokered a substantial sum of money to be donated from the Faculty of Medicine to help subsidise the events of ICSMSU and thereby making participating in life at medical school much more inclusive"
 - c. "He has mobilised ICSMSU to give input into the decision making of crucial elements such as how to restart the various courses... [he] is a great leader to his team"
- 7. To bestow Honorary Life Membership upon **Henry Alman, Felix Editor**, of whom volunteers said:
 - a. "Henry delivered the largest-ever issue of Felix 96 pages for the Felix 70th anniversary edition... through the first 2 terms, Felix pickup remained high, with few papers remaining around campus at the end of the week"
 - b. "Henry did a good job ensuring Felix covered Union matters this year, from
 happenings at Council, to interviews with OTs, to the new Constituent Union section.
 His coverage of big issues like the Halls Rent negotiations helped keep students
 informed about how decisions made by College and the Union would impact them"
 - c. "Despite major technical setbacks including IT and copyright issues, Henry has kept Felix ticking. He is a friendly and approachable face to Felix, who is very thoughtful about his role as editor and responsibilities as a journalist... a genuinely nice guy."