Deputy President (Education) June report to Union Council

Daniel Lo

Updates:

- Held an informal focus group to discuss and polish the UROP Council Paper

- Initiated the creation of an online feedback board to streamline day-to-day feedback processes in each department better. Students can submit feedback or enquiries on a centralised platform. Reps are then able to raise feedback to the relevant staff members. The feedback board aims to close the feedback loop and ensure Staff-Student Committees (SSCs) are focused on high-level issues. We hope this platform can make a positive change for students. I am currently trialing in 3 departments and I will actively monitor the progress to boost engagement.

- Chaired various Union Awards panels - staff, UG and PG representation

- Attended the Student Life-cycle Catalyst Alumni meeting to share my (limited) interaction with the College as an alumni

- Wrote a Felix article on the feedback board trial

- Represented the Union to present in the Festival of Learning and Teaching

- Sat on the College's Learning and Teaching Innovation Funding

- Had an Officer Away Day

- Held 3 training sessions for the feedback board trial

- Engaged in the Union Award planning group

- Set up new monthly meetings with the Faculty of Medicine and the Business School

- Attended the Lifelong Learning Steering Group

- Sat on the College's President Awards panel

Upcoming:

- To organise an end of year rep social

- To draft a report for the feedback board trial and rep review

- To assist in Summer Ball planning

- To chair the last ERB on 26/5

Objectives:

Objective 1: Work closely with faculty and departmental (dep) academic reps to ensure departments are actively addressing the issues/feedback raised in the NSS response - [Complete]

Objective 2: Providing support on development training for reps and foster the sharing of good practice across different departments - [Complete]

Objective 3: Work closely with PG AWOs and reps to ensure the departments are actively addressing the recommendations raised in the PRES response - [Complete]

Objective 4: Review the Mums and Dads scheme to investigate what the right cause of action is - [Complete]

Objective 5: Enhance the Imperial experience for international students to ensure there is parity with home students - [In progress]

I haven't been able to contact the Director of the Centre for Academic English (CAE). Still, I have gained some valuable insights from the Advice Centre and looking for ways to improve scientific communication for non-native English speakers (like me!). The issue seems to be more significant, and multiple parties in the College should be involved, such as the Library (plagiarism training), CAE (language tutorials), and the Registry (academic policies on marking feedback). I will try my best to reach out to them and work together on this issue. I hope the College can work on improving support for non-native speakers to ensure parity, and it's good for me to complete the groundwork once my successor comes in.

Objective 6: Academic Representation Network review - [In progress]

We send out a rep feedback survey before the Easter break to evaluate and improve how the Union support reps. This includes looking at how we can support reps to collect feedback, supporting reps to support students, and ensuring that they can communicate with everyone they need. 164 responses were recorded. We have analysed the survey results, and we are writing up a complete report in June.

We have selected 2 UG (Materials and Physics) and 1 PG (Chemistry) department(s) to run the feedback board trial. The trial will run between the 9th of May until the 4th of July. I firmly believe that by doing a more comprehensive rep experience review, the feedback board can effectively target reps and students' pain points when closing the feedback loop. Please review the project brief from last Council if you'd like.

Thanks for reading! If you have any questions, feel free to email me at dpe@ic.ac.uk or drop me a message on Teams:)