

Council Attendance

Role	Name	Initials	Attendance
Officer Trustee - Union President	Camille Boutrolle	CB	Present
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Education)	Yi Yang	YY	Present
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Welfare)	Andreea Cojocea	AC	Present
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Clubs & Societies)	Christian Cooper	CC	Apologies
Officer Trustee - Deputy President (Finance & Services)	Stephanie Yeung	SY	Present
Council Chair	Anthea MacIntosh-LaRocque	AML	Present
Constituent Union President - ICSMSU	Haider Nazerali	HN	Present
Constituent Union President - CGCU	Daniel Zhuo	DZ	Present
Constituent Union President - RSM	Trinity Stenhouse	TS	Present
Constituent Union President - RCSU	Reha Chandresh	RC	Absent
Constituent Union President - Silwood	Jack Arthur	JA	Present
Management Group Chair - Arts	Celine Driessen	CD	Present
Management Group Chair - Community		N/A	N/A
Management Group Chair - Knowledge	Dhishan Mane	DM	Absent
Management Group Chair - Recreation	Ethan Beech	EB	Present
Management Group Chair - Sport	Vaibhav Chetty	VC	Present
LCO - Black & Minority Ethnic Officer	Comfort Oluwakoya	CO	Absent
LCO - LGBTQ+ Officer	Avi Ela	AK	Apologies
LCO - Disabilities	Emmanuel Lawal	EL	Present
LCO - Mental Health	Aglaia Freccero	AF	Present
LCO - Gender Equality Officer	Wendy Song	WS	Apologies
LCO - Ethics & Environmental Officer	Yuxi Liang	YL	Absent
LCO - Interfaith Officer	Ariba Azam	AA	Absent
LCO - International Officer	Yuanze Xia	YX	Present
LCO - Working Class Officer	Jordan Elliott	JE	Present
Welfare Officer of CU - RCSU	Julia Purrinos De Oliveira	JPO	Present
Welfare Officer of CU - ICSMSU	Lilia Evans	LE	Present
Welfare Officer of CU - RSM	Jay Haley	JH	Absent

Academic Officer of CU - CGCU	Linmo Lin	LL	Present
Academic Officer of CU - RCSU	Chloe Lee	CL	Absent
Academic Officer of CU - ICSMSU	Yasmin Baker	YB	Absent
Academic Officer of CU - RSM	Olivia Cai	OC	Absent
Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Engineering)	Xiang Yan	XY	Apologies
Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Medicine)	Nan Fletcher-Lloyd	NFL	Present
Postgraduate Research Academic & Welfare Officer (Science)	Michaela Flegrova	MF	Present
PGR Representation Chair	Jordon Millward	JM	Present
Council Representative (UG Science)	Edward Bird	EBi	Present
Council Representative (UG Science)	Qingyu Liu	QL	Present
Council Representative (UG Engineering)	Ling Liu	LLiu	Absent
Council Representative (UG Engineering)	Kang Yang	KY	Apologies
Council Representative (UG Medicine)	Yuki Agarwala	YA	Present
Council Representative (UG Medicine)	Kavyesh Vivek	KV	Present
Council Representative (PG Science)	Alex Auyang	AA	Present
Council Representative (PG Engineering)	Guoxuan CUI	GC	Present
Council Representative (PG Engineering)	Jing Xu	JX	Present
Council Representative (PG Business)	Ka-Chun Liu	KCL	Present

In attendance [Students/Staff]

Helena Schofield (HS) – ICU Representation Manager [Union Staff]
 Annette Ma (AM) – ICU Governance and Representation Assistant [Union Staff]
 Jamie John (JJ) – Felix Editor [Student]

Secretary's postscript: *Due to technical issues, the original transcription was lost. The current minutes document provides a summary recovered from recounts and notes.*

1. Welcome

AML welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies & Chair's Business

Apologies

Noted as above.

Quorum check

Confirmed.

3. Proxies

No proxies raised.

4. Approval of minutes of the previous meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by general consensus.

5. Action tracker

AML noted the update of the action tracker and thanked everyone for sending in updates.

AML noted that several of the actions added to the tracker had not been assigned to a responsible person, and asked to make assignments now.

- i. CB noted regarding Action 1.4 that a meeting has been organised and further updates will be given after the meeting.
- ii. CB noted regarding Action 1.5 that a Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) working group has been set up and will hold a meeting on 10 May, and updates will be shared to Council afterwards.
- iii. CB noted regarding Action 1.7 that there has been no update since last Council meeting, but clarified that she will serve as the student representative in the SRI working group.
- iv. AML suggested Action 4.1 to be assigned to CB and AC, to which they accepted.
- v. AC noted she is happy to take responsibility for Actions 4.2 to 4.7. JM additionally offered to support the progress. NFL offered to support the progress for actions 4.6 and 4.7.
- vi. CB noted no updates for Action 4.12.
- vii. AML marked Action 4.14 complete as of the last Council meeting.

Updates noted by Council.

6. Call for AOB

No calls for AOB.

7. Bye-Law B Ratification

CB presented the paper as its author.

CB noted that Student Trustees in the past have graduated while holding the Trustee position, and stated the situation of the current Student Trustee, where his postgraduate

studies are mainly taking place at another university due to the collaborative nature of his studentship.

CB noted that changes were made to Bye-Law B points 7, where '[Each Student Trustee] must continue to be a Student for the duration of their term as a Student Trustee' is removed, and point 8, with the addition of 'For the avoidance of doubt a Student Trustee may continue in their position for a period after they finish their study at Imperial College, but they shall remain subject to any procedures of the union.'

CB asked for approval to amend Bye-Law B as stated in the paper, and that updates will be made accordingly on the Union website.

- i. MF noted that this has always been the case in practice for Student Trustees, and this change would simply allow our current practices to align with the Bye-Laws.

Secretary's postscript: The final voting outcomes were:

Resolve 1. To amend Bye-Law B as set out in full, for clarity, in Appendix One below, and;

Resolve 2. To mandate the Union President to update Bye-Law B accordingly on the Union Website.

Quorum count	Majority (50%+1)	For	Against	Abstain	Outcome
29	15	28	0	1	For

For	Against	Abstain
VC, CD, YY, AA, QL, AC, NFL, AF, KCL, YA, JM, JX, CB, JA, TS, LL, LE, EL, KV, JE, HN, SY, GC, EBi, YX, MF, JPO, DZ		EB

Union Resolves 08(1) and 08(2) approved by the Council.

8. Students' opposition to Imperial's new visual brand

AJ presented the paper as its author.

AJ noted that the Imperial rebrand has received backlash from various students, including an online petition that had gained over 7,800 signatures, significantly higher than the number of students that were consulted during the design process. Comments on Imperial's social media posts were overwhelmingly negative, noting the connotations of Imperialism due to the words 'College London' removed from the logo, and one of the posts were taken down after the negative feedback. AJ noted that the news of the rebrand project was easily hidden in the newsletters and many students had not been informed of it, and was too late to give comments for consultation once they were aware. AJ noted that Imperial College has not explicitly addressed any of the students' concern, and she decided to put forward a paper to voice students' concerns.

- i. JE noted to use the paper to maintain and uphold the trust and relationship between the College and Imperial students going forward.
- ii. Change in the wording of 'criticism' in Union Resolve 1 to 'student concerns and reasoning behind the decisions' was raised. It was noted that the website for the

rebrand did not explicitly provide reasons for changes to the logo, while previous Imperial rebrands included a paragraph to explain the reasoning behind it. Further explanation and justification will alleviate the worries of many students and the public.

- iii. CB noted that Union Believes 1 does not represent every student's perspective, and suggested for it to be removed. AJ accepted the amendment.
- iv. Removal of Appendix 5 was raised as it could be served as evidence of opportunities for students to engage with the brand project.
- v. MF asked whether the votes of Council members would represent their approval of the Union Believes, and noted that Union Believes 1 cannot be fully supported. AML noted that the votes for Union Resolves will not mean that members align with the Union Believes. MF noted that she will personally be voting against the paper.
- vi. MF questioned whether this was a good use of College or Council time to discuss. MF also explained that student representatives will have to lobby the College to fulfil the Union Resolves, when they could be spending their time and effort to work on something that more directly influences students' experiences at Imperial, as the visual branding of Imperial will not directly impact students' experiences.
- vii. JA and AA noted that it is unlikely that Imperial will conduct any more student consultation for the current rebrand or make any further changes to it. Suggestions were made to change the Union Resolves to focus on improving student engagement and feedback methods in the future to prevent insufficient student consultation from happening again. Removal of Union Resolves 2 and 3 was raised.
- viii. TS disagreed with the removal of Union Believes as she noted having personally heard of much negative feedback on the rebrand from students. TS also pointed out that she found the neon colours used in the rebranding inaccessible as it impaired her ability to read the words. It was noted that the neon green colour shade originally included in the colour scheme was removed due to accessibility issues, however TS stated that some of the current colours are still difficult to read. JE added that Imperial has not used a colour-blind friendly colour palette for the rebrand and hoped that future Imperial projects will have more consideration for neurodiversity and disability issues. He suggested to add 'particularly with regards to accessibility' to Union Resolve 4.
- ix. NFL noted that she completed the feedback survey for the brand project and felt that the direction or intention of the survey questions were unclear, which could skew data results if students misunderstand the purpose of the questions. NFL noted a need for increased transparency with regards to surveying methods.
- x. CB thanked AJ for bringing the paper forward as it was a large topic of discussion amongst the student community and agreed with comments that it is unlikely that the College will spend more time or money on the rebrand. She noted that explanation of the rebrand choices will be helpful for students to further understand the vision and intentions of the rebrand.

Secretary's postscript: The final voting outcomes were:

Resolve 09(1). To mandate the Union President to lobby those involved with the brand project to openly address the criticism student concerns and reasoning behind the decisions of the new logo.

Voter count	Majority (50%+1)	For	Against	Abstain	Outcome
27	12	13	10	4	For

For	Against	Abstain
VC, CD, YY, QL, NFL, YA, TS, LL, LE, EL, KV, SY, EBi	AA, AC, AF, KCL, JM, JA, JE, HN, MF, JPO	JX, CB, GC, DZ

Resolve 09(2). To mandate the Union President to lobby those in charge of the brand project to gather more feedback from the Imperial community before continuing implementation.

Voter count	Majority (50%+1)	For	Against	Abstain	Outcome
27	12	6	16	5	Against

For	Against	Abstain
YY, QL, YA, TS, LL, DZ	AA, AC, NFL, AF, KCL, JM, CB, JA, LE, JE, HN, EB, GC, EBi, MF, JPO	VC, CD, JX, EL, SY

Resolve 09(3). To mandate the Union President to lobby those involved with the brand project to make changes to the new logo and branding, based on feedback from the community.

Voter count	Majority (50%+1)	For	Against	Abstain	Outcome
27	13	7	17	3	Against

For	Against	Abstain
YY, QL, YA, JM, TS, LL, KV	VC, CD, AA, AC, NFL, AF, KCL, JX, CB, JA, LE, HN, EB, GC, EBi, MF, JPO	EL, SY, DZ

Resolve 09(4). To mandate the Union President to discuss improving engagement and feedback collection methods from students now and in future with those involved with implementing the brand project, particularly with regards to accessibility and transparency on decision making.

Voter count	Majority (50%+1)	For	Against	Abstain	Outcome
28	14	23	3	2	For

For	Against	Abstain
VC, CD, YY, AA, QL, AC, NFL, YA, JM, JX, JA, TS, LL, LE, EL, KV, JE, HN, SY, GC, EBi, YX, DZ	CB, MF, JPO	KCL, EB

Resolves 09(1) and 09(4) approved by Council.

9. CGCU Report

DZ presented the paper as its author.

DZ noted that a new Welfare Chair and Communication Chair have been co-opted in place this term, they have held successful collaboration events, a C&G Week filled with daily events, and a Welfare stall on Valentine's Day to promote safe sex practices. DZ noted they are aiming to re-introduce CGCU Sports League, are currently working on the Engineering Hackathon, and have sent out feedback forms to CSPs to build stronger connections.

Report noted by Council.

10. RCSU Report

TS presented the paper as its author.

TS noted that various events were held during the second term to accommodate all communities, such as Alumni Bar Night, Postgrad Sip & Paint, or Puppy Therapy. TS noted that they are releasing tickets for the RCSU x RCSA Summer Dinner, and received a sizeable donation from the Faculty for it. Lastly, TS noted a positive turnout for Welfare Week events, and the Science Challenge that was launched on 1st March.

TS thanked the committee for the hard work and commitment to RCSU.

- i. CB asked for further clarification of the reason behind the expensive tickets, and asked whether there to ways to keep costs lower. TS explained that with plans of holding a dinner at a large capacity, venue and food costs are more expensive and therefore require ticket prices to be increased. CB asked whether CGCU also faces the same issues and holds expensive tickets for dinner events. DZ replied that tickets for CGCU dinners and events were funded by their alumni association to cover costs and had similar price ranges.

Report noted by Council.

11. Clubs, Societies & Projects Board – Update to the Council

CC presented the paper as its author.

CC noted that they have currently passed round 3 of 5 activities development fund and trips fund, having allocated over £9,000 of activities development funding and £6,000 of trips funding, and will continue with annual budget grant allocations and resolutions. CC also noted the committee having discussed about how to better support CSP equipment and storage, a new timeline for new activity creation, and improvements for the Give It A Go scheme.

CC noted that further details can be found in the meeting minutes.

Updates noted by Council.

12. Officer Trustee Updates

Union President

CB noted that she made the most progress on the reconvening of the SRI working group and the submission of the Access and Participation Plan (APP) by College alongside her colleagues. She noted her biggest challenge since the last Council report is finding a solution for bar access on the Silwood Park Campus. Lastly, CB shared an open letter and petition advocating for divestment of fossil fuels by the College, and encouraged Council members to sign and share the petition.

Petition link: <https://peopleandplanet.org/petitions/imperial-college-london-divest-from-fossil-fuels>

Deputy President (Clubs and Societies)

CC noted making the most progress on implementing updates to the annual budgeting system, and developing plans for sports with Move Imperial and the activities team. He noted that his role as the DPCS includes a large amount of operational work, such as approving claims, and does not allow him to commit to work on other projects or objectives.

Deputy President (Education)

YY noted that she has collected and analysed the PG supervision survey results, which will be brought forward in May College meetings for decision making. She is also collaborating with Centre for Academic English (CfAE) and analysing departmental survey load sent to students. YY shared that it is challenging to meet sustainability objectives in terms of career success of Imperial students, and a low number of students attend in-person events for CfAE projects. YY requested for more student voice from international and postgraduate students to attend discussions.

Deputy President (Finance and Services)

SY noted she delivered the London Student Sustainability Conference at Imperial and Sustainability Fortnight, and is currently planning Summer Ball with Student Steering Groups and Student Acts Auditions. She noted that her role as DPFS is stretched in various directions and she is facing a lack of time and resources to undertake operational work. SY said that she is looking to organise Sustainability Forums (dates unconfirmed), encouraged Council members to attend.

Deputy President (Welfare)

AC noted her work so far includes investigating the effectiveness of the College's support services, holding promotions and collaborations on various welfare topics such as sexual health and eco-anxiety, as well as conducting student consultations with gender non-conforming students or for the APP. AC noted that the finite staff capacity of the College is a large restricting factor as there are long waiting times for replies. AC noted that she is

currently consulting with attendees of the Community & Welfare Forum on various initiatives. Lastly, AC also asked Council members to fill out and share the Mental Health survey.

Updates noted by Council.

13. Council feedback survey summary

AML presented the item.

AML gave a summary of the Council feedback survey results.

In brief, Council members have divided perspectives on the usefulness of the Officer Trustee verbal reports, and the expectations from Officer Trustees are unclear. Written reports alongside a verbal summary was preferred over a verbal report only. There is a small portion of Council members that do not feel fully comfortable to speak up in Council, mainly due to feelings of holding an irrelevant role, fear of judgement from peers, or worries of interrupting the flow of discussion. Council mentor groups have also received mixed feedback.

Regarding the mode of Council meetings, most members opted for in-person meetings with remote attendance offers in certain circumstances at the discretion of the Chair. Areas of improvement include meeting accessibility, room acoustics/ ambience, and ways to minimise lengthy discussions and increase efficiency and flow of Council meetings.

AML asked Council members further questions through a Mentimeter poll, questions listed below:

- Is the verbal summary of Officer Trustee reports during Council useful, or would that time better be spent elsewhere?
- What actions would make it clearer to Council members what is expected of Officer Trustees?
- Does Council prefer the Officer Trustee reports to specifically relate to the Officer Trustee objectives set out at the beginning of the year, or is a more question-based structure preferred?
 - i. Comments were raised regarding Council meetings held at the Union Dining Hall (UDH), including noise disturbances from the outdoors Union bar space, student passerbys, and inadequate technology to hold hybrid meetings. However, it was also raised that the tradition of holding Council meetings at UDH has been long held.
 - ii. The topic of transportation costs for students attending Council meetings in person was raised, and whether subsidies should be provided or not.
 - iii. Regarding Council mentor groups, members noted that many liked the idea of it, but it did not work in practice, where some members met their mentor group but do not know what to talk about, and some has never reached out to mentor groups.

Summary noted by Council.

14. AOB

No AOB noted.

End of Union Council

AML thanked everyone for attending Union Council.